

Film Studies

AS/A Level

WJEC

Structure & Specification

Year 1: AS 2181

Year 2: A2 3181

What does the course include?

Year One - AS

This year aims to develop your interest in, appreciation of and knowledge of film.

FM1: EXPLORING FILM FORM

The emphasis of this unit is on the interaction between film text and its audience. It focuses on the micro features of film and the communication of emotion. You will explore the micro features of film: mise-en-scène, performance, cinematography, editing and sound and identify how these construct meanings and contribute to the sensory impact of film. You will also reflect on your own responses to film as a means of exploring the relationship between film and spectator and have the opportunity to create a sequence to demonstrate your understanding of the theory in this unit.

FM2: BRITISH AND AMERICAN FILM

This unit emphasises the interaction of the film industry (as producer/supplier of films) and audiences (as purchasers/consumers of films). You will study the narrative and genre features of UK and US films, including the ways in which they represent social reality.

Year Two- A2

This year aims to provide you with more sophisticated analytical and critical approaches for understanding film.

FM3: FILM RESEARCH AND CREATIVE PROJECTS

This unit contributes to synoptic assessment and focuses on two projects related to the production of meaning: one is research and essay based and the other is creative.

You will complete a small-scale research project designed to develop research skills in one or more critical approaches used in film studies and develop creative skills and a deepened understanding of the medium of film.

FM4: VARIETIES OF FILM EXPERIENCE – ISSUES AND DEBATES

Your understanding will be fostered through the study of complex films from different parts of the world and moments in history extending your knowledge of the diversity of

How will I learn?

The course is divided between two teachers so you will be studying two modules at the same time. In total you will watch over 15 films throughout the course. You will be expected to write and keep notes, give presentations, take part in discussions, write essays and work as part of a group and on your own.

How will my work be assessed?

FS1 and FS4 are internally assessed through two extended essays and a creative piece of work (40% of the total mark). The other modules are externally assessed through two exams and are worth 30% of the total mark each.

What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

The course will suit people with an interest in film who are prepared to discuss their ideas and responses with others. You will need to undertake wider reading to complement the work done in class. The more you are interested and involved in different types of film, the more you will get out of the course.

What are the entry requirements?

You must have five GCSEs including English GCSE at Grade C or above.

What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

Film studies offers skills that are highly transferable to many areas of employment. Degrees in film and practical film making courses are very competitive, and many universities will require a portfolio of your work along with your application.