

GCSE FILM STUDIES



EXPLORING THE LANGUAGE OF FILM

GCSE Film Studies is designed to draw on your enthusiasm for film and introduce you to a wide variety of films which have been important in the development of film and film technology. You will learn to explore a broad range of films, developing your knowledge and understanding of:

Film Language

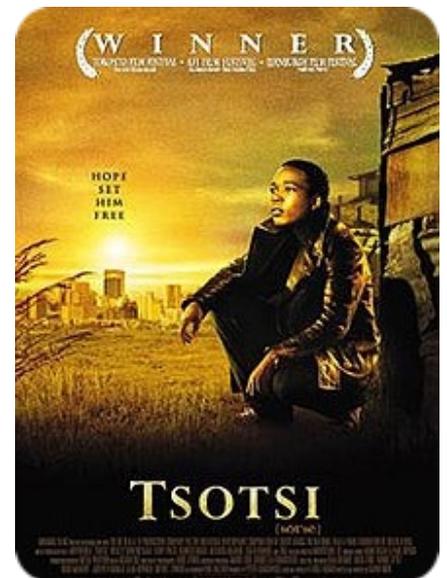
- how films are constructed – through cinematography (camerawork and lighting), mise-en-scène (how sets, locations, props and costume are used in film), editing (how shot length or transitions are used in film) and sound (music, sound effects & dialogue).
- how films are organised into structures – genre (the different kinds of film) and narrative (how films tell their stories).
- how films can be used – artistically (the aesthetic qualities of film) and as a way of communicating ideas and issues (representation)
- how we can make sense of film through exploring a film's contexts (social, cultural, historical, political and institutional), through an awareness of key aspects of the history of film and through specialist writing on film.

Creative Production

- how to pitch an idea for a film and develop and plan this idea either by writing a film script or shooting and editing a short film.
- How to evaluate and analyse your own creative work in light of the work of other filmmakers.

The Film Industry

- how different kinds of films are funded, produced and marketed.
- how developments in technology over time have changed filmmaking.



Course Outline

GCSE Film Studies

Component 1:

Key Developments in US Film 35%

External assessment examined in June of Year 11 in a 1.5 hour exam and marked by the exam board.

This will involve studying 2 mainstream Hollywood film texts from the same genre (teen movie, sci fi, musical, action or thriller). One film from the 1950s and one from the 1980s and comparing their production, their use of technology and how they represent their themes and ideas.

You will also study a modern independent US film and look at how it has been written about as well as how it uses film language to explore themes and issues.



Component 2:

Global Film: Narrative, Representation & Film Style 35%

External assessment examined in June of Year 11 in a 1.5 hour exam and marked by the exam board.

This will involve studying 3 films from outside of the US and Hollywood mainstream.

You will look at film style, (the use of film language) in a modern British film, the way film language is used to represent people, places and themes in a foreign subtitled film and the way the narrative is constructed, or the story is told in a film in English that was made elsewhere in the world.



Component 3:

Production 30%

Controlled assessment completed in class, set by the exam board, but marked by the school and then sent off and moderated by the exam board.

This is in 2 parts.

- Either shooting and editing your own short film, or writing your own film script to respond to a brief set by the exam board.
- Then evaluating and analysing your creative work in the way you have analysed the work of professional filmmakers throughout the course.

Assessment Objectives

AO1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of elements of film.

AO2 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film, including to:

- analyse and compare films
- analyse and evaluate own work in relation to other professionally produced work.

AO3 Apply knowledge and understanding of elements of film to the production of film or screenplay.

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