



FILM STUDIES

A-Level Course Information



Qualification: Advanced Level Film Studies

Exam Board: EDUQAS

Subject Leader: Ms J. Roffey

Entry Requirements:

Minimum Entry Requirements:

5 x 5s

4 in English and Maths

Subject Specific Entry Requirements:

6 in a humanities subject or English GCSE

Why study Film Studies?

Do you love watching films? Are you interested in how they are created? Have you ever thought about the physical experience of seeing films or how films are marketed to you? If you have a keen interest in Cinema: its history, its relationship with an audience and its cultural diversity, then this is the course for you.

What can I do with Film Studies after A-Level?

Having studied a rich variety of film texts, you will have gained analytical insights into how films are created and marketed, how they reflect the concerns of the societies that produce them and how consumers engage with the world of film in the twenty-first century. This will complement other areas of study and prove a cultural touchstone for a variety of occupations including Politics, Journalism and Media/Digital Communications or for working in TV, Radio and Film industries.

Film Studies Extras

- First hand experience of film being created, at a Film studio.
- Excursions to Film/TV Production facilities for a taste of 21st century editing and production techniques.
- Access to World Cinema new releases.
- Experiencing film in its intended location: Classic Cinema trips.

What will I study?

The subject content for Film Studies is divided into three components:

1. Varieties of film and filmmaking
2. Global filmmaking perspectives
3. Production

Component 1 WJEC Varieties of film and filmmaking – 35% (2.5 hour exam)

- Section A: **Hollywood 1930-1990** – a comparative study of films from two of the key decades in American film history. We have recently studied: *Vertigo* (Hitchcock) and *Bonnie and Clyde* (Penn).
- Section B: **American film since 2005** – a two-film study, one mainstream and one independent. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to: *Carol* (Haynes) and *Captain Fantastic* (Ross).
- Section C: **British film** - one question from a choice of two, requiring an exploration of two British films, produced since 1995. *Shaun of the Dead* (Wright) and *This is England* (Meadows) were recent choices.

Component 2 WJEC Global filmmaking perspectives – 35% (2.5 hour exam)

- Section A: **Global film** (two-film study). One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two global films: one European and one produced outside Europe, such as *Pan's Labyrinth* (del Toro) and *Taxi Tehran* (Panahi).
- Section B: **Documentary film**. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to *Amy* (Kapadia).
- Section C: **Film movements – Silent cinema**. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to silent film/films. We will study the series of Buster Keaton's short silent films; *One Week*, *The Scarecrow*, *The 'High Sign'*, and *Cops* (Keaton).
- Section D: **Film movements – Experimental film (1960-2000)**. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to one film option. We are currently using *Memento* (Nolan) to explore experimentation in film making.

Component 3 WJEC Non-Exam Assessment: Production – 30%

This component assesses one production and its evaluative analysis of the short film form.

Learners produce:

- either a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay or a short film (4-5 minutes).
- an evaluative analysis (1600 - 1800 words) including referencing from a selection of professional short films.