1. ***USC faculty place an emphasis on interdisciplinary academic opportunities. Describe something outside of your intended academic focus about which you are interested in learning (250 words).***

Quentin Tarantino has a weird obsession with feet.

Zooming-into-the-feet shots are indeed his signature, but behind this eccentric approach lies the most compelling form of storytelling: sound design. From footsteps in *Inglorious Basterds* to shoe taps in *Pulp Fiction,* these details bring each scene to life. Tarantino left a deep impression; one that inspired me to delve into the minuscule, yet significant aspects of sound design in creative filmmaking.

Noticing how radio-like audio in Tarantino’s movies complement the “retro” 70s era, I grew fond of the evolution behind sound and visuals. This inspired me to produce a short film titled “Date Night,” by utilizing static-grunge effects for narration. Minoring at USC’s Cinematic Arts, I hope to explore courses such as *Animation Theory and Techniques (CTAN 450a)* where traditional methods intersect with technology to create subtle effects essential between dialogues. Further, I hope to participate in live productions through courses like *Practicum in Television Production (CTPR 409),* which exposes me to USC’s valued emphasis on hands-on learning.

USC will open unparalleled opportunities for me to engage with faculty members with expertise in various academic and practical fields. Watching Professor Midge Costin’s documentary, “Making Waves: The Art Of Cinematic Sound,” urged me to learn how audio conveys a psychological connection between the screen and the audience; an unconventional perspective that resonates with me as a film enthusiast. I look forward to becoming a part of a creative community to discover how the subtleties of media production contribute to films we see today.

Hello! This is a really cohesive and well-written essay, and it was easy for me to read and understand so great job. I found the opening statement quirky but you managed to articulate your intentions so that it flows well between topic statements.

One thing I noticed is that while you did correctly and clearly describe an interest outside of your major that you’re interested in pursuing, I couldn’t exactly get a feel of why and what you’re planning to use this minor for. You did imply it was for you to learn the subtleties of media production, but I can’t tell what exactly you’re going to use this opportunity for. Remember that the keyword here is “interdisciplinary.” How will this enrich the pursuit of your intended major?

It would be good if you could keep your sentences a bit concise in some places if you need to save the word count.

Looking forward to your next revision!