

# FILM STUDIES

## KS4 Curriculum

### What does this course involve at Key Stage 4?

GCSE Film Studies involves the study of the history of film and film technology from 1895 to the present day with special focus on Hollywood film, U.S. independent film, U.K. film and global film. Students will learn about how films are constructed; genres and narrative structures; the aesthetic qualities of films; how films communicate meaning to audiences, and the relevant contexts of films (social, cultural, historical, political and institutional). Creative production is an important part of this course and is integral to the learners' study of film. Students will create their own original concept for a feature film and write the opening to a screenplay with accompanying shooting script and an evaluative analysis, learning industry screenwriting protocol. There will also be opportunities for film-making projects.

### What do you need to be successful in this course?

An interest in Film and Media is very useful indeed. Students who are interested in History, Geography and/or Art will also benefit from this course. A creative imagination and an interest in creative writing are also very useful.

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During this two-year GCSE course, you will study key aspects of film, including:

Masterworks in film and important film directors and stars  
How films are made  
Visual style in film  
How films tell their stories  
The cultural and historical contexts to films  
Specialist and professional film writing  
Creative, technical and academic writing

### Year 10

- Introduction to technical codes in Film
- Independent, mainstream and blockbuster Film
- British cinema
- The Sci-Fi genre
- Narrative in Film
- The importance of context in Film: South African history and culture
- The Teen Film genre
- Writing a screenplay opening for a new film
- Creating a shooting script
- Writing an evaluative analysis
- Set film – Contemporary U.K. Film: *Attack the Block* (Cornish, 2011)
- Set film – Global English Language Film: *District 9* (Blomkamp, 2009)
- Set film – Global Foreign Language Film: *Tsotsi* (Hood, 2005)

### Year 11

- Commercial film
- Key developments in Film and film technology
- The importance of context in Film: the U.S.A. in the 1950s, 1980s and today
- Ethnicity and gender in Film
- Film music
- Set film – U.S. Film: *Rebel without a Cause* (Ray, 1955)
- Set film – U.S. Film: *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (Hughes, 1986)
- Set film – U.S. Independent Film: *The Hate U Give* (Tillman, 2018)

## How will you be assessed?

There are two 90 minutes examinations worth 70% of the grade.

Coursework (screenplay, shooting script and evaluative analysis) is worth 30% of the grade.

The coursework will be completed in Years 9 and 10 and in the Autumn term of Year 11.

The examinations are assessed against two assessment criteria, distributed differently across different exam questions: A01 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of elements of film; A02 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film, including to analyse films.

The coursework is assessed against two assessment criteria: A03 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film to the production of a genre-based screenplay (20%) and A02 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film to analyse and evaluate own work in relation to other professionally produced work (10%).





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