



Why study Film Studies at Formby High School?

Many consider film to be the main cultural innovation of the 20th century and a major art form of the last hundred years. Film Studies offers students the opportunity to investigate how film works in representing the world we live in and understand the creativity and imagination by which this is achieved.

The course involves the study of mainstream and independent American and British films from the past and the present as well as more recent global films, both non-English language and English language. The historical range represented in those films is extended by the study of silent movies and significant film movements so that students can track the development of film from its early years to the present day and beyond. Studies in documentary, experimental and short films add to the breadth of the learning experience. Studying a diverse range of films gives the opportunity to apply knowledge and understanding of how films are constructed to a student's own filmmaking and screenwriting.

Film Studies is a vibrant, absorbing subject that will change the way you look at this cornerstone of popular culture forever!

What does the course involve?

At the end of the course students will sit two external assessments and complete one coursework assignment. The first examination will focus on US and British film with reference to Hollywood movies old and new (Apocalypse Now and Selma for example) and UK films like 'This is England'. The second examination will explore the diversity of the global film industry where there is a focus on European and World Cinema, such as Pan's Labyrinth, documentary ('Amy', about the life of the singer) as well as significant film movements. Coursework will be of a creative nature and involve the production of a screenplay and storyboard, which is worth 30% of the grade. Students therefore need to have a keen interest in film, be resourceful and open to new ideas and ways of thinking.

What can the qualification lead to?

The study of film can of course lead to a career or further research in the media. The skills of analysis, creativity and production can be applied to a variety of other areas such as Business, Management, English, Public Relations, Human Resources and Media Studies.

What are the entry requirements?

Grade 6 in GCSE English Language or English Literature.

Which other subjects complement Film Studies?

- English
- Digital Media (BTEC)
- Music
- Music Technology
- Performing Arts (BTEC)
- Theatre Studies

Student Viewpoint



"Film Studies is so much more than sitting in a classroom and watching a film. You will gain the skills that enable you to analyse films and explore the true depth of what is on screen. The study of film will enable you to understand the creative processes and institutional contexts

A Level Film Studies

behind films and filmmakers; the wide variety of films we study as part of the course are original and thought-provoking. One component I have really enjoyed studying is the documentary unit, as it opened my eyes to other people's stories and perspectives on life.

The course allows you to create a screenplay and a story board for your own short film, something which I have thoroughly enjoyed and found very interesting. The teachers for this subject are highly enthusiastic, supportive and most of all passionate and will always do their best to make sure you are able to achieve to your highest capacity.

Film Studies is the perfect option for someone who is hoping to have a career in a creative industry as it encompasses all kinds of techniques and skills which many employers look for. A student who takes on this subject has to be dedicated, passionate about film, and open minded."

Courses will require a minimum number of five students in order to run.