

426/01

FILM STUDIES FS6

Critical Studies

A.M. MONDAY, 26 June 2006

(2 Hours)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **three** questions, one from each section.

Refer in detail to appropriate films and film extracts that you have studied during the course.

Note that this paper involves synoptic assessment. You should draw on your learning from other units in considering: The Film Text and Spectatorship; Producers and Audiences; Messages and Values.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

All questions in Section A carry 20 marks.

All questions in Sections B and C carry 15 marks.

You are advised to spend just over 45 minutes on Section A and approximately 35 minutes each on Sections B and C.

Section A (20 marks)

The Film Text and Spectatorship – Specialist Studies

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

EARLY CINEMA BEFORE 1917

1. Discuss the significance of **two** or **three** key aspects of film form in Early Cinema (such as narrative or editing) in developing film spectatorship.

Or,

DOCUMENTARY

2. Which documentary techniques are most effective in presenting spectators with ‘the real’? Refer to at least **two** documentaries you have studied.

Or,

EXPERIMENTAL FILM MAKING

3. ‘Experimental Film requires a different kind of spectatorship.’ Has this been your experience?

Or,

SHOCKING CINEMA

4. How far does cinematic shock come from film-making techniques and how far does it come from a film’s subject-matter?

Section B (15 marks)

Producers and Audiences – Issues and Debates

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

REGULATION AND CENSORSHIP

5. With reference to case studies from the past and/or the present, discuss whether film-makers are helpless in the face of external pressures of regulation and censorship.

Or,

THE DOMINANCE OF HOLLYWOOD AND INDIGENOUS FILM PRODUCTION

6. In the face of Hollywood’s global dominance, what are some of the measures that have been taken to ensure the survival of indigenous cinema? You should refer to examples of indigenous cinema you have studied.

Or,

INDEPENDENT FILM AND ITS AUDIENCE

7. What distinguishes genuinely independent low-budget films from those films marketed as 'independent' by mainstream producers?

Or,

FANDOM

8. What influence do fans have over the film industry? Discuss the relationship between fans and the industry with reference to case studies.

Section C (15 marks)

Messages and Values – Critical Approaches

*Answer **one** question from this section.*

Either,

GENRE AND AUTHORSHIP STUDIES

9. What have you discovered about a specific body of films through applying **either** a genre **or** an auteur critical approach?

Or,

PERFORMANCE STUDIES

10. With reference to specific case studies, discuss what elements of performance contribute significantly to making meaning.

Or,

FILM INTERPRETATION AND SOCIAL/CULTURAL STUDIES

11. In what ways has the study of film changed your understanding of the messages and values of a single film or of a group of films?

Or,

GENDERED FILM STUDIES

12. Explore the benefits of applying a gendered critical approach to studying film with reference to specific case studies.