

Film Studies

Introduction

Why study Film?

Film has the capability to move us, make us question ourselves and the world around us; the capacity to teach us things about life, culture, politics, and history. It has the ability to make us forget ourselves and allow us to

escape into other worlds, to experience things we can only imagine or bring us crashing down to a reality we have ignored. Film is widely acknowledged to be the major art form of the 20th century and, today, it continues to be an important part of everybody's cultural experience.

Like literature before it, it is a subject highly worthy of study. The course will build upon your own experience of film and encourage you to extend this experience into a wider understanding of film as a global industry. You will grow from being a spectator of films to a creator of your own. You will get the chance to watch and discuss films of your choice, as well as extending your understanding and knowledge by watching films that have achieved critical acclaim or been selected by your friends or teacher(s). The course could be your first step towards a career as a film critic, journalist, script writer, cinematographer, director or any other of the numerous roles in the film industry and its related fields. There are hundreds of independent film production companies in this country, all eager to welcome the ideas of young film-makers with fresh, original ideas.

Content

What will I be doing?

For coursework, you will produce a screenplay and a storyboard. Once planned, you will shoot and edit your own short film (4-5min).

The two examinations will assess your knowledge and understanding of Hollywood, British and global film (world cinema) as well as documentary film and film movements including silent and experimental film.

You will develop your understanding of film context, movement, theory, critical perspectives as well as explore the issues and debates that surround film.

Furthermore, all the skills you develop will benefit your work in other subjects and offer a thorough preparation for learning skills at university, as well as preparing you for employment in the media, as a direct route from school.



Is it for me?

Do you enjoy watching films, on TV, on-line or at the cinema? Do you enjoy talking to others about the films you have watched? Are you willing to extend your knowledge and understanding of film? Are there aspects of cinema you enjoy that you would like to study in more detail? Are you excited by the prospect of planning, scripting and shooting films of your own? Are you interested in foreign films, the history of film making as well as contemporary American and British film?

If you answer YES to most of these questions, then this course is for YOU!

Course Requirement

Grade 5 or above in English will help you to meet the language/analytical demands of this course. You will need the skills and discipline to complete independent study and be prepared to work well as part of a team.

Course Leader

Mr S Brown

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