



## Pushing Boundaries

The new A Level Film Studies course is unlike any other course that has come before it and focuses upon broadening experiences, pushing boundaries and exploring some of the best films and film makers from world cinema history.

With this in mind, it is important over the summer period to begin cultivating your knowledge and experience of different film styles and different directors. By completing the tasks in this booklet, you will gain an insight in to the styles and individuals that we will be exploring over the next two years.

### Task 1: Key Directors

Research the following directors and put together information relating to: their most famous films, what types of films they make and their individual film style.

**Alfred Hitchcock:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Ridley Scott:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Quentin Tarantino:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Task 2: Exploring Film Styles

It is important to explore a range of different film styles and look at some films you might not normally look at. This will challenge your pre-conceptions of film and in some cases, will open a whole new world of film experience to you.

Over the summer period, try and view two films from a genre or style that you wouldn't normally watch. There are some suggestions of categories and even films for you to look at (though this is not prescriptive, feel free to choose your own).

Make notes relating to the film including: what genre it is and how do you know? How does it differ from the films you would normally watch? What did you like or dislike about it?

### Suggested Genres and texts:

**Documentary Film:** E.G. Supersize me, Bowling for Columbine, Blackfish, Senna, March of the Penguins, Amy etc.

**World Cinema:** E.G. The Wave, Run Lola Run, The Host, The Devil's Backbone, M, Solaris, Spirited Away, Amelie, La Femme Nikita, Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon, Let the Right One In, Wadjda, Tsotsi etc.

**Silent Cinema:** E.G. Nosferatu, The Lodger, The Kid, Birth of a Nation, The General, Greed, The Phantom of the Opera (1925), Modern Times, The Cat and The Canary etc.

**Classic Hollywood:** E.G. Casablanca, Gone with the Wind, Citizen Kane, Some Like it Hot, Psycho (1960), Rebel Without a Cause, Lawrence of Arabia, Giant, It's a Wonderful Life, The Birds, Spartacus, A Nun's Story etc.

**Musical Films:** E.G. Mary Poppins, Singin' in the Rain, Grease, My Fair Lady, Moulin Rouge, Cabaret, Little Shop of Horrors, Phantom of the Opera, The King and I, Hairspray etc.

**Animated Film:** E.G. The Lion King, Fantasia, Song of the Sea, Who Framed Roger Rabbit, Kung Fu Panda, Wallace and Gromit Curse of the Were Rabbit, The Nightmare Before Christmas, Bambi, Howl's Moving Castle, Frankenweenie, Coraline etc.

**Independent ('Indie') Film:** E.G. Donnie Darko, Memento, Juno, Reservoir Dogs, The Blair-witch Project, The Usual Suspects, Trainspotting, Seven, Beasts of the Southern Wild, Little Miss Sunshine, Napoleon Dynamite, Being John Malkovich etc.

**Auteur Film:** E.G. **Scorsese:** Taxi Driver, Goodfellas, Cape Fear, Gangs of New York, Shutter Island etc. **Kubrick:** 2001: A Space Odyssey, A Clockwork Orange, The Shining, Full Metal Jacket etc. **del Toro:** Cronos, Mimic, Crimson Peak, Don't Be Afraid of the Dark, The Shape of Water etc. **Cameron:** Aliens, The Terminator, Titanic, Avatar, The Abyss etc. **Spielberg:** Jaws, E.T. Jurassic Park, Schindler's List, War Horse, War of the Worlds etc. **Coppola:** The Godfather, Apocalypse Now, The Outsiders, Bram Stoker's Dracula etc. **Boyle:** 127 Hours, Slumdog Millionaire, 28 Days Later, Millions, Shallow Grave etc.