

Course Level

A Level

Awarding Body

EDUQAS

Entry Requirements

Grade 5 in GCSE Film or Media Studies,
or Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
or Literature.

Assessment

70% from two external examinations.

30% from non-exam assessment
(comprising of a production and a
written evaluative analysis).

FILM STUDIES

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Aims and Objectives

Many consider film to be the main cultural innovation of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Those who study it characteristically bring with them a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium, inspiring a range of responses from the emotional to the reflective. Film Studies consequently makes an important contribution to the curriculum, offering the opportunity to investigate how film works both as a powerful medium of representation and as an aesthetic medium.

The course is designed to introduce A Level learners to a wide variety of films in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of film and the range of responses films can generate. Film Studies A Level offers opportunities to study mainstream and independent American and British films from the past and the present as well as more recent global films, both non-English language and English language. The historical range of film represented in those films is extended by the study of silent film and significant film movements (such as European avant-garde and new wave cinemas in Europe and Asia) so that learners can gain a sense of the development of film from its early years to its still emerging digital future. Studies in documentary, experimental and short films add to the breadth of the learning experience.

Production work is a crucial part of this course and is integral to learners' study of film. Studying a diverse range of films from several different contexts is designed to give learners the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting. This is intended to enable learners to create high quality film and screenplay work as well as provide an informed filmmaker's perspective on their own study of film.

Film Studies aims to enable learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- a diverse range of film styles and movements, including documentary, film from the silent era, experimental film and short film
- the significance of film and film practice in national, global and historical contexts
- film and its key contexts (including social, cultural, political, historical and technological contexts)
- how films generate meanings and responses
- film as an aesthetic medium
- the different ways in which spectators respond to film

It also aims to enable learners to:

- apply critical approaches to film
- apply knowledge and understanding of film through either filmmaking or screenwriting
- develop practical skills in filmmaking, including how to use camera and lighting equipment and editing software, such as Adobe Premiere Pro

Students do not need to have studied Film Studies at GCSE, but an avid interest in a wide range of film, the ability to be creative and use digital equipment to create their own film texts is a necessity. Not only will they be creating films, but they will also be writing about them so students will need to be able to meet strict deadlines.

Career and Progression Opportunities

This course is appropriate for students wanting to study film at higher academic levels and can provide a useful "taster" for those considering more specialised vocational courses. In addition, knowledge of the film industry is increasingly valued and is becoming an important aspect of work in many institutions in our media saturated society, so the course can suit anyone with an interest in film who wants to go to university.

Link to specification: <https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/sxdcwwck/eduqas-a-level-film-studies-spec-from-2017-e-04-02-2021-1.pdf>