



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 questions on film-making and the role of the spectator, specifically with reference to Hollywood movies, documentaries, such as *Amy*, and short films. The second examination will explore the diversity of the global film industry and focus on European and World cinema, such as *Pan's Labyrinth*, 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 both GCSE English Language and English Literature.

Which other subjects complement Film Studies?

- English
- ICT (BTEC)
- Music
- Music Technology
- Performing Arts (BTEC)
- Theatre Studies

A Level Film Studies

Student Viewpoint



"Film Studies is a dynamic and exciting subject. It encourages students to be enthusiastic and opinionated with the help of passionate and determined teachers who go out of their way to support you to achieve the best. Film Studies offers the opportunity to extend knowledge and helps massively with communication and literature skills. It also allows you to be creative. Those who study Film needs to be passionate about movies and confident in expressing their opinions in discussion. Throughout the course students are able to express their own ideas and explore different genre types and films past and present, including foreign films. When studying the films students explore them in a range of ways, from storyboards and screenplays, all grabbing their interest."