

FILM STUDIES

KS4 (WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9-1) in Film Studies)

Curriculum Purpose

Students study the Eduqas GCSE Film Studies specification and have five periods of teaching per fortnight, all taught by a subject specialist teacher. The qualification develops students' ability to 'read' a variety of film texts with a critical eye, specifically considering what the producer intended and how different spectators might interpret those encoded messages. As students progress through the course, they will apply knowledge and skills to interpret, analyse and evaluate many different and challenging cultural, social, political and historical issues, including: the changing representations of gender and stereotyping, social injustice, war and the impact of technological advancements. Film Studies at Key Stage 4 enables students to grow in confidence in discussing challenging - often divisive - issues, sharing opinions, promoting critical thinking and communicating with each other. Students will gain a wealth of confidence and many transferable skills that will support not only their next steps in education and employment, but their experiences in other subject areas across the curriculum.

The curriculum is structured and scaffolded to allow students to develop the necessary knowledge and skills during Year 10 to successfully progress to the higher level thinking skills and increased level of independence required for the units of work in Year 11.

YR10



Course Content and Skill Development

Component 1: Key Developments in US Film

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
35% of qualification

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of **three** US films chosen from a range of options. Assessment consists of **four** questions on **one** pair of US mainstream films and **one** US independent film:

Section A: US film comparative study

- **one** stepped question on the **first** of the chosen pair of films (produced between 1930 and 1960)
- **one** stepped question on the **second** of the chosen pair of films (produced between 1961 and 1990)
- **one** question requiring a comparison of the chosen pair of films

Section B: Key developments in film and film technology

- **one** multi-part question on developments in film and film technology

Section C: US independent film

- **one** question on one US independent film.

Component 2: Global Film: Narrative, Representation and Film Style

Written examination: 1 hour 30 minutes
35% of qualification

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of **three** global films produced outside the US chosen from a range of options. Assessment consists of **three** questions in three sections:

- **Section A:** **one** stepped question on one global English language film
- **Section B:** **one** stepped question on one global non-English language film
- **Section C:** **one** stepped question on one contemporary UK film.

Component 3: Production

Non-exam assessment
30% of qualification

This component assesses the ability to apply knowledge and understanding of film to a production and its accompanying evaluative analysis. Learners produce:

- **one** genre-based film extract (**either** from a film **or** from a screenplay)
- **one** evaluative analysis of the production, where learners analyse and evaluate their production in relation to comparable, professionally-produced films or screenplays.



Specification Link

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/sjyhrqeu/eduqas-gcse-film-studies-spec-from-2017-e-16-08-23-1.pdf>

When and how assessment of learning will happen

Formal assessment takes place regularly, at the end of each topic/unit of work. All assessments are taken from previous exam papers and marked according to the mark scheme, ensuring students have as many opportunities to practise their exam-writing skills. In addition to this, mock exams are scheduled throughout the two year course in accordance with the whole-college policy. Written feedback and targets are generated from all formal assessments.

The final exams/ assessment:

The course is split into three components. Components 1 and 2 are assessed via external examination at the end of the course (both exams are worth 35% of the overall grade each), with Component 3 making up the non-examined assessment (coursework) unit. This is worth 30% of the overall grade and is completed through a mix of classroom-based work and independent learning tasks (see below).

Home Learning Expectations

Independent study tasks will be set via Google Classroom as appropriate. Tasks will focus on research (specifically linked to current topics) or revision for end-of-topic assessments and/or mock exams. At times, students may be required to complete some aspects of their non-examined assessment (coursework) projects outside of college. Again, this will be communicated via Google Classroom with clear deadlines.

Useful Information

Additional resources and wider reading is signposted via Google Classroom as appropriate. In addition to this, the following websites are recommended:

<https://www.youtube.com/@StudioBinder>

<https://www.youtube.com/@FarrandOnFilm>

<https://www.youtube.com/@coombemediafilmstudies6458>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/ztnygz7>

<https://www.illuminatepublishing.com/product/wjec-eduqas-gcse-film-studies-student-book-revised-edition>