

## AS Level and A Level Film Studies



**Entry Requirements:** Grade 4 in both GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature. **In addition, an E Grade in AS Film Studies is needed to progress to A Level in Year 13.** **Exam Board:** WJEC

**Teachers:** R Criticos, R Gray

**Timetable Organisation:** The Film Studies AS / A Level course will be taught over 5 periods per week. Students are expected to complete the AS course and achieve an E in the subject before moving on to A Level:

**AS in the first year consists of three components:**

**NEA: Exploring Film Form (30%)**

The NEA (Non Examined Assessment or coursework component) is composed of a creative / practical project (screenwriting or film making) that will draw upon the skills developed in the analysis, plus an evaluation of the project.

**Component 1: American Film (35%) –**

This is an externally assessed exam of 1.5 hours divided into two sections with a choice of questions. **Section A** explores two examples of Hollywood cinema  
**Section B** explores a single example of contemporary American Independent cinema

**Component 2: European Film (35%) –**

This is an externally assessed exam of 1.5 hours divided into two sections with a choice of questions. **Section A** explores two examples of recent UK film  
**Section B** explores a contemporary European film

**A Level in the second year consists of three components:**

**NEA: Exploring Film Form (30%)**

The NEA (Non Examined Assessment or coursework component) is composed of a creative / practical project (screenwriting or film making) that will draw upon the skills developed in the analysis, plus an evaluation of the project.

**Component 1: Filmmaking and Spectatorship (35%) –**

This is an externally assessed exam of 2.5 hours divided into four sections with a choice of questions. **Section A** explores two examples of Hollywood cinema  
**Section B** explores two examples of contemporary American Independent cinema **Section C** explores an example of a contemporary documentary film  
**Section D** explores a collection of short films

## **Component 2: Varieties of Global Film (35%) –**

This is an externally assessed exam of 2.5 hours divided into four sections with a choice of questions. **Section A** explores two examples of recent UK film **Section B** explores two examples of contemporary European and World cinema **Section C** explores an example of early silent film **Section D** explores an example of post-modern film produced since 1960

### **Main Syllabus Area:**

This course introduces students to the systematic study of film as an art form. British, American and World Cinema will be studied from the 1920s to the present. The course provides students with opportunities to study film within historical, social and cultural contexts, encouraging them to develop a variety of interpretations. Analysis of the filmmakers' art and craft will provide them with a powerful and critical understanding of the moving image. The course also provides the possibilities to translate theory into practice with screenwriting, story-boarding and filmmaking options.

### **Method of Assessment**

Students will be assessed by a combination of coursework (30%) and examination (70%). Success at AS in Year 12 will lead to A Level in Year 13.

### **Qualities Required**

You will have an interest in film and a willingness to extend and develop the range and styles of films that you view. A film text is so difficult to explain because it is so easy to understand; therefore you need an open and enquiring mind, established writing skills and a willingness to enter debate and discussion.

### **Links with other subjects**

Film Studies provides an excellent complement to the arts, performing arts and social sciences. As a discipline that requires rigorous analysis, independent research and reflective observation it will complement all As study and in particular sociology, psychology, history and any of the English courses.

### **Career Prospects**

The skills developed during the course link with a range of subjects at Higher Education and a wide range of vocations available without a degree: film, media, journalism, marketing, research, advertising, arts administration, museum and archivist work. Future prospects in these areas are encouraging and this course provides students with an understanding of a form that has prominent cultural significance in this new millennia.

### **Extension and Enrichment Opportunities**

Cinema screenings; conferences; visiting speakers and workshops.