**Tips on Researching Your Film**

**Getting Started**

**Internet Movie Database site**: http://www.imdb.com/?ref\_=nv\_home

Good for getting details about the basic who/when/where details. It will give you every other film this director has done, these actors have appeared in, etc.

**Wikipedia**: I know—not always reliable—but sometimes this is a good place to get started, as long as you explore further. You can get background on the film, links to in-depth articles about it, links to reviews in multiple countries, and details on the people involved. For example, the Wikipedia page on *The New World* includes 18 footnotes that include in-depth reviews iin three countries, a link to a YouTube video wherein a film expert introduces the film, and links to history journals that begin to answer the question about historical accuracy.

**A Film’s Official Site:** Some films have their own websites, and these can be great sources of information about the film’s origins and whatever happens afterward, especially when a film results in a project (as Kids With Cameras sprang from *Born Into Brothels*.) The official site for *Holly*, similarly, tells of the Redlight Children Campaign that resulted from the film project (click “Our Vision”).

**Rotten Tomatoes:** This site collects and posts reviews from all over, and it offers background information like the Imdb site, plus photos and video clips from the film. Even a relatively small film like *Ned Kelly* garnered 62 reviews. Often the links are nonfunctional, but at least it gives you an overview, and sometimes you can find the original full reviews on your own.

**Metacritic:** A site much like Rotten Tomatoes.<http://www.metacritic.com/movie>.

**More Depth**

**Books:** Our own King Library has a great film section, and you can borrow from almost any college in the country through inter-library loan. Just get started early. The online catalog is good for some things, but I strongly advise you to go to the stacks in person and explore. Who would have thought there would be 5 books specifically on Irish cinema? Here’s a link for those of you doing The Guard: <http://discover.sjlibrary.org/iii/encore_sjsu/search/C__Sirish%20cinema__Orightresult__U1?lang=eng>

Here’s the page for the Radio-TV-Film-Theater specialty: <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/TV?hs=a>

**Film Journals:** Yes, people study and write in-depth articles on films, and many are available on the Web. Here is a site that lists a great many: <http://www.cmstudies.org/?page=resource_journals_af>

And here’s one journal site it highly recommends: <http://www.cineaste.com/>