

Curriculum

GCSE Film Studies draws on students' enthusiasm for film and introduces them to a wide variety of cinematic experiences, which have been important in the development of film and film technology. The WJEC Eduqas specification in GCSE Film Studies starts with individuals' excitement about a powerful audio-visual medium, which is central to today's society and culture.

This GCSE course designed to encourage that enthusiasm and motivate them to broaden their knowledge of film and film technology from the first moving images introduced to audiences in 1895 to the digital environment of contemporary film.

Students will develop their knowledge of US mainstream film by studying one film from the 1930s-50s and one film from the later 80s and 90s, thus looking at two stages in Hollywood's development. In addition, they will be studying more recent films – a US independent film as well as films from Europe, including the UK, South Africa and India.

Production is an important part of this specification and is integral to students' study of film. Students will have the opportunity to apply their understanding of how films are constructed to their own filmmaking and screenwriting.

Overview

The WJEC Eduqas specification in GCSE Film Studies aims to develop knowledge and understanding of:

- The ways in which meanings and responses are generated through film
- A contrasting, culturally diverse range of films from different national contexts
- Film as an aesthetic medium
- How films reflect the social, cultural and political contexts in which they are made
- The relationship between film and film technology over time

Over the course of Year 10 and 11, students will prepare for the three different components. At the same time students will also produce their own film extract or screenplay using the techniques gained from their analysis of films spanning different time periods and cultures.

How will I be assessed?

- **Component 1: Key Developments in US Film** (Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes)
- **Component 2: Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style** (Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes)
- **Component 3: Production** (Non-exam assessment. Internally assessed, externally moderated by WJEC)

Please note, these are the final assessments for the course. Internal assessments run throughout the two years in the form of homework, quizzes, mock exams and practice questions.

Who is the course suited to?

This course is suited to students who have a passionate interest in films and film production.

It will also suit students who want to explore, through formal study and their own productions, how films are constructed as well as the role the screenplay takes in the film production process.

In addition to this, students who have strong skills in English, Literacy and IT will find it easier to progress with this qualification.

Supporting your child

The best way you can support your child in the study of this course is to ensure you sit and watch as many films as possible, from a wide variety of time periods and genres. Exposure to as much film-making as possible allows each student to gain a greater understanding of the key developments in film over the last 100+ years and will better enable them to understand the place each set film has in the history of cinema.