

Subject: Film Studies

Level: A-Level



Course Outline (Exam Board: WJEC)

The WJEC Eduqas A-Level in Film Studies course offers an excellent introduction to the film industry in both the U.S. and the U.K., with work covering the Classical Hollywood period, New Hollywood, contemporary American independent film and British film. The course covers work on film movements, documentary film, global film and the short film. There is also the opportunity to produce a short film (4-5 minutes) or a screenplay for a short film (1600-1800 words) and a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay.

This is a linear qualification and therefore all examinations take place at the end of the second year.

What will I learn on this course?

This course will enable you to:

- Explore a diverse range of film, including documentary, film from the silent era, experimental film and short film.
- Develop an interest in the media.
- Apply critical approaches to film.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of film through either filmmaking or screenwriting.

Who would be a successful student of Film Studies?

The subject contains a mixture of written analysis and practical work. The main focus is on critical analysis of film texts. You will develop an understanding of how the technical and creative aspects of film-making create meaning for audiences. You should enjoy watching a wide range of films, like sharing opinions on these with others and be able to write critically about films.

The course is best suited to people who are strong writers, who enjoy watching and analysing a range of films (including World Cinema). Film Studies goes well with any theory-based, essay subject such as English Literature, History, Politics, Sociology etc. as well as Digital Creative Media, IT or Computer Science if you enjoy the practical work.

Extra-Curricular Activities

These include:

- Trips to various media institutions
- Visiting speakers from the media
- Relevant courses, conferences and lectures

Career Opportunities

Film graduates have made careers in areas such as communications, advertising, publishing, the cinema industry, journalism, broadcasting and education. Postgraduate courses have included Linguistics, Multimedia, Communication and Culture and of course, Film-making.

Course Structure

American and British Film (2 ½ hours):

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

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (comparative study)

Students will focus on two films, one from the Classical Hollywood period (1930-1960) and the other from the New Hollywood period (1961-1990).

Section B: American film since 2005 (two-film study)

Two American films are studied, one mainstream film and one contemporary independent film.

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

Global Filmmaking (2 ½ hours):

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

Section A: Global film (two-film study)

Two global films are studied, one European and one produced outside Europe.

Section B: Documentary film

Students analyse one documentary film.

Section C: Film movements-Silent Cinema

Students will focus on one silent film or a group of short silent films.

Section D: Film movements-Experimental Film (1960-2000)

One Experimental film is studied.

Coursework: Production (non-exam assessment)

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 (1600-1800 words) and a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay.

Specific Entry Requirements

A grade 5 or above in English Language is required due to the academic nature of the subject.