



A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES – Transition to VI form study

The following resources are designed to help you develop your knowledge, understanding and skills as you plan for the transition to Hurtwood and A Level study. The first section focusses on the academic elements of media studies and the second section is more skills based. I do not expect you to read all of the books below or watch all of the films! Please think of it as a list of options that you can dip into as much or as little as you like. Any of them will help you develop your grasp of the subject, which we look forward to helping you develop further when the A Level gets started in September. We would love to see any work that you complete on any of the projects, please email to me and we will send you feedback. You can also contact me if you have any questions or need any advice at philip.ward@hurtwood.net

Film/TV Studies

Reading

Film Art: An Introduction - David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Film-Art-Introduction-David-Bordwell-ebook/dp/B07M7KZTQZ/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=bordwell&qid=1587217845&sr=8-1

How To Read a Film - James Monaco

https://www.amazon.co.uk/How-Read-Film-Movies-Beyond-ebook/dp/B00BELGNR8/ref=pd_sim_351_1/261-9716094-0132228?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=B00BELGNR8&pd_rd_r=bc61e12b-793a-44ff-98a1-e1e1b5cc5e94&pd_rd_w=FTnZq&pd_rd_wg=kDRnR&pf_rd_p=7df4b67e-ebf6-4e8b-b5dd-7a46501724e8&pf_rd_r=YVMHXF5WYRG8Y3TEYHT1&psc=1&refRID=YVMHXF5WYRG8Y3TEYHT1

The following sites all offer intelligent, academic film and TV articles and analysis:

<https://vimeo.com/399407221> - 40 days to learn film

<http://sensesofcinema.com/>

<https://filmstudiesforfree.blogspot.com/p/fsff-online-film-media-studies-journals.html>

<https://nofilmschool.com/>

<https://filmschoolrejects.com/#>

<https://filmschoolrejects.com/topics/one-perfect-shot/>

<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/education>

Watching – film analysis channels and video essay sites:

<https://vimeo.com/399407221> - 40 days to learn film

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLzVsCmg62ZDD5iS5d8vFBJDr_WvCOZd-w – Screen and Sound playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVjsbqKtxkLt7bal4NWRjJQ/videos> - The Take

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGXfqzVEZr0XaZLWG3_HniA - The Media Insider channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVtL1edhT8qqY-j2JIndMzg> - Cinefix

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjFqcJQXGZ6T6sxyFB-5i6A> - Every Frame A Painting

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrSSa3CaP_GJxmFpdjG9Jw - Lessons From The Screenplay

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWTFGPpNQ0Ms6afXhaWDiRw> - Now You See It videoessays

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMplSrEvn9JTCHrz58Le2ww> - Film Radar
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL5kBJmBUVFLYBDiSiK1VDw> - The Cinema Cartography
<https://www.raindance.org/top-15-video-essayists-youtube/> - 15 great video essay channels on YouTube

There are a whole host of film and TV studies MOOCs which will be available to you over the next few months. Use the aggregation sites below to find something which interests you:

<https://www.mooc-list.com/tags/film>
<https://www.coursera.org/search?query=film+studies>
<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/explore-filmmaking>

Film/TV Production

Reading

The DSLR Filmmaker's Handbook - Barry Andersson, Janie L. Geyen
https://www.amazon.co.uk/DSLR-Filmmakers-Handbook-Real-World-Production-ebook/dp/B00UXYTSXS/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=barry+andersson&qid=1587218352&s=books&sr=1-1

Film Directing Shot by Shot - Steven Katz
https://www.amazon.co.uk/Film-Directing-Anniversary-Visualizing-Concept/dp/1615932976/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=steven+katz&qid=1587218425&s=books&sr=1-1

Watching

<https://vimeo.com/52010997> - A guide to basic cinematography
<https://vimeo.com/blog/post/an-introduction-to-three-point-lighting/> - a guide to basic lighting
<https://vimeo.com/blog/category/video-school/>
<https://www.skillshare.com/browse/film-production> - dozens of production videos, 14 day free trial
<https://www.youtube.com/user/RJFilmSchool> - Rocket Jump Film School
<https://www.youtube.com/user/filmriot> - Film Riot
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdTCujcLOEJe4ujH-NL6oUg/videos> - Indie Film Hustle
<https://www.youtube.com/user/indymogul> - Indy Mogul (independent filmmaking)
<https://www.youtube.com/user/aputurephoto> - Aputure (film lighting)
<https://www.youtube.com/user/watchredgiantfilms> - Red Giant (VFX)
<https://www.youtube.com/user/YapperDesign> - Cinecom.net (cinematography)
<https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/filmmaking-youtube-channels/> - Top 40 channels of 2020

Learning (courses)

<https://www.screenskills.com/insight/news/online-training-and-masterclasses>
<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/filmmaking>
<https://www.coursera.org/search?query=film%20making&>
<https://www.udemy.com/courses/search/?q=film> (subscription required)
<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/hass-storytelling/storytelling-pixar-in-a-box>

Projects

As you're likely to be stuck at home and limited in the equipment and resources you can use, we've tried to make these challenges small and achievable.

We'll give you feedback on anything you submit (upload to Vimeo or YouTube and send us the link or submit via Dropbox) and successful projects will all contribute to your showreel/portfolio for work experience:

1. Create a 60 second trailer for a book, comic or videogame that you have enjoyed. No found footage – everything should be shot by you. Identify the target audience and capture the flavour, tone or atmosphere of the product. It doesn't need to have any direct adaption to be successful!

2. Re-create a historical event as a narrative sequence, told from the perspective of one of the participants. You can use dialogue, but try to convey as much of the significant information as possible through visual and audio cues.

3. Sweding challenge! Take a sequence from one of your favourite films and recreate it as closely as possible as an inventive, low tech project. No sophisticated visual effects or camera movements, but be inventive with your mise-en-scene and composition. Have a look at some examples from the following sites for inspiration:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/bryanharley>

<https://swedefest.com/swede-fest-19/>

