Film Studies

Why Study A Level Film Studies?

The AS Film studies course aims to encourage students to:

Deepen their understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film, the major art form of the 20th century, and one developing new modes of expression and exhibition in the first decades of the 21st century.

Explore the relationship between film and the individual by exploring how films create meanings and produce both intellectual and emotional responses.

Develop skills of observation, critical analysis and personal reflection, as well as developing their creativity and practical skills in audio-visual and written form.

Course Content

During the first year you will study the following units;

Unit 1: Exploring Film Form: this unit focuses on the micro features of film and the construction of meaning and emotion. Understanding will be fostered through:

- Studying micro features of film: mise en scene, performance, cinematography, editing and sound.
- Identifying how these construct meanings and contribute to the sensory impact of film.
- Reflecting on individual response to micro features of film.
- Creating a sequence to demonstrate how micro features produce meanings and responses.

Unit 2: British and American Film: this unit focuses on the two key aspects of Film Studies:

- Producers and audiences and the relationship between them
- The role of macro features of film (narrative and genre) in constructing meanings.
- These will be studied in the context of two national cinemas– those of the UK and the USA. Critical understanding will be fostered through:
- The interrelationship between producers and audiences.
- Narrative and genre characteristics of UK and US films.
- Personal response to films, mediated by the study of films and their contexts.

Exam Board

WJEC

Assessment

The course will be assessed through a combination of exam and coursework completed at the end of both the first and second years.