

Film Studies A Level Summer Viewing/Reading List

Please feel free to email paul.young@paddington-academy.org with any questions!

To watch:

The IMDb top 250 list is a really good place to start finding films that you may not have seen and are regarded as widely enjoyed/celebrated. The list is here:

https://www.imdb.com/search/title/?groups=top_250&sort=user_rating

Lots and lots of these films are available on Netflix/Amazon Prime/Now TV/BBC Iplayer, but if there is one you really want to watch and are struggling to find email Mr Young!

Try to watch at least 3 or 4 of these films (ones you haven't seen before!) before September.

Video essays are a great place to start listening to people using film language and thinking about film as an art form. Two good channels to start are:

The Nerdwriter: Breakdown and analysis of films, film makers and actors. (not all their videos are about films, so pick carefully).

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJkMIOu7faDgqh4PfbpLdg>

Lessons from the screenplay: A channel that compares film scripts to the finished product. Very useful for starting to think about the technical and creative choices that filmmakers make.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCErSSa3CaP_GJxmFpdjG9Jw

Try to find video essays on the films you watch!

To read:

The best thing to be reading, is trusted voices discussing and reviewing films. Here are two starting points, but don't be afraid to branch out:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/film>

<https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews>

Sight and Sound is a bit more academic, and it isn't free, but it is regarded as one the best film publications out there:

<https://sightandsounddigital.bfi.org.uk/custompages/SightAndSound/subscribe.aspx>

There is a free sample issue on the website that you could start with.