

## Welcome to A-Level Film

Welcome to the wonderful, technicolour world of A-Level Film Studies. This course requires you to understand the technical aspects of film making alongside understanding how and why audiences continue to be gripped by performances on the silver screen. The following tasks will give you an excellent grounding for this course.

### Task 1

Create a revision resource (PowerPoint, Word Document, Video[s]) of the following features. Make sure that you have the following on the resource: The Feature with an image showing the Feature, a description of the feature, the usual reason why it is used or the effect that it has on the audience.

Camera Angles	Camera Movement	Editing	Sound	Mise-en-scène
Extreme Close-Up	Pan	Cut	Diegetic Sound	High-key lighting
Close-Up	Tilt	Wipe	Non-Diegetic Sound	Low-key lighting
Mid-Shot	Boom	Fade to Black	Sound Effects	Halo effect
Long-Shot	Zoom In	Fade to White	Soundtrack	Colour (use of)
Extreme Long-Shot	Zoom Out	Fade from Black	Complimentary Sound	Props
High-Angle Shot		Fade frpm White	Contrapuntal Sound	Costumes
Low-Angle Shot		Iris		
Eye-Level Shot		Dissolve		
Point-of-View Shot				
Over-The-Shoulder Shot				
Bird's-Eye View Shot				

### Task 2

Watch any two films from two different periods of history and identify examples of the film making features found the above table. Research who the director and actors are, the budget given to the film and the intended audience.

### Task 3

Research two of the following directors who are often referred to as *auteurs*. This basically means, they have a particular / individual style or approach to film making. For example, you know when you have seen a Quentin Tarantino movie right? What is it about his films which makes them unique and distinctive?

- Alfred Hitchcock
- Coen Brothers
- Danny Boyle
- David Lynch
- Guillermo Del Toro
- Jordan Peele
- Michael Bay
- Nick Park
- Ridley Scott
- Spike Jones
- Steve McQueen
- Wes Anderson
- Woody Allen
- Quentin Tarantino

#### **Task 4**

Film a one minute short film where you tell a story using no spoken words. Think about how you can convey mood and themes using just your camera.

Watch these to give you some ideas:

'Lockdown' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jw-FcDdxSU8>

'Toast' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xV9HnlTo2C0>

'The Wait' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7OQHlpDlvA>

## **100 films to see before you die**

A recent article suggested the following films are essential viewing. Aim to see as many as you can.

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|--|---|--|---|
| <b>1</b> Star Wars/The Empire Strikes Back     | <b>25</b> LA Confidential               | <b>52</b> Sunset Boulevard                   | <b>78</b> Cabaret                         |
| <b>2</b> The Godfather/The Godfather (Part II) | <b>26</b> The Wizard of Oz              | <b>53</b> The Jungle Book                    | <b>79</b> Goldfinger                      |
| <b>3</b> The Shawshank Redemption              | <b>27</b> 2001: A Space Odyssey         | <b>54</b> Titanic                            | <b>80</b> Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs |
| <b>4</b> Pulp Fiction                          | <b>28</b> Kes                           | <b>55</b> Jean de Florette/Manon des Sources | <b>81</b> The Gold Rush                   |
| <b>5</b> Some Like it Hot                      | <b>29</b> Vertigo                       | <b>56</b> Dr Strangelove                     | <b>82</b> High Noon                       |
| <b>6</b> Gladiator                             | <b>30</b> Lawrence of Arabia            | <b>57</b> Rebel Without a Cause              | <b>83</b> Saturday Night Fever            |
| <b>7</b> It's a Wonderful Life                 | <b>31</b> Fargo                         | <b>58</b> Seven Samurai                      | <b>84</b> The Adventures of Robin Hood    |
| <b>8</b> Blade Runner                          | <b>32</b> Gone with the Wind            | <b>59</b> A Matter of Life and Death         | <b>85</b> Enter the Dragon                |
| <b>9</b> Schindler's List                      | <b>33</b> Trainspotting                 | <b>60</b> Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid | <b>86</b> Breathless                      |
| <b>10</b> GoodFellas                           | <b>34</b> The Full Monty                | <b>61</b> Secrets and Lies                   | <b>87</b> Ice Cold in Alex                |
| <b>11</b> Jaws                                 | <b>35</b> The Graduate                  | <b>62</b> Blue Velvet                        | <b>88</b> Battleship Potemkin             |
| <b>12</b> Psycho                               | <b>36</b> Alien                         | <b>63</b> La Dolce Vita                      | <b>89</b> African Queen                   |
| <b>13</b> Apocalypse Now                       | <b>37</b> The Silence of the Lambs      | <b>64</b> Spartacus                          | <b>90</b> The General                     |
| <b>14</b> One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest      | <b>38</b> Withnail and I                | <b>65</b> Metropolis                         | <b>91</b> A Hard Day's Night              |
| <b>15</b> The Matrix                           | <b>39</b> The Great Escape              | <b>66</b> Bonnie and Clyde                   | <b>92</b> Way Out West                    |
| <b>16</b> Casablanca                           | <b>40</b> Toy Story                     | <b>67</b> King Kong                          | <b>93</b> Henry V                         |
| <b>17</b> The Usual Suspects                   | <b>41</b> The Third Man                 | <b>68</b> Get Carter                         | <b>94</b> Easy Rider                      |
| <b>18</b> Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon       | <b>42</b> Four Weddings and a Funeral   | <b>69</b> The Searchers                      | <b>95</b> My Beautiful Laundrette         |
| <b>19</b> Citizen Kane                         | <b>43</b> The Sound of Music            | <b>70</b> The Seventh Seal                   | <b>96</b> Belle de Jour                   |
| <b>20</b> Raging Bull                          | <b>44</b> Fitzcarraldo                  | <b>71</b> Don't Look Now                     | <b>97</b> The Bride of Frankenstein       |
| <b>21</b> ET                                   | <b>45</b> Deliverance                   | <b>72</b> Brief Encounter                    | <b>98</b> Terminator                      |
| <b>22</b> Taxi Driver                          | <b>46</b> The Good the Bad and the Ugly | <b>73</b> M*A*S*H                            | <b>99</b> Saturday Night Sunday Morning   |
| <b>23</b> The Life of Brian                    | <b>47</b> Kind Hearts and Coronets      | <b>74</b> The French Connection              | <b>100</b> Do the Right Thing             |
| <b>24</b> Singin' in the Rain                  | <b>48</b> Chinatown                     | <b>75</b> Top Hat                            |   |
|  | <b>49</b> The Exorcist                  | <b>76</b> The Producers                      |   |
|  | <b>50</b> Annie Hall                    | <b>77</b> Three Colours Trilogy              |   |
|  | <b>51</b> The Italian Job               |  |   |