



GET READY TO STUDY A LEVEL FILM STUDIES

If you are planning to study A Level Film Studies with us in September, please review this document and complete the required activities. Please bring the completed activities with you at induction.

FAQ

What specification will I study?

You will be studying the Eduqas Film Studies A Level

Use the weblink or QR code to read about the specification and you can also view past papers to see what the assessment looks like.

[AS and A Level Film Studies | Eduqas](#)

How many lessons will I have a week?

You'll have 4 lessons a week, each lesson is 1 hours and 10 minutes

Who can I contact if I have a question about this subject?

Kira Tudor: k.tudor@barnsley.ac.uk

What subjects go well with Film Studies?

Media Studies, English, Drama, Art, Photography, History.

What grades should I have?

In addition to the general sixth form entry requirements, learners must have grade 5 or above in GCSE English Language.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study the key elements of film form including cinematography, mise-en-scène, editing, sound and performance. You will also study the contexts of your chosen films and what was happening when the film was made. What can the film tell us about history and society at that time? You will study the films in terms of the representations they present or challenge. There are also a number of specialist film areas including Spectatorship, Narrative, Ideology, the Auteur and Critical Debates surrounding Film.

Year 1:

- Global Film – *Pan's Labyrinth* (2006, dir. del Toro) and *Parasite* (2019, dir. Bong Joon-Ho)
- Hollywood 1930-1990 – *Vertigo* (1959, dir. Hitchcock) and *Alien* (1979, dir. Scott)
- American film since 2005: *Get Out* (2017, Peele) and *Joker* (2019, Phillips).
- Documentary film – *Amy* (2015, dir. Kapadia)
- Coursework development

Year 2:

- Short film (coursework and submission)
- British film since 1995 – *Fish Tank* (2009, dir. Arnold) and *Under the Skin* (2013, dir. Glazer)
- Silent film – *One Week* (1920), *The Scarecrow* (1920), *The 'High Sign'* (1921) and *Cops* (1922) dir. Keaton.
- Experimental film – *Mulholland Drive* (2001, dir. Lynch)

As part of this course you will also develop, produce, shoot, and edit your own short film idea, working to a brief along with an evaluative analysis where you will discuss what films have influenced your short film and how you have created meaning in your short film. This is worth 30% of your overall grade at the end of the course. You will sit two exams at the end of year 2 which makes up the rest of your grade. Each weighing 35%.

WHAT WILL I NEED?

To study the course you will need the following equipment:

- Two folders with dividers
- Pens and pencils
- Highlighters
- A ruler
- A cornell note book

Students also find it useful to have:

- Blank flashcards
- Access to the films listed for study
- Access to the 'Film Art' book (extra reading)

FIND OUT MORE

These activities are to help broaden your understanding of the subject in preparation for studying this subject at an advanced level.

Careers	Careers, jobs and skills training in film, TV, VFX, animation and games - ScreenSkills https://www.bfi.org.uk/bfi-film-academy-opportunities-young-creatives https://www.screenskills.com/job-profiles/browse/film-and-tv-drama/
Social Media	Watch the videos in this playlist: Aesthetica Short Film Festival on Twitter @ASFFest
YouTube	StudioBinder - YouTube
Further Reading / Useful websites	• Film Studies Eduqas revision guides • The Story of Film by Marc Cousins • BFI Film Classics: Vertigo by Charles Barr • The Oxford Guide to Film Studies https://www.sensesofcinema.com/ https://www.bfi.org.uk/sight-and-sound

INDUCTION TASK

THIS WORK IS DUE FOR:

**Your Induction Lesson.
Please ensure you bring it
with you!!**

**If there are any questions about this
work, you can email:**

k.tudor@barnsley.ac.uk

Compulsory Tasks

You will need an A4 folder for Film Studies to organise your notes, revision, and resources. It is recommended that you bring the work in that folder. It is also recommended that you organise your folder with dividers.

1. Film Form Research:

In A Level Film Studies, *mise-en-scène* and *sound* are key elements used to shape audience response, communicate themes, and develop atmosphere. Your task is to investigate how film-makers combine visual style and sound design to influence the audience's understanding of a scene.

Research and define the following terms.

Mise-en-Scène

- Costume
- Lighting
- Setting/location
- Props
- Make-up and hair
- Actor positioning/blocking
- Colour

Sound

- Diegetic sound
- Non-diegetic sound
- Sound effects
- Dialogue
- Voice-over
- Sound bridge
- Silence
- Music/score

2. Key Scene analysis

Watch your chosen scene several times and analyse it in detail.

Mise-en-Scène

Explain how visual elements create meaning:

What does the setting communicate? How are costume and colour used? What atmosphere is created through lighting? How are characters positioned within the frame?

Sound

Explain how sound influences audience response:

What sounds are most noticeable? Is the sound diegetic or non-diegetic? How does music affect mood or tension? How is silence used? How do dialogue and sound effects shape meaning?

(TEARS IN THE RAIN- BLADE RUNNER)

3. Research into Spectatorship:

In Film Studies, spectatorship explores how audiences watch, respond to, and interpret films. It looks at questions such as:

- Why do audiences enjoy certain films?
- How do films create emotional responses?
- Do different audiences react differently to the same film?
- How do gender, age, culture, and ideology affect viewing experiences?

Research: What is the difference between a passive and active audience?

- Can audiences resist a film's message?
- Helpful examples:
 - Superhero films
 - Horror films
 - Social media reactions to films

4. Scene analysis for Spectatorship:

Choose ONE scene from a film you know well.

Analyse:

Mise-en-scene

Sound

Then explain:

How does the scene position the audience?

What emotions are viewers encouraged to feel?

How does the director guide audience reactions?

Suggested films:

Jaws

Get Out
The Dark Knight
Barbie
Parasite

Additional Tasks

5. **Plan and Storyboard** a short film. Use the resources attached [here](#).
6. **Read articles** on the films that you will study [here](#).
7. **Watch the video essays** in this [playlist](#).

Recommended Reading:

- The Story of Film by Marc Cousins
- BFI Film Classics: Vertigo by Charles Barr
- The Oxford Guide to Film Studies