Study Film as a combined subject helps you develop both practical and theoretical skills in film and television analysis, via an understanding of cinema’s history and contexts. Such skills are of value in a wide range of careers including: teaching, research, curation and journalism. Our Humanities Programme lets you study Film in a variety of combinations with other Humanities disciplines. Modules focus on American and Global cinema from the Golden Age to the digital era, the study of particular genres (from the horror film to the musical) and of particular film auteurs (Wes Anderson, Alfred Hitchcock). The course includes a focus on specific subjects such as: European film, Cult film and TV forms, gender and representation; film and TV adaptation, and the opportunity to gain practical experience in digital film-making (in fiction, non-fiction and via the developing video essay form).
What is it like to study Film?

You will attend 1 hour weekly lectures and seminars, and regular film screenings. You will learn how to explore film from critical, theoretical, and historical perspectives. You will also have the opportunity to make a short film in a team, and will be encouraged to get involved in a variety of co-curricular activities.

Year one modules

Introduction to Film Criticism
Assessment: 100% coursework
This module introduces you to the analysis of film. You will engage critically with how ‘meaning’ is communicated through style – how film texts work. You will be introduced to some of the key moments in cinema history, from the Hollywood system in the first part of the twentieth century, through German Expressionism, Russian Formalism and to the New Hollywood of the 1970s. The module will equip you with an historical awareness of film, and with the ability to critically analyse technical innovations. You will have a knowledge and understanding of some of the critical, historical, theoretical and technological issues involved in the study of film.

Introduction to Film Theory
Assessment: 100% coursework
The module will introduce you to the study of film as a distinct set of aesthetic and cultural processes and practices. It will explore some of the core ways in which scholars have approached the study of film; this includes: aesthetic evaluation, auteur theory, genre, psychoanalysis, feminism, screen theory and cultural studies approaches. The module aims to allow you to gain an understanding of some of the theoretical and methodological issues involved in the study of film; to develop your ability in the analysis of form and content of particular films; and to consider the way in which film interacts with wider cultural, historical and political contexts.

Year two modules

Film Production
European Film and Television Style

Final year modules

US Cinema: from Studio System to Digital Era
Film in the Global Age
Television Drama (specialist module on specific pathways)
Video Essay (specialist module on specific pathways)

Entry Requirements:
280 UCAS points. GCSE Maths and English Language at grade C or above.

Contact
Dr Darren Elliott-Smith
Film Coordinator
d.elliott-smith@herts.ac.uk

Provides an excellent insight into film analysis and theory. There is also the opportunity on the course for practical filmmaking and work experience, both of which are very useful in enhancing future employability.

Adam Jones-Lloyd

Career Paths

Jobs where your degree would be useful:
- Film/video production manager, Programme researcher, Broadcasting/film/video. Runner.
- Advertising art director
- Picture researcher/editor
- Advertising account executive
- Arts administrator
- Local government officer
- Public relations account executive

Please note, the information relating to modules in this hand out are indicative, and subject to change.