



## Course details

### Course title

Film Studies: Another 5 Wonders of Classic Hollywood

### Course code

Q00020081

### Course date

Start: 24/02/25

End: 24/03/25

### Number of classes

5 sessions

### Timetable

Mon 24th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 3rd Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 10th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 17th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 24th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

### Tutor

George Cromack

### Fee range

Free to £37.00

### How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes online in video meetings and materials will be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

Online

## **Venue**

Online

## **Level of study**

Beginners

## **Course overview**

A fun and accessible course exploring a selection of films from the 'Classic Hollywood era - increasing knowledge, understanding and appreciation of film in general. Classic Hollywood is the popular name given to a period in U.S film history from the 1930s just into 1960s when the studio system and big name stars were at their peak. A time when popular cinematic conventions were established, glamour, big stars and entertainment were key and moral standards (mostly) accepted. We examine a selection of wonders spanning this era also considering the motivations and governing factors behind some of these productions, considering audience appeal and interpretation of these films.

## **Course description**

The Classic Hollywood era of the 1930s through to the early 1960s was a period of big studios, big contracts, big glamour and even bigger stars. Genres were clearly defined, big budgets and a sense of escapism was often key – along with scooping up the Awards. An era when the watchful eye of the Hays Office code of censorship ruled, but also an era not without own its prejudices and stereotypes. Our selection covers the high escapism of musical dance numbers featured *Swing Time*, a closer a look at what Hollywood does when it remakes an existing British thriller in 1944's *Gaslight*, Hollywood casting light on theatre stars (and perhaps stereotyping 'aging actors') in *All About Eve* with *Witness for the Prosecution* allowing for arguably some of the best late-career performances from two of the era's early stars Charles Laughton and Marlene Dietrich. Whilst *Charade*, one described as 'the greatest Hitchcock movie Hitchcock never made' arguably show the era taking a 'quirkier' cross genre direction away from established formats. We examine a selection of films spanning the rise and decline of this period, charting the themes, conventions and our own points for discussion. *Swing Time* (1936), *Gaslight* (1944), *Witness for the Prosecution* (1957), *Charade* (1963). *East of Eden* (1955).

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## **What other support is available?**

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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