



TEACHERS SAY...

This specification provides a creative but demanding academic stepping stone to a range of higher education degrees, vocational courses or employment. For those who do not wish to progress further with film or media specifically, this course is a fascinating, engaging and culturally valuable course of study.

Topics Covered

YOUR NOTES

Aims and Objectives

Film is one of the main cultural innovations of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. To take Film studies A Level, you simply need a high degree of enthusiasm and excitement for what is a powerful and culturally significant medium. You will be given the tools to respond to a range of films emotionally, analytically and reflectively. Film Studies makes an important contribution to the curriculum, and offers you an opportunity to discover how film works both as a medium of societal representation and aesthetically.

The Moving Image Awards

The Moving Image Awards, designed in partnership with the British Film Institute, recognises and rewards the UK's most talented young film-makers. Every year, students undertaking Eduqas qualifications in Film and Media Studies are eligible to submit their work for consideration by their panel of judges. CFS Film Studies students will be invited to enter their short films at the end of Year 12.

First year of A level	Second year of A level
<p>Component 1: Varieties of film and filmmaking (35%) Section A: Classical Hollywood (1930-1960) New Hollywood (1961-1990)</p>	<p>Component 2: Global filmmaking perspectives (35%) Five feature-length films will be studied for this component.</p>
<p>Section B: American Film since 2005 (two-film study) Mainstream film Contemporary independent film (produced after 2010)</p>	<p>Section A: Global film (two-film study)</p> <p>Section B: Documentary film</p> <p>Section C: Film movements - Silent cinema</p>
<p>Section C: British film since 1995 (two-film study)</p>	<p>Section D: Film movements - Experimental film (1960-2000)</p>
<p>Component 3: Production Non-exam assessment (30%)</p>	

A level Film Studies

Examination board:



Teacher contact:

Mrs H Sabin

hsabin@chichesterfreeschool.org.uk

Entry requirements:

Five 9 to 4 (A* to C) with a minimum of 5 in English Language or English Literature. Enthusiasm for and interest in film is essential.

Type of assessment:

This is a linear course that includes a creative film-making project as a non-examination assessment (worth 30% of the final grade) and leads to two final exams (70%).

This course goes well with:

Film Studies goes well with any analytical, theory-based essay subject such as English Literature, History, Politics, Sociology or Philosophy; because of the practical film-making unit, it also complements Art or Drama.

Progression opportunities

The British media industry is booming: "UK film, TV and music activities have grown by 72.4% since 2014, outpacing growth in other EU countries". — *The Guardian* 26 July 2017. The multi-million £ investment in Chichester University's Creative & Digital Technologies Department, sponsored by Sony, is just one small local expression of this huge growth.

What can I do now to help me prepare for my course?

A Level Film Studies requires you to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of elements of film such as cinematography and editing, and to then apply this knowledge in analysing and comparing films. You will also need to evaluate the significance of critical theories. How can you prepare? Mainly, you need to be an avid film fan with an enthusiasm to study this varied and culturally influential form. So, watch films! Below are some suggestions of films to watch. Aim to cover all of the categories. The more films you watch, the more genres you cover, the more reviews and analyses you read, the better prepared you will be.

As a film student at CFS, you will be writing, directing and editing your own short film, worth 30% of your final grade. It is a good idea to watch some shorts to start building your creative ideas.

- A Girl's Own Story (Campion, Australia, 1987)
- Elephant (Clarke, UK, 1989)
- The Wrong Trousers (Park, UK, 1993)
- About a Girl (Percival, UK, 2001)
- Wasp (Arnold, UK, 2003)
- High Maintenance (Van, Germany, 2006)
- Connect (Abrahams, UK, 2010)
- Night Fishing (Park, South Korea, 2011)
- Pitch Black Heist (Maclean, UK, 2012)
- Curfew (Christensen, US, 2012)
- Stutterer (Cleary, UK, 2015)

If you haven't ever made a short film, then why not have a go! Plan it out first, keep dialogue to a minimum, and experiment with varied camera shots and angles to see the different effects. Edit your film to two minutes using iMovie or free editing software such as Shotcut.

Classical Hollywood (1930-1960)

Casablanca (Curtiz, 1942), U
The Lady from Shanghai (Welles, 1947), PG

New Hollywood (1961-1990)

Blade Runner (Scott, 1982), 15
Do the Right Thing (Lee, 1989), 15.

Contemporary independent film

Slumdog Millionaire (Boyle, 2008), 15
Boyhood (Linklater, 2015), 15

Global film

City of God (Mereilles, Brazil, 2002), 15
Hero (Yimou, China, 2002), 15

Documentary

Amy (Kapadia, UK, 2015), 15
The Big Short (McKay, 2015) 15)

Set up an account with **IMDB**, and start writing reviews: <http://www.imdb.com/>

Listen to the **Empire Magazine's** film review podcast: <https://www.empireonline.com/tags/empire-podcast/>

Possible career and progression options

This A Level prepares you for any film or media related course at university. However, Film Studies is a well-established academic A level in its own right, and is fully recognised by all universities. It provides you with a combination of creative, theoretical and technical skills that are transferable, giving you a route to any number of degree courses from History of Art to Law, and any career that requires critical and analytical skills.

In addition, the practical film-making unit makes it an appropriate A level for students who want to work in media. The list below is a small selection of professions in the UK film and television industry:

- ◆ Director of photography
- ◆ Video producer
- ◆ Lighting or sound design
- ◆ Camera operation
- ◆ Production assistant
- ◆ Storyboard artist
- ◆ Editor
- ◆ Advertising