

FILM STUDIES

What will I learn?

The aims of Film A-Level are:

- to provide students with sophisticated analytical and critical approaches for understanding how films construct meaning and provoke diverse responses
- to enable students to study a wider range of films, thereby developing an appreciation of aspects of the history of film and its cultural diversity
- to develop students' research skills as well as their creative and production skills through film projects and allow them to synthesise learning gained throughout the course.

Please note

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Those who study it characteristically bring with them a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium, inspiring a range of responses from the emotional to the reflective.

Future Opportunities

Careers in media, teaching or communications. Film Studies or any other media/communication related subject at degree level. It is an academic subject that develops the expression of opinion, particularly in the form of analytical essays.

These skills would be recognised as necessary in most areas of higher education.

Qualification

A-Level

Start Date

September 2020

Finish Date

June 2022

Component 1

Varieties of film and filmmaking

Written examination: 2½ hours

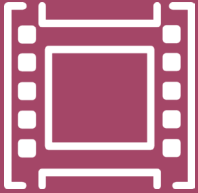
35% of qualification

Six feature-length films

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (comparative study). One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two Hollywood films, one from the Classical Hollywood period (1930-1960) (e.g. Vertigo) and the other from the New Hollywood period (1961-1990) (e.g. One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest).

Section B: American film since 2005 (two-film study). One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two American films, one mainstream film and one contemporary independent film (e.g. No Country for Old Men and Boyhood).

Section C: British film since 1995 (two-film study). One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two British films (e.g. Fishtank and Sightseers).



FILM STUDIES *continued*

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Component 2

Global filmmaking perspectives

Written examination: 2½ hours

35% of qualification

Five feature-length films

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 (e.g. *Victoria* and *City of God*).

Section B: Documentary film. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to one documentary film.

Section C: Film movements – silent cinema. One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to one silent film or group of films.

Section D: Film movements – experimental film (1960-2000). One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to one film option.

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Component 3

Production

Non-exam assessment

30% of qualification

- either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay
- an evaluative analysis (1700 - 2000 words).

Entry Requirements

BOTH a Grade 4 AND a Grade 5 in
the two English GCSEs