

AUD PG ENTRANCE TEST 2020

DESCRIPTION OF TEST (To be put up on University website)

School: School of Culture and Creative Expressions

Programme: MA Film Studies

Duration of test (max 2 hours 30 minutes): 2 hours

Description of test:

The test consists of two parts: objective, multiple-choice style questions and subjective-type essay questions. The former will (i) test your familiarity with film terms, genres, film movements including auteurs, along with some trivia (ii) your reading comprehension with respect to academic writing within the discipline. The second part consists of long essay-type questions on your own interests in film and media as well as essays on film and media cultures including film forms, histories and theories of cinema.

Candidates for the programme are expected to have some familiarity with canonical and popular film movements, well-known Indian and international auteurs, an engagement with film style and techniques (theory only) as well as an interest in broad questions of film and media cultures including forms, theories and histories. Broadly speaking, it would be good to read materials that introduce you to film and media studies as well as elements of cultural theory. For these purposes there are several readers for film theory and film studies, including introductory ones that you should be able to read to prepare.

Sample questions:

Sample question 1 [Multiple Choice Question]:

Which one of the following films connects the problem of Kashmir to a Shakespearian tragedy?

(a) Mission Kashmir; (b) Fanaa; (c) Roja; (d) Haider

Sample question 2 [Multiple Choice Question]:

Based on the excerpt given below, answer the questions that follow:

How did middle-class Indians respond to the rise of the cinema as a medium of mass entertainment, and to the mass public the cinema made visible? And what can these responses tell us about the cinema's impact on how the public and the public sphere were imagined in late colonial India? This book draws on archival research to uncover aspirations and anxieties about the new medium, which opened up tantalizing possibilities for nationalist mobilization on the one hand, and troubling challenges to the cultural authority of Indian elites on the other. It also shows how early twentieth-century discourses about the cinema reveal traces of a formative tension in Indian public culture, a tension between visions of a deliberative public and specters of the unruly masses.

What is the author's main concern in the passage given above?

- (a) the cinema and its public in late colonial India
- (b) cinema in the twenty-first century
- (c) cinema as a medium of mass communication and entertainment
- (d) archival material from the early twentieth century

Sample question 3 [subjective-type essay question]:

Please answer *any one* of the following questions in upto 800-1000 words.

- (a) Critically comment on the following statement: 'We are living in the golden age of television.'
- (b) Using the example of period films, speculate about the relationship between cinema and history.