

Holy Family Catholic School

Curriculum Overview Year 12 – Film Studies (A Level)



	Curriculum Content	Suggested Reading or Extension Activities
Half Term 1 (Sept-Oct)	Intro to Film Language & Key Concepts Cinematography, lighting, mise-en-scène, editing, sound, performance, aesthetics, film poetics, narrative, genre, spectator. Micro & macro elements introduced to students, summative assessments at the end of each element. Final formative formative textual analysis assessment at the end of introduction.	Intro to Film Studies Resources -Bordwell, D. & Thompson, K. (1996). <i>Film Art: An Introduction.</i> -- -Bordwell, D. & Thompson, K. (1994). <i>Film History: An Introduction.</i> -Ross, E. (2015). <i>Filmish.</i> YouTube: Cinefix/Everyframeapainting
Half Term 2 (Nov-Dec)	History of US Film - Silent Era - 1990 (<i>The Gold Rush/Signin in the Rain/Do the Right Thing.</i>) Micro-elements, narrative, spectatorship, genre, auteur theory. Drawing on the skills used in the first half term analyse the three set films. Summative assessment, analysing film extracts from different time periods and making comparisons between them and the way they generate meanings.	Film History Resources BFI Classics Collection for three set films. YouTube: Film History CrashCourse
Half Term 3 (Jan-Feb)	Contemporary UK vs US Film (<i>Guardians of the Galaxy/Ex-Machina</i>) Macro-elements, narrative, genre, spectatorship, audience, institution, digital technology. production, exhibition, digital, Auteurism, narrative, genre, generic conventions, representation plus digital viewing experience and spectatorship. Building on analytical skills of the micro-elements and developing a knowledge and understanding of how film form, narrative and the concept of genre (including generic conventions and genre as a principal structuring element of narrative) contribute to the creation of representations of societies and cultures in contemporary British and US films.	Contemporary UK/US Resources <i>Side by Side</i> (2012) Dir. Christopher Kenneally
Half Term 4 (Feb-Mar)	NEA Intro to Short Film Narrative, form, micro-elements. Textual analysis of eight set shorts. Pre-production for NEA. Narrative, including archplots, three act structures and dramatic devices. Screenplay techniques.	NEA Resources
Half Term 5 (Apr-May)	NEA Production Short film video production or screenplay option. Preliminary planning and skills development. Students plan and produce their chosen production task keeping a production diary to inform their evaluation.	NEA Resources
Half Term 6 (Jun-Jul)	NEA Post-Production & Revision Feedback and evaluation of NEA applying the techniques of analysis they have developed over the first year of study. Students prepare for the E17 Film festival. Revision of year 1 to take place.	NEA Resources Year 12 Revision Resources

Examples of Home Learning Tasks	Students will complete close textual analysis tasks of key scenes, revision for each topic, pre & post reading tasks as indicated in the lesson resources, research into context of set texts.
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Assessment Tasks, Methods & Frequency	Students will have formative assessments throughout each unit, this will include key scene micro element analyses, key frame analysis, debates, pre-production tasks and a summative assessment using exam questions.
Equipment that Students Need	Students will need access to a computer to complete their tasks and viewings. Students should have their own Film notebook for viewings and revision notes. A booklet and assessment guidance will be provided for each unit.

Useful Websites	imdb.com / shortoftheweek.com / rawscripts.com / simplyscripts / and those listed in each unit resource.
Extra-Curricular Activities & Career Opportunities	Each year students will be involved with the E17 Film Festival - this will include workshops from professionals, a FutureFilmFocus careers event and the opportunity to work at the international Film Festival along with other exciting careers opportunities. We will also attend BFI Study Days.

Who Can I Contact?	Head of Media & Film Studies	Mrs Farrugia
	Teachers of Year 12 Film	Mrs Farrugia



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Curriculum Overview Year 13 – Film Studies (A Level)

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Half Term 1 (Sept-Oct)	European Cinema History - Surrealism (<i>Un Chien Andalou</i> & <i>L'age D'or</i>) Narrative and micro-elements, including formalist and structuralist approaches, naturalism, realism, expressionism, style, aesthetics, messages and values, genre, auteur.	European Cinema History Resources
Half Term 2 (Nov-Dec)	European Cinema History - French New Wave. (<i>The 400 Blows</i>) Narrative, realism & naturalism, structuralist & formalist approaches, auteur theory. This section focuses upon the study of at least two major European movements or stylistic developments in film history, characterised by the significant contribution they made and continue to make to film aesthetics.	European Cinema History Resources
Half Term 3 (Jan-Feb)	Documentary (<i>Stories We Tell</i>) Modes, authenticity, micro-elements, authorship. Naturalism, realism, genre, convention. Bill Nichols, John Grierson, D.A. Pennebaker. Close textual analysis of one documentary film using micro-elements of film form. conventions of documentary film. Contexts surrounding the documentary production/filmmaker influenced its style, mode of address, narrative and representations.	Documentary Resources -Nichols, B. (2002) <i>Introduction to Documentary</i> -Cousins, M. & Macdonald, K. Ed. (2006) <i>Imagining Reality: The Faber Book of Documentary</i>
Half Term 4 (Feb-Mar)	Ideology - Family & Home (<i>Room / A Separation / Moonrise Kingdom</i>) Alignment, audience, representation, ideological implications, narrative structure, genre, representation, aesthetics, meanings and responses, critical approaches. Synoptic unit building on previous learning to study three thematically linked set films. Investigate the social, cultural, political, historical contexts of the three films. Compare the three films with reference to the way they shape and have been shaped by ideology.	Ideology Resources
Half Term 5 (Apr-May)	Ideology - Family & Home Continued Revision Period Ongoing practice questions, key scene builders for each unit. Exemplars, group planning, practice papers.	Ideology Resources Revision Resources
Half Term 6 (Jun-Jul)	Revision Period Ongoing practice questions, key scene builders for each unit. Exemplars, group planning, practice papers.	Exam Questions

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