

Headlands School Performing Arts Department - Film Studies

Year 9

Term 1 An Introduction to Film Studies

- Key elements are introduced one by one
- Various film clips are shown and approaches taken to teach students how to take notes and analyse film
- Students are introduced to IDEE as a guide on how to write about key elements
- Narrative and representation are introduced as concepts that need to be analysed using the key elements

Term 2 Song of the Sea - Context

- Song of the Sea is an Irish animated film aimed at family audiences with strong messages about the environment and dealing with feelings like grief and closure at a young age
- Song of the Sea is studied in depth including key sequences and the use of key elements during each sequence
- Context is introduced and analysed in Song of the Sea

Term 3 Spirited Away - Representation

- Spirited Away is a Japanese animated film enjoyed by people of all ages but specifically targeted at 10 year old girls
- It continues the study of animated films based on the theme of coming of age whilst taking students to a country further from home with ideologies and contexts of a differing nature
- Spirited Away studied in depth including key sequences and characters
- Concept of representation is reintroduced and applied to sequences and characters using the key elements.

Year 10

Term 1 Applying Film Techniques

- Students revisit key elements from a practical perspective and how to apply them
- Kuleshov effect – the importance of joining shots together to convey emotion in a story
- Continuity – ensuring a smooth editing process with no mistakes
- Students are introduced to editing software and experiment with different styles including continuous and elliptical before adding sound
- Screenplays and shooting scripts are created before a final sequence is shot and edited

Term 2 Juno – Specialist Writing

- Juno is a US indie film about teenage pregnancy
- Coming of age theme continues but narrative and themes are now more mature
- Juno is studied in depth including key sequences and characters and the use of key elements during each sequence
- A piece of writing selected by the exam board is studied and it's ideas applied to Juno
- Students look at the best way to write a response to the piece of writing using Juno

Term 3 – Coursework

- Students have now studied a reasonable amount of examples of genres in order to create their own sequence based on the coursework specification
- Screenplays are written according to available genres for a sequence that creates a moment of tension or the opening of a film
- Either a shooting script is written or students shoot their screenplay
- An evaluative analysis is completed where students justify the choices they have made throughout the production process

Year 11

Term 1 Comparative US Film

- By this point students should have acquired the knowledge to not only study a film but compare it to another
- Rebel Without a Cause
- Context and themes
- Key sequences and characters
- Ferris Bueller's Day Off
- Context and themes
- Key sequences and characters
- Comparative elements
- How to write a comparative answer on each film

Terms 2 Submarine - Aesthetics

- Submarine is a Welsh film that looks at the theme of coming of age in a more complex manner
- The area of study, aesthetics, is also more complex
- Submarine studied in depth including key sequences and characters
- Context and themes
- Film aesthetics and how to write about them

Term 3 – Revision/ Exams