

# **Progression**

## **Film Studies**

Welcome to your Film Studies A Level transition booklet

# Compulsory tasks to complete before September

## Key Concepts: Auteur Theory

The idea of the auteur as a critical approach derives from an earlier period of Film Studies when critics aimed to demonstrate that films are **'authored'** by individuals, most obviously the film's director, rather than being generic products.

Today, the concept of the auteur can be applied to a film or group of films in order to identify and explain its distinctive characteristics, arguing that these derive from a principal creative individual (most commonly the director, but it may also include cinematographers, performers or institutions).

Learners study the following:

- How auteurs, through the imprint of their 'signature' features, can make a significant impact on a film's messages and values.
- How auteurs determine the look and style of a film in relation to the collaborative approach to film production within Hollywood cinema

You can read more about auteur theory here:

[Film 101: What Is an Auteur? Learn About Auteur Theory - 2022 - MasterClass](#)

[\(5\) What is an Auteur? Auteur theory explained! Film & Media Studies revision - YouTube](#)

**Task: Pick your favourite director. Research into the films that they have made. Produce a paragraph for each of the following bullet points:**

- **Brief biographical details - background**
- **Have they got a consistent thematic approach? (Are they usually about similar things?)**
- **Have they got a consistent stylistic approach? (Do they look the same? Have a specific use of the camera, editing, sound?)**
- **Do you consider them to be an auteur?**

Images would be lovely.