

Film Studies



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Exam board: WJEC / EDUQAS

Specification: GCE Film Studies

Specification Link

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/sxdcwwck/eduqas-a-level-film-studies-spec-from-2017-e-28-09-22.pdf>

This popular and innovative course will appeal to all film lovers. It is a two-year A level course - The two years of content are assessed at the end of Year 13 to give the A level grade. The AS qualification may be available under certain circumstances.

A Level structure

Component 1	Varieties of Film and Filmmaking	2hr30 exam 35%
Component 2	Global Filmmaking Perspectives	2hr30 exam 35%
Component 3	Production	Coursework 30%

Course Delivery:

This exciting course is delivered through active viewing, discussion and debate of a stimulating variety of British, American and International films and documentaries. Students enjoy small group work, research, creative writing, practical tasks and develop filming and editing skills. Students are actively encouraged to share their passion for different types of film in lessons and to develop their understanding of cinema through wide reading of critical film texts and popular film writing, such as Sight and Sound magazine/website.

Presentations to the group about personal viewing and research findings are also an enjoyable part of the course. Students find that the course really broadens their horizons in unexpected ways and often say that by the end of the course, they will never look at films (or the wider world!) in the same way.

Course Content:

COMPONENT 1: VARIETIES OF FILM AND FILMMAKING

Teachers are lucky enough to have a choice of amazing films to share with students. This component assesses knowledge and understanding of two Hollywood films since the 1960s. This could be Hitchcock's chilling 'Vertigo' and the radical 'Do the Right Thing'. One contemporary American Independent film is also studied, from an eclectic list of titles which includes the brilliant 'Get Out', a comparative study of two British films, for example, the very dark comedy 'We need to talk about Kevin' and the enigmatic 'Under The Skin'.

COMPONENT 2: GLOBAL FILMMAKING PERSPECTIVES

This component really enriches students' appreciation of a fascinatingly diverse range of films in different genres and from various eras, including:

- Documentary, such as the moving and tragic life story of Amy Winehouse, 'Amy'.
- Silent Film Movements, such as German Expressionism influenced, 'Sunrise'.
- Films from Global Cinema, such as, 'Pan's Labyrinth' and 'City of God'.
- Experimental Film, such as 'Cleo from 5 to 7'.

Students develop sophisticated appreciation and analysis of the set films, leading to incisive essays on relevant debates focussed on, for example, aesthetics, ideology and directorial intention.

COMPONENT 3: FILM PRODUCTION

Students love the challenge and satisfaction of writing screenplays and storyboards and then shooting and editing their own short film, as an individual creative production. The films that students produce are often stunningly original, stylish and thought provoking, offering students the chance to exemplify their theoretical and practical learning on the course brilliantly.

Entry requirements:

At least one English/Humanities/Social Science subject should be passed with a grade 6.

Skills & personal qualities required / developed by course:

Film students are passionate about cinema and interested in film and its role in society, past and present. Individual research, filmmaking and editing skills will be developed. Students will also need to read widely about film and carry out independent viewing and research.

Visits / resources:

We encourage links with local and national film production companies where possible. The department is well equipped with the i-Macs, film production equipment, large screen viewing facilities and a library of interesting films on DVD.

Recommended reading / websites:

Sight and Sound or any Film magazine of your choice

Guardian Film section www.guardian.co.uk

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkt-vRpF7sE&safe=active> sound techniques

<http://bristolbhhs multimedia.weebly.com/camera-angles-and-shot-types.html#> lots of useful stuff!

<https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/types-of-camera-shot-angles-in-film/> cinematography

For further information:

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