

Film Studies

Examination Board: Eduqas

Qualification: A level

Teacher Contact: Ms Malt

Entry Requirements: A grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language.

What will I study?

This A level course consists of three components, one of which is practical/creative.

Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of six feature-length films.

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (comparative study)

One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two Hollywood films.

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.

Section C: British film since 1995 (two-film study)

One question from a choice of two, requiring reference to two British films.

Current film choices

Some Like it Hot; Blade Runner; No Country for Old Men; Winter's Bone; Trainspotting; This is England.

Component 2: Global Filmmaking perspectives

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of five feature-length films (or their equivalent).

Section A: Global film (two-film study)

One European and one produced outside Europe.

Section B: Documentary film

Reference to one documentary film.

Section C: Film movements

Silent cinema – group of short silent films.

Section D: Film movements

Experimental film (1960-2000). Reference to one film option

Current film choices

Pan's Labyrinth; Wild Tales; Amy; films of Buster Keaton; Pulp Fiction.

Component 3: Production (internally assessed)

This component assesses one production and its evaluative analysis. Learners produce:

- either a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1,600-1,800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay
- an evaluative analysis (1,600-1,800 words).

Am I suited to this course?

You would be well-suited to studying Film Studies at A level if you:

- like to work collaboratively and independently
- enjoy films and are interested in their history, construction, production and regulation
- enjoy discussing ideas and developing opinions
- enjoy analysing texts
- enjoy creative tasks and like working with media-related computer software
- are considering a career in the film industry or the related industry of television.

What other subjects does it complement?

Film Studies combines well with Art, Psychology, Sociology, English Literature, English Language, Photography and History. This is both a creative and an analytical subject. Students opt for a wide range of other A level subjects either to complement or contrast with Film Studies.

Where can it lead?

A level Film Studies provides an excellent qualification for university entrance. The skills of investigation, analysis and interpretation will assist many students in a wide range of future careers. As a degree choice it offers a huge range of career paths, including the film industry, animation and other associated media industries.