SUBJECT LISTED:

- Film Studies [AS]
- Media Studies [AS]
- Art & Design Practice: Digital Media [BTEC L3] (Arts)
Film Studies [AS]
What are the main features of this course?

Film studies reframes our understanding of film. Students will study the construction of a variety film texts and how meaning is produced through specific focus on cinematography, sound, editing, mise-en-scene and performance. For the exam component of the course students will compare both UK and US films in terms of the messages and values represented in the specific case studies. The coursework consists of a written analysis of a film, a production portfolio and an individual film production.

Hours of lessons per week: 5

Indicative group size: 20

How is the course assessed?

You are assessed by 3 units, 2 exams and one piece of coursework. Component 1: American film Written examination: 1½ hours 35% of qualification, Component 2: European film Written examination: 1½ hours 35% of qualification and Component 3: Production Non-exam assessment 30% of qualification.

Where can I go next?

Employment, training, or Higher Education, particularly in a critical thinking related subject with an emphasis on cultural practice.
SUBJECT OVERVIEW

What can I expect from AS/A-level Film?

This is an exciting course that involves both practical filmmaking and film analysis. You will watch a variety of films from different eras and different genres. The course is divided into three elements:

- American film.
- British and European film.
- Practical filmmaking.

You will be watching films from Hollywood’s Golden Age and one of the greatest films ever made, Casablanca, as well as one of the most influential films of all time, Blade Runner, from the era of New Hollywood when an exciting group of filmmakers (Ridley Scott, Martin Scorcese, Francis Ford Coppola etc.) wrestled control of their projects from the studio and a low-budget independent movie that launched the career of Jennifer Lawrence, Winter’s Bone.

The British and European strand looks at Sweet Sixteen, Ken Loach’s coming of age movie, an unflinching portrait of poverty, dysfunctional families and crime in late 1990’s Glasgow. Ben Wheatley’s Sightseers is a complete contrast: a dark comedy/horror mash up and, finally, you will watch Guillermo del Toro’s magical and fantastical Pan’s Labyrinth.

The coursework, for most of you, will be to make a short film, though students can also create a screenplay accompanied by a storyboard with photographic images.
SUMMER CHALLENGE

What preparation can I do before I start this course?

- Watch as many of the films above as you can.
- Watch any feature film documentaries you can find on different subjects (an element of the second year of the course) e.g. Searching for Sugar Man (Bendjelloul, Hoop Dreams (James 1994), The Arbor (Barnard, 2010); Waltz with Bashir (Folman, 2008), Divorce Iranian Style (Longinotto, 1998).
- Make a short film on your phone. Find some free editing software and experiment!
- Research what kind of jobs there exist in the film world e.g. from Best Boy to digital compositor, location manager to digital publicist.
- Write 250 words about a film that you love that you want to persuade me to watch. Don’t pick a mainstream film. I don’t want to know why I should watch Black Panther or any of the Avengers movies. Choose something that maybe only you love and tell me why I should love it too.

HINTS & TIPS

Are there any TV programmes / websites that I might find useful?

- **TV Programmes**
  On BBC i-player check out Mark Kermode’ series: Mark Kermode’s Secrets of Cinema

- **Websites**
  Check out the page on wikiHow: How to Make a Short Film
Media Studies [AS]
What are the main features of this course?

Students are introduced to the skills required to analyse a wide range of media products and will produce a range of products including graphic novels, websites, podcasts and film trailers. Students will then analyse the texts using different critical frameworks, this is also preparation for the examination at the end of the AS year. There is a large practical component to the course and students are required to produce a media product to a brief they have designed themselves.

Hours of lessons per week: 5

Indicative group size: 20

How is the course assessed?

There is a large emphasis on practical work and students will be required to produce a range of media texts as part of their coursework portfolio. There is one exam (70%) at the end of the year.

Where can I go next?

Employment, training or Higher Education, particularly in a critical thinking related subject with an emphasis on cultural practice.

Need More Information? Contact:

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What can I expect from AS/A Level Media Studies?

Through studying Media Studies you will view, evaluate and analyse a variety of media products, and develop practical skills spanning a range of media forms. You’ll find contemporary, diverse topics and varied and engaging content, helping you to develop your research and problem-solving skills as well as your creativity. You will also refine your debating skills through the discussion of contemporary issues from a range of perspectives, and also look at the historical development of media texts over time. Practical work will be supported with high quality resources for the production of original photography, filming and editing.

You will be assessed by one examination and one piece of coursework.

- **Paper 1**: This will test your knowledge and understanding of media language, media representations and media audiences. You will be assessed on your understanding of a variety of media forms, including film, television, magazines, music video, newspapers and videogames.

- **Course work**: This will test your application, knowledge and understanding of the theoretical frameworks and your ability to create media products, such as short moving image productions or print media products.

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New Students’ Day 2020
What preparation can I do before I start the course?

Generally, you will find it very helpful to expand your consumption of media so you are familiar with the kind of texts we will be covering in the course. For example, keeping up to date with current affairs and news, from a range of different publications, will inform your understanding of the way newspapers are constructed. Similarly, exposing yourself to different genres of television programmes and films will prepare you well for the course. Get ahead of the game by watching and exploring the following:

• Hidden Figures (Film)
• The Killing (TV series)
• TeenVogue (online media covering current events, aimed at a teenage audience)

Finally, take a range of photographs that document your summer break. These can be of anything at all, as long as they convey in some way some of what you have been doing between finishing secondary school and starting at JCC. We will use these as the basis for some practical work at the beginning of the year, so the more photos you can bring with you in September, the better!

