



FILM STUDIES

A LEVEL – SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

If you are planning on studying Film Studies at A level, there are a number of tasks we would like you

to do over the summer: very aspect of music tech, music, history and theory.

TASK 1

Start a scrapbook of articles about the film industry and reviews of films you are interested in. If you prefer, and know how, you could even start your own blog about films you are interested in:

Read about films and the film industry in a number of publications: newspapers (Guardian,

Independent, Evening Standard); magazines such as Empire, Uncut; journals such as Sight and Sound. BBC Radio 4 has 'The Film Programme' at 4.00 every Thursday. Why not sign up to the podcast? There are film programmes on television on a regular basis. The internet is a great source of information about film: <http://film.guardian.co.uk/> is a very good website to visit

TASK 2

Watch a range of films:

By all means view the summer blockbusters, but also try to extend your experiences by viewing a film that has received good reviews but is not the kind of film you would ordinarily go to see. Why not

go to see / watch a film in a foreign language or an independent film? Try and find them on Netflix / Amazon Prime (if you can't go to the cinema). Please write a list of all of the films you have watched.

TASK 3

Write a short review (300 words max) of TWO of the films you watched for Task 2:

What did you think of the film? What stood out to you in terms of the narrative, cinematography, editing, sound and mise-en-scene?

TASK 4

Watch the following three short films (on YouTube / Vimeo) and answer the following questions on them:

- The Gunfighter (Kissack, 2014) -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWs4WA--eKU>
- Pitch Black Heist (Maclean, 2012) -
<https://vimeo.com/331090235>
- Swimmer (Ramsay, 2012) -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fT1UCPrtblI>

1. What did you think of the film? What did you think of its narrative? Did you understand it?
2. What stood out to you in terms of its cinematography, editing, sound and mise-en-scene?
3. How does the short films create meaning and generate a response for the audience?

