

A-Level Film Studies

Year 11 Transition Activities



The below activities have been designed to introduce you to the content, knowledge and skills that are integral to the A-level Film Studies course.

Activity One:

History of Hollywood - Report/Timeline/Posters

The Film Studies course divides Hollywood history into three broad eras:-

- [the silent era](#) (1900 to 1930);
- [the Golden Age / Classical era](#) (1931 - 1960);
- [Post-Classical](#) (1961 - 1990).

Watch the three episodes of PBS Crash Course Film History using the embedded video links above, and make notes as you watch.

Using the information in the videos, produce either a report, timeline or three posters summarising the important developments in cinema in these three different periods. Include images as appropriate to illustrate the content.

Activity Two: Film Opening Analysis - select the opening scene(s) of a film of your choice. The total sequence should be no longer than three minutes.

Write a **500 word** analysis of the sequence, commenting on how the following are used to create meanings and influence the response of spectators:

- Camerawork
- Visual elements - setting, costume, props, use of colour, etc.
- Lighting
- Sound
- Performance

You may wish to research different types of camerawork, sound, lighting, etc. before you begin the activity. Include screenshots to illustrate.