

SALFORD STORIES FROM THE SOUTH



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

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/ BA (HONS) FILM PRODUCTION

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BEING LOCATED AT MEDIACITYUK WAS THE BIG SELLING POINT FOR ME AND EVERYTHING ELSE JUST SEEMED TO FIT INTO PLACE. I LOVED THE COURSE, THE CAMPUS, THE ACCOMMODATION AND THE AREA, SO I KNEW I WANTED TO BE IN SALFORD.

What's the best thing about this course?

The freedom we have is great, when we pick our modules there are so many to choose from. We can pick modules that range from the beginning of the film process right to the end, there's also an amazing range of industry standard kit available for us to use. Being in the heart of MediaCityUK is always a great point as well, as we are surrounded by television production companies.

How do you learn?

Film Production is a mixed learning course; we have separate theory and practical lessons as well as mixed lessons in the core film making modules. During practical lessons, we are normally learning how to use professional kit in preparation for making our own films.

What are the facilities related to your course like?

We are taught at the MediaCityUK campus, so there's so much around in general in that respect. At the MediaCityUK campus we have a full kit store, which is full of anything we could need to make a film and we have a small library with all film specified reading and DVDs. .

What support is on hand for your studies?

All lecturers are on hand for any help we need with our studies, they try to reply to emails within 3 working days (it's normally about a day) and they're happy for you to have a 1 to 1 to go over work if you need it, so the staff here are always really supportive.

What's it like to be a student at Salford?

Being a student at Salford is great. There are so many opportunities in and around the university and there is normally always something going on to take part in. In January, we have the Festival of Short Film at MediaCityUK, where we can take part in workshops, Q&A's with industry professionals and see all different types of kit. It's a great opportunity for students from the School of Arts and Media, as their work can be shown and promoted.

What is the social life like at Salford?

On campus there is Atmosphere Bar in the Student Union and they hold weekly and monthly events as well as seasonal events. If you don't want to stray too far from campus, it's a great place to go and even better if you're staying in the Peel Park Quarter accommodation, as it's a 2 minute walk away.

What about living and getting around in Salford?

In my first year I stayed at Peel Park Quarter accommodation and I highly recommend trying to stay there if you can. I currently live with friends I made from these on campus halls. I drive, so shopping trips are easy as I drive with some of my housemates, but if you're on foot, there is the number 50 bus which Salford students get to ride for free between Peel Park and Media CityUK campus. Walking doesn't take too long either and there are lots of places in MediaCityUK you can walk to including shops, cafes and bars.





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In the end, what made you choose Salford?

I just had a feeling that I knew I wanted to be at Salford, I was at an open day for another university and they said, "can you see yourself living here" and I got the feeling that I couldn't. But when I came here I got the feeling that I could live in Salford straight away. Being located at MediaCityUK was the big selling point for me and everything else just seemed to fit into place. I loved the course, the campus, the accommodation and the area, so I knew I wanted to be in Salford.

Had you ever heard of Salford before? If not, how did you actually find out about it and why did you end up applying?

I hadn't actually heard of Salford before, but during my first year at college I was doing a search of film courses in the U.K. and Salford popped up. After looking over the course details online and the location of the course, I registered and went to the open day and ended up applying.

Has Salford met your expectations so far?

Salford has exceeded any expectations I had before I started. There is so much to do at the university and around Manchester and I highly recommend going to Salford and looking around the university and the local area when making your choices.

Best/worst things about living and studying in Manchester/ Salford compared to the south?

I honestly feel like there's just so much more to do in Manchester rather than most places in the south, unless you go to London or Brighton etc. It takes a little while to get used to a very wide range of accents around, but that is part of what makes Manchester so diverse. Dining and drinking out is also a lot cheaper in the north as well compared to the south.

What would you say to someone considering Salford?

Just come and have a look for yourself if you can, there is so much around and the courses are incredible. Coming from the south you don't really get to meet that many different people, but being in Salford, you meet people from all over the country and abroad.

Did you come to an Open Day or Applicant Visit Day at Salford and would you recommend it?

I came to an open day and an applicant day (as well as my interview) at Salford and I highly recommend doing so. Almost every area of the university is available to view, so getting a feel for the campus is great. Being able to see where you could be being taught, what you could be working with and past students work is ideal for getting a feel of the course. Then being able to do a tour of the accommodation and local areas is great, as you will see where you can be living and what local amenities are around.

What do you want to do once you've graduated and has Salford helped with this?

When I graduate the aim is to get out into the industry in any way I can and being at Salford has already helped due to where we are based. We are very lucky as we always get updated on any local job/internship opportunities within MediaCityUK. The ambition is to become a scriptwriter or director in the future.

Anything else you would like to include that would have helped you as a southern student thinking about where to go and study...

I would recommend not giving yourself a boundary of where to study, as if I had originally stuck to the one that I had made myself, I wouldn't be at Salford. You need to think about the course, rather than the location and not be afraid to move far away. Salford isn't as far as it may seem really with any type of transport. I've flown, coached, trained and driven to Manchester, so it's very easily accessible from Sussex. It can take a while to adjust to being away from home but, in the end, it's so worth the move!



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