Are there any websites that I might find useful?

Lots of interesting, relevant media theory can be found at www.alevelmedia.co.uk/media-theorists

This YouTube channel also has an excellent range of videos which helpfully break down some of the relevant theoretical perspectives you will be covering in the course: www.youtube.com/channel/UCUKr xp4BcJrGLzmqAhCjASg
Art and Design Practice: Digital Media [BTEC L3] (Arts)
What are the main features of this course?
This new creative practice qualification has been developed alongside experts from the creative industries to focus on practical and progression-focused learning. It provides students with opportunities to enter a broader range of higher education, apprenticeships, or employment roles.

This course is a specialist programme with a focus on the digital media sector, rather than broader art & design disciplines. The course focuses on areas including graphic design, photography, digital illustration and concept art and design for digital platforms.

The Extended Diploma consists of four assessed units. In year 1, students will begin by exploring the fundamentals of art and design practice and develop practical skills. Following this, they will respond to design briefs that reflect current industry practice, demonstrating their ability generate ideas and produce creative, professional outcomes.

In year 2, students will develop an understanding of industry, employment roles and higher education routes and prepare progression materials (such as a portfolio) relevant to personal aims. In the last unit of the course, students will advance their practical, critical and reflective skills to plan, prepare and develop a proposal for a response to an industry relevant brief and carry it out from concept to resolution.

Hours of lessons per week: 15

How is the course assessed?
A popular feature of this qualification is the assessment method. In this course, the same five assessment criteria are used to assess all work throughout the qualification, making the assessment process simple and clear. As stated above, the qualification consists of only four units. This allows students time to develop their skills and knowledge between formal unit assessments. Within the Extended Diploma, the final grade is weighted towards the second year of the programme to ensure that students have maximum opportunity to develop and apply their skills. All coursework is internally assessed and then externally moderated by the awarding body.

Who should study this course?
As a full-time course, this BTEC is specifically designed for students with a genuine passion for digital media and an ambition to pursue a career in a creative industry. If you have an interest in graphic design, game art or digital photography then this is the course for you. You will explore materials and techniques to create work for a range of areas of digital art, from concept art for games or animation to graphic design for a range of digital platforms.

Where can I go next?
Students can enter a broad range of higher education courses, apprenticeships, or employment roles across the creative industry. Students may also pursue a career in other sectors where these skills will be valuable, such as education.

Need More Information? Contact:
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BTEC LEVEL 3 ART & DESIGN PRACTICE: DIGITAL MEDIA

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

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There are many links with local universities which are accessible to JCC students. Enrichment includes trips to London and the West Midlands area.

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SUMMER CHALLENGE

Collect together examples of your digital art interests. These could be YouTube clips or images which explain your motivation or inspiration.

These could include:
• Profiles of artists that you find interesting
• Art work which has had a creative effect on you
• Popular culture or media which you think has artistic merit i.e. films, animations, video games or comic books.

Try and draw some of your favourite characters, as well as different objects you find around the house! During the first term of your course you will be learning how to digitally illustrate these, learning the basic skill of drawing is going to be hugely important and get you one step ahead!

Make sure you have a keen interest in Graphics, Photography and Digital Art. Find out what sort of jobs are out there for artists, photographers, textile designers and graphic designers.

HINTS & TIPS

The web is brimming with resources and tutorials for people wanting to explore digital art. We’ve picked some top resources to help you really get to grips with it:
• http://www.digitalartserved.com/
• http://coolvibe.com/
• https://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=digital+art
• https://dribbble.com/search?q=digital+art
• http://conceptartworld.com/
• http://www.deviantart.com/browse/all/digitalart/

Make sure you are prepared for September! Try and get a hold of your usual basic equipment such as: pencils, a ruler and a rubber. You will be using these a lot so make sure you have something to keep them safe in!
If you can, try and also get: fine liner pens, a sketchbook and somewhere to store it all, such as an A3 carry folder!

Play some games over summer! This might sound crazy, but when we work with concept art knowing a huge range of games and styles will be really helpful for you!
FAQs

Will I be able to go to University after doing this course?
Yes. Universities welcome applications from BTEC students. The nature of the full time BTEC course is perfect in preparing you for studying an Art and Design degree at university. The BTEC can lead to a variety of courses such as; Textile Design * Graphics * Game design * Interior Design * Architecture * Fashion* Fine art * Illustration * Photography * and many more.

What jobs can an Art and Design qualification lead to
There are many career pathways that an Art and Design qualification can lead to;
*Artist * Designer-maker * fashion designer * art/design journalist * curator *fashion buyer *textile designer * interior designer * graphic designer **illustrator * Gallery owner/assistant * animator * photographer * art director *editor * costume/theatre designer * and many many more.

What different subjects will I do on this course
This course allows you to explore 4 main areas of art and design. *Textiles and mixed media. * fine Art * Photography and Digital media * 3-D design
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New Students’ Information
Online 2020

Summer Preparation Booklet

MEDIA

WWW.JCC.AC.UK