

A LEVEL FILM STUDIES

Examining Board
WJEC/Eduqas

Link Tutor
Mr J Adams

Method of Assessment:

Coursework: 30% Either a short film or screenplay with a reflective analysis (1500 words)

Exam: 70% Varieties of film and film making (2.5 hours) and Global film making perspectives (2.5 hours)

Course Content:

Component 1: Varieties of film and film making Hollywood 1930 – 1990: Apocalypse Now and Vertigo American film since 2005: Sightseers and Under the Skin

Students study familiar, conventional genres, such as action and thrillers, in the form of Inception and Vertigo, whilst, also, challenging their preconceived notions of what makes cinema, through independent films, such as Beasts of the Southern Wild and Under the Skin. Students learn a range of approaches to the films, actively considering the way spectators are influenced, as well as taking conceptualised approaches to issues resulting from critical and ideological interpretations of these films.

Component 2: Global film making perspectives

Global film: Ida and Timbuktu

Documentary Film: Amy

Silent Cinema: Sunrise

Experimental film: Pulp Fiction

Students broaden their knowledge of film form, exploring the earliest type of cinema by studying Sunrise, balancing this with the experimental, radical approach adopted by Tarantino in Pulp Fiction. Students explore rich, diverse cultural issues and their representation in Ida and Timbuktu, considering the way these cultures, distinct from our own, are shaped on film.

Component 3: Production

Either a short film of 4-5 minutes or a screenplay of 1600-1800 words.

A reflective analysis (1500 words)

Students apply their learning from the examined units in their own non-exam assessment. Students use the editing software on the department Macbooks to create individual creative projects, allowing them to test out and explore different ways of producing meaning. Students then write a reflective analysis, considering how they have shaped the projects, as well as considering how films they have seen have shaped the production of their own films.

Lesson style:

A variety of approaches that embrace the creative and academic nature of the specification. This includes mixed media approaches, learning to write highly critical, fluent essays, as well as the creation of your own creative projects, applying many of the styles you have studied on the course as a whole. The film department has a suite of Apple Macbooks to facilitate these approaches.

A LEVEL FILM STUDIES (Cont'd)

Lesson style:

A variety of approaches that embrace the creative and academic nature of the specification. This includes mixed media approaches, learning to write highly critical, fluent essays, as well as the creation of your own creative projects, applying many of the styles you have studied on the course as a whole. The film department has a suite of Apple Macbooks to facilitate these approaches.

Time allocation:

4 hours a week

Private study requirements:

A willingness to watch and consume films in a range of genres, especially if they push the boundaries of conventional cinema. A willingness to engage in wider, independent reading and reviewing of films and key sequences, as well as a clear intellectual curiosity – a desire to learn more about a brand new discipline.

Advisable for following careers:

Any part of creative media, advertising, journalism. Students who study this subject with STEM subjects find that employers like the academic breadth that Film Studies adds as a complementary subject.

Good combination with:

English Literature, English Language and Literature, Theatre Studies, Philosophy and Ethics, History. Equally, Film Studies has frequently been taken as a contrasting subject to STEM subjects to add to the breadth of a student's study