

## **A Level Film Studies Gateway Activities**

The best way to prepare for this course next year is to get used to analysing films and thinking about the decisions film-makers have made and the messages they are sending through cinema.

Below, there is a list of themed films - watch each one and during/after the screening, write your own ideas about the following / do some research if you are unsure about it:

1. Film Context including any interesting production facts as well as social/ cultural/ political influences.
2. Film Form - i.e. sound (soundtrack and score), editing, mise-en-scene (colours, setting, costume, props), cinematography (camera angles, lighting and shots), performance.
3. Narrative/ storyline of the film.
4. Representation in the film- think about age/gender/race/class or anything else you think is significant.
5. The impact of the film - critical reception and whether this has changed over time.
6. What you thought of it - what are some of the issues the film covers?

When you arrive in September, we'll discuss your ideas and opinions! Enjoy!

### **Films to watch in no particular order:**

**Classical Hollywood- Breakfast at Tiffany's**

**Studio Ghibli- Spirited Away**

**Coming of Age- Stand By Me**

**Spanish - Volver by Pedro Almodovar**

**Film Noir - The Third Man**

**Neo Noir - Se7en**

**Hitchcock- Rear Window**

**Epics - Gone with the Wind**

**Literary Adaptation – Life of Pi**

**French - La Heine**

**German - Metropolis**

**Shocking Cinema - Bully**

**Science Fiction - 2001: A Space Odyssey by Stanley Kubrick - introduced by Christopher Nolan**

**Fantasy – The Shape of Water**

**Special Effects - Avatar**

**Postmodern - Blade Runner**