

A Level Film Studies



Introducing A Level Film Studies

Film Studies is a rewarding choice for those students who are passionate about cinema and the arts. The course offers a rich and engaging experience that combines academic rigour with practical application, exploring the exciting relationship between moving image theory and practical film making. Students are enabled to view, discuss and analyse a diverse range of film texts. Students will be introduced to frameworks surrounding macro features of film notably narrative construction and structure, representation and genre. You will also study film's micro features including cinematography, mise en scene, editing and sound. The film industry will be explored within a historical and topical context.

The course will develop:

- **Analytical skills:** These are valuable in various professions including communications, digital media and animation.
- **Creative expression:** This is actively encouraged through the production of a short film or screenplay, allowing students to apply their knowledge practically.
- **Cultural understanding:** Through the choices of films, the course offers a window into different cultures and societies, helping students understand how films reflect and shape our world.
- **Career opportunities:** Graduates of Film Studies often pursue careers in the media and film industries.

During the course we will study the following:

Component One – Varieties of film and filmmaking

- Old v New Hollywood (*Vertigo*, 1958; *Alien*, 1979)
- American Film since 2005 (*La La Land*, 2016; *Get Out*, 2017)
- British film since 1995 (*This Is England*, 2006; *Mogul Mowgli*, 2020)

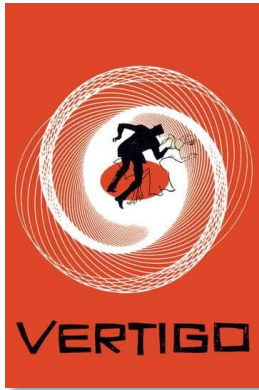


Component Two – Global filmmaking perspectives

- Global film (*Mustang*, 2015; *Parasite*, 2019)
- Documentary film (*For Sama*, 2019)
- Film movements – Silent cinema (*Sunrise*, 1927)
- Film movements – Experimental film (1960-001) (*Mulholland Drive*, 2001)

Component Three - Production

- Either a short film (**4-5 minutes**) or screenplay for a short film (**1600 – 1800 words**) and a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay.
- An evaluative analysis (**1600-1800 words**)



Teaching & Learning

Lessons are split between two A Level teachers who teach separate aspects of the course and regularly liaise with each other.

Most lessons involved either the analysis of key sequences within the key films for each section or practising applying the gained knowledge and understanding into increasingly developed responses.

Where applicable, there are cross-over lessons, particularly during Year 12 and the start of Year 13 when sections are two film studies.

A Level Assessment

Students will be assessed through fortnightly knowledge tests recapping learning covered in lessons, giving students regular repetition of required course knowledge and an extended essay style response to practice analysis of key sequences or practice exam style questions.

Mock exams are held throughout the academic year, with at least two assessment points in Year 12, plus two more in Year 13. This start off simple and build to mimicking the full exams in preparation for the Summer of Year 13.

Subject combinations

A Level Film Studies can be studied with a wide range of other subjects such as:

- English Literature
- Media Studies
- History
- Art
- Photography



Progression Routes

Broadcast TV / radio production, film production, journalism, creative media, marketing and communication sector, advertising.

Entry and skill requirements

For A Level Film Studies, students are expected to have achieved a 5 in either English Literature or English Language, though we are open to discussions with students who are keen should they fall below this and make our decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Contact us

Staff member in charge: Mr M. Lambourne

Contact email address: mlb@pershire.worcs.sch.uk

Telephone Number: 01386 552471