

Course:	Film Studies
Specification and code:	WJEC Eduqas A level Film Studies: A670QS / 603/1147/2
Exam Board website:	http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/film-studies/as-a-level/WJEC-Eduqas-A-level-Film-Studies-specification.pdf
Course outline:	You will study a variety of genres and movements within cinema in Year 1, ranging from ‘classical’ (Hitchcock’s <i>Vertigo</i>) to ‘new’ Hollywood (<i>Bonnie and Clyde</i>). We’ll cover ‘indie’ (Granik’s <i>Winter’s Bone</i>) and mainstream cinema (<i>No Country for Old Men</i>), and also look at some contemporary British cinema (titles TBC). Year 2 explores a more ‘global’ aspect to cinema, and you will produce your very own short film as part of coursework.
Essential Reading:	<p>Illuminate have published a textbook covering the course: <i>WJEC Eduqas Film Studies for A Level and AS</i>. This book would be well worth investing in. Look for the texts below online. Amazon and Ebay often have these books for sale second-hand. If you can find them, buy them. They will be invaluable.</p> <p>Film Studies: The Essentials (Teach Yourself Paperback) by Warren Buckland: this is perhaps the best introduction to the theory and ideas behind film studies.</p> <p>Introduction to Film (Palgrave) by Nick Lacey: detailed and comprehensive but also accessible. A very useful text to get you started.</p> <p>The Cinema Book (BFI) by Pam Cook (BFI): A great text. Good for ‘dipping into’</p> <p>Sight and Sound (BFI monthly magazine): this is an excellent magazine that reviews every new release in cinemas. If you can’t find this magazine, try Empire, Total Film or Entertainment Weekly</p>
Background reading:	<p><i>These texts are very useful for your first term’s study:</i></p> <p>Film: A Very Short Introduction (Oxford) by Michael Wood</p> <p>The Oxford Guide To Film Studies (Oxford) by John Hill, Pamela Church Gibson</p> <p><i>Useful Critical Guides:</i></p> <p>Film Theory: An Introduction (Blackwell) by Robert Stam. Try also to get hold of the anthology of essays that compliments this book.</p>
Year 2 reading (non-essential at this early stage)	<p>Year 13 opens the study of cinema up to global perspectives. You will be advised about titles and texts towards the end of Year 12.</p> <p>Importantly, you will be starting your coursework in Year 13 and you’ll expected to plan, shoot and edit your own film (4 – 5 minutes).</p> <p>The Film Guerrilla’s Handbook (Continuum Books) by Jones and Joliffe will give you plenty of tips on how to get the best shots possible on a miniscule budget.</p>
Summer Task:	<p><i>Obviously, you should try to read as many of the titles on the reading lists above. You have a choice of tasks</i> over the summer holiday which are designed to help you prepare for the course and encourage you to think about the skills and ideas needed for the course. Be prepared to share your work with the class early on in the course.</p> <p>TASKS (choose one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, shoot and edit a short film (2 – 3 minutes) inspired by the theme of ‘<i>moving on</i>’ • Write a script (1000 – 1500 words) for either a complete short film or a sequence from a longer film, inspired by the idea ‘<i>the end of the affair</i>’ • Watch Alfred Hitchcock’s <i>Vertigo</i> (1958) and prepare a Powerpoint presentation on Hitchcock’s use of the camera to tell the story • Prepare on Powerpoint presentation on a genre of your choice (western, horror, rom-com, etc.) Explore the key texts, history and continued influence of the genre on contemporary cinema • Getting started on the coursework aspect of Film Studies, plan, shoot and edit a short film (2 – 3 minutes) which includes one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a narrative which has a distinct genre • a narrative which has parallel stories • a non-linear narrative • a narrator