
Welcome to Film Studies at Portland Place

This transition work is designed to help you to bridge the gap between your GCSE studies and AS/A Level.

Why do transition work?

Preparation is crucial for studying A levels. A levels require you to be an independent learner. Although you have fewer subjects, A levels require different study skills and the volume of work is greater due to the increased demand of depth and detail. The exercises in this booklet will ensure that you are ready for the exciting challenges of becoming an A level student in September. It may be necessary to complete some of the tasks on separate sheets of paper. You have the choice of either typing or handwriting your responses. Each subject will be slightly different, but they will all require you to use the skills you will need for A level: independent enquiry; evidence of reading around the subject and enthusiasm and interest.

Is transition work assessed?

Yes. In September, your subject teacher will ask you for your transition work and it will be assessed. Teachers will be able to diagnose your strengths and weaknesses and begin to support and challenge you in a more targeted way.

You must bring all the work with you to your first Year 12 Film Studies lesson in September.



Your AS/A Level Film Studies will cover the following units

COMPONENT 1: AMERICAN FILM (Exam - 35% of Qualification)

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of **three** American films.

Section A: Hollywood 1930-1990 (comparative study)

One two-part question, requiring reference to **two** Hollywood films, one produced between 1930 and 1960 and the other between 1961 and 1990. There is a choice of question in the second part.

Section B: Contemporary American independent film

One two-part question, requiring reference to **one** contemporary American independent film (produced after 2010). There is a choice of questions in the second part.

COMPONENT 2: EUROPEAN FILM (Exam - 35% of Qualification)

This component assesses knowledge and understanding of **two** British films and **one** non-English language European film.

Section A: British film (two-film study)

One two-part question, requiring reference to **two** recent British films. There is a choice of question in the second part.

Section B: Non-English language European film

One two-part question, requiring reference to **one** non-English language European film. There is a choice of questions in the second part.

COMPONENT 3: PRODUCTION (Non-Exam Assessment - 30% of Qualification)

This component assesses **one** production and its accompanying evaluative analysis.

Production (20%)

An extract from a film highlighting narrative construction (**2½ to 3½ minutes**).

Evaluative analysis (10%)

An evaluative analysis (**1000-1250 words**) of the production in comparison with other professionally produced films or screenplays.

Year 11 to Year 12 Film Studies AS/A-Level Bridging Unit

FILMS

Rope (Hitchcock 1948)
Psycho (Hitchcock 1960)
Robocop (Verhoeven 1988)
Hot Fuzz (Wright 2007)
The World's End (Wright 2013)
De Devil's Backbone (del Toro 2001)

VISITS

Into the Unknown. A Journey through Science Fiction (Barbican 3 Jun-1 Sep 2017)

TASKS

Presentation

Choose one of the following film directors and prepare a 5-minute presentation outlining the director's profile (life, background, values and messages, type of films, film style, etc.). Please choose one of the following film directors: Alfred Hitchcock, Edgar Wright, Guillermo del Toro.

Essay

Write a 1,000-word essay on your favourite film. Your answer should outline your response to the film and explain how and why it has impacted on your interest for films.

Film Sequence Analysis

Choose a 3 to 5 minute film sequence and analyse it. Your 300-word analysis should consider the editing, the use of sound, camerawork and the mise-en-scene (setting, props, costumes, etc.)