



Course details

If you love film past and present, want to learn more about the distinctive cinemas of Britain, Europe, America and the wider world, then this is the course for you.

In many ways, as a subject it is most like English Literature, involving the study of whole films and extracts in close textual detail.

An example of study might include examining *Pan's Labyrinth* to explore its representations of fascist Spain, as well as use of special effects to construct a fantastical landscape.

It goes much further than Media Studies in its approach to film and the depth and diversity of film it offers. It provides an excellent and enriching introduction to film culture.

AS/A Level

You will learn how film communicates meaning using sign systems, narrative, genre, form and style and how the audience actively 'reads' meaning into a text. You will build on your knowledge by writing pieces of film analysis and completing original creative work.

You will study the film industry from the Classical Hollywood studio system to modern Hollywood's reliance on blockbusters and franchises; how American independent films challenge the studio systems and introduce deeper themes, messages and values to audiences.

You will also study the British film industry, from 1930 to now; and two Global films, one European and one produced outside Europe.

At A Level you will also study a variety of film movements including documentaries and silent era films as well as experimental films.

Coursework includes the choice of making a short film, or producing planning evidence including a script and storyboard.

Assessment :

AS Level:

70% External assessment

(2 exams at the end of year 12)

30% Coursework

A Level:

70% External assessment

(2 exams at the end of year 13)

30% Coursework



Can I take both Media Studies and Film Studies?

There are no prohibited combinations and there will be no overlap in areas of prescribed study. However, subject staff may feel that studying both is not in your best interests, so they must be consulted before making your decision.

The courses do have key concepts in common but film is studied in greater depth and diversity and the approach taken differs substantially from Media Studies, in which film provides only a small area of study.

The academic nature of this course demands that both extracts and whole films of all classifications are shown. A-level Film Studies is not a vocational subject nor a practical film-making course.



What could I go on to do after the course ?

You can go onto University to study Media and Film.

After this you could follow a career to include:

- Journalism
- Design
- Teaching
- Practical production
- Creative Media industry

Exam board: WJEC/Eduqas

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Level 3

16+ Opportunities

2018

Film Studies

A Level



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