OCR H410 A Level Film Studies

Unit Content Guide and Set Films

Core Unit 1 Language+ 25 Lessons

Core Unit 2 Representation+ 26 Lessons

Core Unit 3 Audience & Spectatorship+ 25 Lessons

Core Unit 4 Genre+ 25 Lessons
Edusites coverage of the OCR set films. Films marked 'live!' are complete case studies

Component 01 Film History

Section A: Film Form in US Cinema

Silent Era to 1990

These examination tasks require that you study three American films with particular reference to responding to questions in the key areas:

- Film language
- Film meaning
- Film context
- Meaning and response

The task will require you compare three films, one from each Component Group:

- The Silent Era
- Hollywood 1930-1960

Silent Era

- **The Birth of a Nation** (Griffith, 1915) live!
- **The Gold Rush** (Chaplin, 1925) live!
- **The Mark of Zorro** (Niblo and Reed, 1920) live!
- **The General** (Bruckman and Keaton, 1926) live!
- **Sunrise** (Murnau, 1927)
- **The Wind** (Sjöstrom, 1928)

1930–1960

- **Citizen Kane** (Welles, 1941) live!
- **Singin’ in the Rain** (Kelly and Donen, 1952)
- **Stagecoach** (Ford, 1939) live!
- **Vertigo** (Hitchcock, 1958) live!
- **Double Indemnity** (Wilder, 1944) live!
- **All that Heaven Allows** (Douglas, 1955)

1961–1990

- **2001: A Space Odyssey** (Kubrick, 1968) live!
- **Raging Bull** (Scorsese, 1980) live!
- **E.T. the Extra Terrestrial** (Spielberg, 1982) live!
- **Do the Right Thing!** (Lee, 1989) live!
- **The Conversation** (Coppola, 1974) live!

- **West Side Story** (Robbins and Wise, 1961)

Section B: European Cinema History

Experimental film – European surrealist film

Learners must study a set pair of two experimental films from the European surrealist film movement of the 1920s and 1930s. The set experimental film pair is equivalent in study to one feature length set film.

- **Un Chien Andalou: Silent film** (Buñuel and Dali, 1929) live!
- **L’Age D’or** (Buñuel, 1930) live comparative study!

In addition to the above, learners must also study at least one other set film. This film should be drawn from one of the other European film movements or stylistic developments listed below:

French New Wave | Film Movement - click here

- **The 400 Blows (Les quatre cents coups)** (Truffaut, 1959) live!
- **À Bout de Souffle** (Godard, 1960) live!
- **Cleo from 5 to 7** (Varda, 1962)

German Cinema | Study of Expressionism - click here

- **The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari** (Weine, 1920) live!
- **Nosferatu** (Murnau, 1922) live!
- **Metropolis** (Lang, 1927) live!

Mexican Cinema - click here

Key films covered in the above resource:

- **Amores Perros (Love’s A Bitch), 2000 live!**
- **Y Tu Mama También (And Your Mother Too), 2001 live!**
Component 02 Critical Approaches to Film

Learners must study at least one set film from each of the categories below:

Section A Contemporary British and US Film

Contemporary British*

- *Pride* (Warchus, 2014)
- *Gone Too Far* (Ekaragha, 2013) live!
- *Ex-Machina* (Garland, 2014) Workbook!
- *The Angel’s Share* (Loach, 2012)
- *We Need to Talk About Kevin* (Ramsay, 2011)
- *Skyfall* (Mendes, 2012)

Contemporary US

- *Guardians of the Galaxy* (Gunn, 2014)
- *The Hunger Games* (Ross, 2012)
- *The Dark Knight Rises* (Nolan, 2012)
- *Zootopia* (Bush, 2016)
- *Jurassic World* (Trevorrow, 2015)

Section B Documentary

Analysing a Documentary Film resource live!

- *Stories We Tell* (Polley, 2013) live!
- *Searching for Sugarman* (Bendjelloul, 2012)
- *5 Broken Cameras* (Burnat & Davidi, 2011)
- *Man on Wire* (Marsh, 2008)
- *Citizenfour* (Poitras, 2014)

Section C Ideology

Learners will be required to study and compare three set films which tackle challenging issues. The set films for this section have been arranged into three thematic categories:

- Family and Home
- Outsiders - the Edusites focus
- Conflict

Learners must select one thematic category. Within a chosen theme one set film must be studied from each of the following categories:

- US Independent
- English language (non-US)
- Non-European non-English language

US Independent

Family and Home:

2. *The Tree of Life* (Malick, 2011)

Outsiders:


Conflict:


English language (non-US)

Family and Home:

2. *Animal Kingdom* (Michod, 2010)

Outsiders:

1. *The Babadook* (Kent, 2014) live!
2. *The Piano* (Campion, 1993)

Conflict:

1. *District 9* (Blomkamp, 2009)
2. *Mad Max* (Miller, 1979)

Non-European non-English language

Family and Home:

1. *A Separation* (Farhadi, 2011)
2. *Our Little Sister* (Koreeda, 2016)

Outsiders:

1. *Yojimbo* (The Bodyguard) (Kurosawa, 1961)
2. *Y Tu Mama Tambien* (Cuaron, 2001) live!

