



GCE A level

426/01

FILM STUDIES FS6
Critical Studies

A.M. FRIDAY, 20 June 2008

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. In your studies of Early Cinema, what are some of the most important things you have discovered about the development of film spectatorship?

Or,

DOCUMENTARY

2. ‘Documentaries work on the spectator in ways that are very close to fiction films, using narrative and character to create drama and suspense.’ With reference to the documentaries you have studied, discuss how far you agree with this statement.

Or,

EXPERIMENTAL FILM MAKING

3. What are some of the ways in which experimental films you have studied challenge the spectator?

Or,

SHOCKING CINEMA

4. How far is cinematic shock the result of techniques used by filmmakers?

Section B (15 marks)

Producers and Audiences – Issues and Debates

Answer one question from this section.

Either,

REGULATION AND CENSORSHIP

5. Is it true to say that filmmakers in different times and places have faced similar problems with regard to regulation and censorship?

Or,

THE DOMINANCE OF HOLLYWOOD AND INDIGENOUS CINEMA

6. Why do you think some indigenous films attract larger audiences than some mainstream Hollywood productions? Refer to case studies.

Or,

INDEPENDENT FILM AND ITS AUDIENCE

7. How far have digital technologies made a difference to the production and/or distribution of independent films?

Or,

FANDOM

8. Discuss some of the ways fandom has been encouraged and developed through online activity.

Section C (15 marks)

Messages and Values – Critical Approaches

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

Either,

GENRE AND AUTHORSHIP STUDIES

9. How useful have you found **either** a genre **or** an auteur critical approach to your film studies? Refer to specific examples.

Or,

PERFORMANCE STUDIES

10. Explore how the close study of performance features has increased your understanding and appreciation of specific films.

Or,

FILM INTERPRETATION AND SOCIAL/CULTURAL STUDIES

11. Ideology is contained in films in many different ways. With reference to specific examples, discuss how your critical studies have made ideologies more visible.

Or,

GENDERED FILM STUDIES

12. How important is gender in the critical analysis of films? Refer in detail to your own studies.