



Staffs graduate Natalie achieves Hollywood dream

Media (Film) Production graduate Natalie Cooke has proved that hard work pays off after securing work on recent blockbusters *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation* and the latest Bond film *Spectre*.

Before joining the course in 2010, Natalie from Stoke was too scared to even present to a small group. Natalie said: "I thought I would never be brave or confident enough to be successful in the film industry."

Natalie soon found a very supportive environment with the staff and students on the [BA \(Hons\) Media \(Film\) Production](#) degree. She said: "The course develops not only your practical and technical skills but it also develops you as a person".

"The one thing the course really teaches you is how you can succeed with the right amount of effort and determination. You learn quickly that what you put into it, you'll get out."

Natalie wasted no time putting this advice into practice when she secured a job as a runner at Double Negative, one of the biggest visual effects houses in the UK, whose credits include *Interstellar*, *Avengers: Age of Ultron* and *Terminator: Genisys*.

She explained: "I didn't just sit back and wait for people to come to me. I made sure I networked, meeting people at every opportunity and being enthusiastic for every task I was set". Natalie's enthusiasm paid off when she joined the production team for *Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation*.

This led to her most recent work on the latest James Bond film *Spectre*. Talking about her time on the project, Natalie said: "Communication is a major part of my role in the production team. Every day I have to give instructions and relay messages to my 12 production team members, an array of international clients and over 100 visual effects artists."

Natalie is now facing the future with confidence and is grateful for the start her time at Staffordshire University gave her. "I'm on an exciting road in production. I'm still beginning my career but I'm thankful for everything that the course has taught me: Never give up, work hard...and most importantly, enjoy it."

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