

# AS/A2 Level FILM STUDIES



## Course Guide

Level 3 Two-year course

2010/11

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Film Studies will appeal to students who enjoy watching films and who have an interest in exploring elements of theory and practice. Analytical students tend to do well at Film Studies. Students also need to be strong at essay writing.

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### Subject introduction

There will be opportunities for research and analysis, critical thinking, working with others and student focused experimental learning. In this regard, the practical work is an important element, with opportunities for screenwriting and video making in both the AS and A2.

Film Studies offers a range of highly motivated opportunities for developing transferable skills and is worthwhile for students who have an interest in the subject or as preparation for higher education.

### Year 1 study outline

For their coursework students will produce:

- Written essays about how films create meaning through the use of the technical aspects of film-making, such as camera work, editing and sound
- Video-making (including a short film or sequence from a feature length film) or scriptwriting and analysis of finished product

Exams will focus on the following:

- Producers and audiences
- British film
- US film – comparative study (with a focus on genre and narrative)

### Year 2 study outline

For their coursework students will produce:

- A research project and presentation on a specified filmmaker
- A creative project (short film or screenplay) and evaluation

Exams will focus on the following:

- World Cinema (the study of foreign language films with comparison to Hollywood)

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- Spectatorship (the relationship between films and their audience)
- Critical study of a single film involving research and analysis

### Methods of study

The course content provides a variety of learning opportunities and students interested in film may be inspired by the relationship between theory and practice. Lectures will include screenings, discussion and analysis, research, group work and practice. The College has a fully equipped library containing a range of useful textbooks, including An Introduction to Film Studies and The Cinema Book, as well as Internet and Intranet access.

### Subject combinations and careers

This specification also offers appropriate progression from GCSE study, particularly GCSE English, as well as other arts/humanities/social science subjects. The Film Studies specifications relate well to other A Level subjects. Particularly popular combinations include English and Media Studies. This is also a suitable qualification for students wishing to study a Film, Media, Visual Culture and Humanities/Media-related course at Higher Education. A range of transferable critical, analytical and research skills will also be developed for application in employment.

### Success stories

SEEVIC College has an excellent record of success in Film Studies. In 2008 there was a 100% pass rate for AS and A2 Level Film Studies. A number of students have progressed to degree courses, some in this area of study.

### Methods of assessment

Coursework represents 40% of the final AS grade and 50% of the A2.

### Course costs

There are minimal costs for Film Studies as students are not required to purchase books or films. Trips for Film Studies may include excursions to the NFT in London or Arts Picture House in Cambridge. There may also be an opportunity to go to LA in order to visit the Hollywood Studios, such as Warner Bros and Universal.