

Film Studies KS5

Year 12

Autumn 1	What are the core elements of A Level Film Studies and how do I use these? What are the key elements of film form? How is meaning and response generated within films? What are the contexts of film: social, cultural, political, historical and institutional, including production? What are representation & Aesthetics? What are the codes and conventions of genres in films? What are hybrid genres? How do I analyse a film sequence using the key elements of film form? What is semiotics and how do I apply it to film analysis? What is British Film 1995 onwards? Film 1: <i>Shaun of the Dead</i> (Wright, 2004) What is the British Film industry? What is the history of the zombies and its representation in horror films? What are the key features of Edgar Wright films? How do I write about the key elements in <i>Shaun of the Dead</i>? How do I write about specific sequences from the film using film form to analyse the meaning and response? What are the codes and conventions of the genre?		
Autumn 2	How do I film and edit a 1 minute sequence without words? What is short film? How do I film my film sequence? How do I edit my film sequence? How do I research a film genre? What are the codes and conventions of a film genre? Film 2: <i>Trainspotting</i> (Boyle, 1996) How do I write about the key elements in <i>Trainspotting</i>? How do I write about specific sequences from the film using film form to analyse the meaning and response? What are the codes and conventions of the genre? What are critical approaches to narrative? What is narrative theory when applied to film? What is the formalist conception of narrative based on the distinction between story and plot? What is the structuralist conception of narrative based on binary oppositions? How do I apply these to British films? What is ideology? What is the dominant ideology of the society I live in? How is the represented in <i>Shaun of the Dead</i> and <i>Trainspotting</i>?		
Spring 1	What is global film? What is a non-European film? Film 3: <i>House of Flying Daggers</i> (Zhang, China, 2004) What is the global film industry? What are the contexts of film in social, cultural, political historical and institutional including production? What is Wuxia? What is the cultural revolution and how does this affect films made in China? Who are the fifth-generation directors? How are different genders represented in the film and why? What is aesthetics in film and how do we apply it?	How do I create a short film for non-examined assessment? How do I analyse the narrative structure of a short film and apply it to my own work? How do I plan my film sequence? How do I film my film sequence? How do I edit my film sequence? How do I evaluate and analyse my film and the influences I have used?	
Spring 2	What is a European film? Film 4: <i>Pan's Labyrinth</i> (Del Toro, Spain, 2006) What is the Spanish Civil War? How are fascism and the catholic church represented within the film? How are different genders represented in the film and why? What is the aesthetics of the film? How are the elements of film form used to create aesthetic effect in this sequence? How does the beauty of this moment in the film also propel the narrative forward?		
Summer 1	What is silent film? <i>One Week</i> (1920), <i>The Scarecrow</i> (1920), <i>The 'High Sign'</i> (1921), <i>Cops</i> (1922) (Keaton, US) How does film develop from its starting point in 1880s to silent film? Why is silent film important and what were the major stylistic movements in silent cinema? What is modernism? What is American silent comedy and how can we define it? Who is Bazin and why is his criticism of film movement so important? What is the critical debate around realism and expressionism and how can you apply this to silent films? What is documentary? <i>Amy</i> (Kapadia, UK, 2015) What is the history of documentary film making? How has documentary film making developed since the early days of film? What is the history of documentary film making? How has documentary film making developed since the early days of film? How have contemporary documentaries changed in style and form to make use of its place in cinema? What is the significance of digital technology in film? How do film makers create different approaches to documentary film making?		
Summer 2	What is experimental film? Film 5: <i>Memento</i> (Nolan, US, 2000) What is postmodernism? What is a postmodern film? How does Memento play with narrative and other conventions? What is auteur theory? How does the term auteur apply to Christopher Nolan? Why is Memento an experimental film when Christopher Nolan is seen as a mainstream film director?		
Autumn 1	How do I compare two US Films? <i>Vertigo</i> (Hitchcock, 1958) and <i>Alien</i> (Scott, 1979) What is a two-film comparison? How do 1950s films differ from those made in the 1980s? What is the Classical Hollywood studio system? What is New Hollywood?		
Autumn 2	What is auteur theory and how can this be applied to directors? What is the relationship between the contexts and films? How can the core elements be used to analyse the films? How do I apply everything I have learnt about the two films to a comparison of their contexts, representations of gender, or auteur theory?		
Spring 1	What is American film since 2005? <i>Little Women</i> (Gerwig, 2019) What are the contexts of this film and how does a spectator read these? What is spectatorship theory and how do I apply this to films? How can audience theories help us to understand passive and active spectatorship? What is the ideology of this film and does it align with dominant ideology of the society it was created in?	NEA: How do I create a short film or screenplay for non-examined assessment? How do I analyse the narrative structure of a short film and apply it to my own work? How do I plan my film sequence or screenplay? How do I film my film sequence or write my screenplay? How do I edit my film sequence? How do I make a digital storyboard for my screenplay? How do I evaluate and analyse my film and the influences I have used?	
Spring 2	<i>Captain Fantastic</i> (Ross, 2015) What are the contexts of this film and how does a spectator read these? What the alignment, allegiance and recognition and how does the spectator use these when watching a film? How does reception theory enable me to see how different people will respond to films? What is Marxism and why is it important to understand for the contexts of this film? What is the ideology of this film, and does it align with dominant ideology of the society it was created in? How does spectatorship work within an ideological framework?		
Summer 1	Exam preparation How can I make sure I am revising effectively for this subject? How do I memorise and recall knowledge I need for the exam? How do I maximise marks in this subject's exam? What are the gaps in my knowledge and how can I address them? How do I approach exam questions in this subject to ensure I reach the highest grade? What do I need to do to prepare myself for university courses? What do I need to do to prepare myself for employment?		
Summer 2	<i>Exams</i>		
Careers	What types of jobs do people do in media industries? What is the film industry? Why are media industries linked? What kind of jobs are available in the industry? What is the role of the director? What is the role of the director of photography? Why is money an important factor in the film industry?		

Year 13