



Overview of Bridging Course

Department: *Film Studies*

What is the focus of this bridging course?

- In this course students will be introduced to the language of film and film analysis, which will be a key aspect of their studies throughout the A-Level Film Course
- Students will begin to look at cinematography and how shot selection can create meaning for the audience. Students will learn how editing and sound are used to create meaning and how different auteurs have established a clear style using these filmic elements.
- They will briefly learn about the history of cinema, from the advent of silent cinema to the modern Hollywood Blockbuster.
- Students will plan a mini-film production, thinking about how they would use the film form to communicate their ideas and elicit responses from their audience.

<i>w/b 27 April</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will learn about what the course entails, and the different aspects of the A-level in Film Studies.</li> <li>• Students will begin to learn about the language of film and how to use key terminology in order to understand the relationship between the filmmaker and the audience, looking specifically at camera work (camera shots, lighting, mise-en-scene etc).</li> <li>• Students will watch 'The Sense of an Ending' and identify some of the camera techniques used in a key sequence within it to create meaning.</li> <li>• Students will answer comprehension questions, and more open questions to secure understanding of the camera techniques employed by the filmmaker.</li> </ul>
<i>w/b 4 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be introduced to key concepts of editing and sound, looking at specialist terminology</li> <li>• Students will explore several varied examples of creative use of editing and sound (or the deliberate absence of editing/sound), from across genres, time periods and production contexts, looking at the effect created for the audience.</li> <li>• Students will plan the technical execution of key scene, referencing cinematography lighting, sound and editing and how they would utilise these to create meaning for an audience.</li> </ul>
<i>w/b 11 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be introduced to the principal elements of performance, including direction of actors as choreography.</li> <li>• Students will explore the importance of casting – looking at the case study of Back to the Future and the importance of an actor being right for the part.</li> <li>• Students will explore examples of how performance can be used to convey messages and ideas to the audience.</li> <li>• They will read an extract from 'Making believe: Screen Performance and Special Effects in Popular Cinema' looking at ideas on performance and answering questions exploring their own views.</li> </ul>
<i>w/b 18 May</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will explore a brief history of film, including technological advances and changes in film production.</li> <li>• Students will watch Nosferatu (1922) as an introduction to the silent era</li> <li>• Students will answer comprehension questions on the film and how meaning is communicated in the absence of sound</li> <li>• Students will watch a horror film from the modern era (their own choice – since 2005) and analyse the ways in which filmic techniques are used to illicit a response from the audience when compared to Nosferatu.</li> </ul>

Work that will students will receive feedback on:

- Students will receive detailed feedback on the technical planning piece that they will produce in Week 2 and the comparison essay completed in week 4. This work will be submitted in September and marked shortly afterwards.