

# FILM STUDIES

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**Exam board:** Eduqas

**% of exam vs. coursework/practical assessment**

30% coursework, 70% exam based

**Length of exams**

There are two written exams in the A Level, both are two and a half hours in length.

**Breakdown of units**

The films named here are done so for illustrative purposes only as the choice of texts may change. Areas of study across all films can be divided into three topics – 1. The key elements of film form: cinematography, mise-en-scène, editing, sound and performance. 2. Meaning and response: how film functions as both a medium of representation and as an aesthetic medium. 3. The contexts of film: social, cultural, political, historical and institutional, including production. Other topics such as spectatorship, auteur theory, critical debates and ideology are also covered.

**Component 1 – Varieties of film and filmmaking.** In each section two films are to be studied:

Section A: Hollywood, 1930-1990 (“Vertigo” and “Blade Runner”)

Section B: America since 2005 (“Selma” and “Beasts of the Southern Wild”)

Section C: British film since 1995 (“Fish Tank” and “This is England”)

**Component 2 – Global filmmaking perspectives.** Section A requires the study of two films, all other sections focus on just one text.

Section A: Global film (“Pan’s Labyrinth” and “City of God”)

Section B: Documentary film (“20,000 Days on Earth”)

Section C: Silent cinema (“Sunrise”)

Section D: Experimental film, 1960-2000 (“Vivre sa vie”)

**Component 3 – Production. Coursework component.**

Students can choose between a short film sequence (around 5 minutes) or a 1600-1800 word screenplay. A storyboard also needs to be produced along with an evaluative analysis essay by the student on their work.

**Overlap with other subjects** – Film Studies works well with other essay based subjects such as English Literature, Theatre Studies or Sociology. The creative elements in the A Level means that over the years many Art students, particularly those studying Photography, have enjoyed this subject.

*Updated 15/6/18*



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