Conflict:

1. *Battle of Algiers* (Pontecorvo, 1965) live!
Unit 1 Core Film Language+ - Complete

- Lesson 1 - What is Film? - Se7en
- Lesson 2 - Studying Film - The Toolkit
- Lesson 3 - The Shot - Where, Why, Impact
- Lesson 4 - Shots - Framing - Meaning
- Lesson 5 - Framing - Thirds - Leigh Naked
- Lesson 6 - Mise-en Scene 1 - Spiderman
- Lesson 7 - Film Analysis 1 - Three Kings
- Lesson 8 - Film Analysis 2 - Juno
- Lesson 9 - Focus - Cuaron
- Lesson 10 - Editing 1 - Classic Cutting
- Lesson 11 - Soundtracks - Pace & Tone
- Lesson 12 - Location - Jeopardy
- Lesson 13 - Mise-en-Scene 2 - Skyfall
- Lesson 14 - Shot Selections - Rules
- Lesson 15 - Narrative 1 - Todorov
- Lesson 16 - Narrative 2 - Propp
- Lesson 17 - Genre - Formula
- Lesson 18 - Editing 2 – Editing through Time
- Lesson 19 - Lighting - High & Low - Chiaroscuro
- Lesson 20 - Performance – The Body
- Lesson 21 - Aesthetics – The Concept
- Lesson 22 - Auteur – Tarantino
- Lesson 23 - Contexts – Production & Social
- Lesson 24 - Examples 1 – Application of Knowledge
- Lesson 25 - Examples 2 – Application of Knowledge

Unit 1 Exam Specific Section - Complete

- Lesson Introduction
- Lesson 1 - Paper 2 & Paper 2 – Brief Encounter
- Lesson 2 - Hypothesis – Brief Encounter
- Lesson 3 - Contexts – Silent Era – Meaning and Response
- Lesson 4 - Contexts – Classical Hollywood - Response
- Lesson 5 - Contexts – New Hollywood - Response
- Lesson 6 - Cinematography – Section A Task
- Lesson 7 - Editing - West Side Story – Section A Task
- Lesson 8 - Sound – Reservoir Dogs – Section A Task
- Lesson 9 - Performance – On the Waterfront – Section A Task
- Lesson 10 - Mise-en-Scene – Bladerunner – Section A Task
- Lesson 11 - Aesthetics – Schindler’s List – Section A Task
- Lesson 12 - Poetics – Citizen Kane – Modelled Response
- Lesson 13 - Apocalypse Now – Scaffoldeed Task
- Lesson 14 - Silent Era & New Hollywood - Task
- Lesson 15 - Classic & New Hollywood - Task

Unit 1 NEA Section - Complete

- NEA Unit 1 Introduction
- Lesson 1 - NEA Structure - Film Form - Product - Evaluation
- Lesson 2 - Research Skills - Data - Evidence - Selection - SLAP Exemplar
- Lesson 3 - SLAP - Language - Narrative - Meanings and Response
- Lesson 4 - SLAP - Cinematography - Auteur - Rowland
- Lesson 5 - Practical Skills - Storyboard
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# Unit 4 Genre+ - Complete

- **Lesson 1** - Founding Fathers – Genre Theory
- **Lesson 2** - Genre – Story Types
- **Lesson 3** - Founding Fathers 2 – Theorists
- **Lesson 4** - Case Study 1 - Codes & Conv 1 - The Gangster
- **Lesson 5** - Case Study 1 - Codes & Conv 2 - The Gangster
- **Lesson 6** - Case Study 1 - Codes & Conv 3 – Thrillers & Noir
- **Lesson 7** - Creative Assessment 1 – Film Poster
- **Lesson 8** - Case Study 2 - Codes & Conv 1 – Science Fiction
- **Lesson 9** - Case Study 2 - Codes & Conv 2 – Science Fiction
- **Lesson 10** - Case Study 2 - Science Fiction VS Superhero
- **Lesson 11** - Formative Asses. 1 - Theory & Sci Fi
- **Lesson 12** - Independent Research – How to
- **Lesson 13** - Formative Asses. 2 - Crime & Sci Fi Comparison
- **Lesson 14** - Case Study 3 - Codes & Conv 1 – The Musical
- **Lesson 15** - Case Study 3 - Codes & Conv 2 – The Musical
- **Lesson 16** - Theory and Theorists – The Return
- **Lesson 17** - Independent Research – Interim Presentations
- **Lesson 18** - Case Study 4 - Codes & Conv 1 – The Western
- **Lesson 19** - Case Study 4 - Codes & Conv 2 – The Western
- **Lesson 20** - Case Study 4 - Action vs The Western
- **Lesson 21** - Case Study 4 – War vs The Western
- **Lesson 22** - Formative Assessment 3 – Genre and Meaning
- **Lesson 23** - Assessment FB – Extending & Improving Knowledge
- **Lesson 24** - Creative Application of Genre Theory
- **Lesson 25** - Addressing Learning Gaps & Exploring New Frontiers

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# Unit 5 Revision Focus

Content to be announced soon