

Film Studies

Film Studies is ideal for students who want to explore how and why films are made. A level Film Studies focuses on the analysis and [deconstruction](#) of film over a wide historical time frame. It allows you to engage with films from early silent cinema to 1930s Hollywood films to contemporary and experimental cinema.

The course involves studying 12 different films, separated into categories: American, British, Independent, Global, Documentary, Experimental and Silent Film. These are analysed via a number of different study area frameworks, including: film form, meaning and response, context, spectatorship, narrative, ideology, authorship, critical debates and theoretical debates. You work with your peers to debate and pull apart the set film texts and to develop a sophisticated contextual understanding of the world at the time these films were made. Film Studies requires that you develop an inquisitive mind and consider the deeper social, political and economic contexts of those films.

You also explore the work of a wide range of influential film directors, such as Alfred Hitchcock, Spike Lee and the Coen Brothers. Film Studies A level also takes in the forefathers of cinema by evaluating the impact of key pioneers on the film industry including The Lumiere Brothers, DW Griffiths, Charlie Chaplin, and Sergei Eisenstein.

Task: Auteur

- a. Research the term and its importance to the history of cinema.
- b. Create a timeline of Alfred Hitchcock's career focusing on technological advancements, themes and motifs.

Task: Narrative

- a. Research 'Todorov narrative theory'
- b. Apply this theory to any of Marvel films

Task: Spectatorship

- a. Research what is meant by the term 'spectatorship' in Film Studies.
- b. Define the difference between the passive and the active.
- c. Explore how different groups of people would be affected by the film of your choice- be very specific about what triggers them to become active spectators.

If you are looking to study Film Studies at A Level please contact dglencross@park-aspirations.org.