

Film Studies Key Terms

Basic

TERM	SUMMARY DEFINITION	EXAMPLE AND MEANING
Auteur		
Diegesis		
Genre		
Representation		
Ideology		
Narrative		
Story/Plot		
Scene/Sequence		
Shot		

Mise-en-Scene

TERM	SUMMARY DEFINITION	EXAMPLE AND MEANING
Décor		
Rear Projection		
Three-point Lighting		
High Key lighting		
Low Key lighting		
Deep space		
Frontality		
Off-screen space		
Shallow space		
Costume		
Typage		

Cinematography

TERM	SUMMARY DEFINITION	EXAMPLE AND MEANING
Colour		
Contrast		
Deep focus		
Shallow focus		
Depth of field		
Exposure		
Racking focus		
Rate		
Telephoto shot		
Zoom		
Angle of framing		
Aspect ratio		
Level of framing		
Canted framing		
Following shot		
Reframing		

Point of view		
Extreme long shot		
Long shot		
Medium long shot		
Medium shot		
Medium close up		
Close up		

Extreme close up		
Crane		
Handheld/ Steadycam		
Pan		
Tilt		
Tracking		
Whip pan		

Editing

TERM	SUMMARY DEFINITION	EXAMPLE AND MEANING
Transitions		
Cheat cut		
Cross cutting/ parallel editing		
Cut in, cut away		
Dissolve		
Jump cut		
Establishing shot/re establishing shot		
Shot/reverse shot		
Superimposition		
Wipe		
<i>Action edit</i>		
<i>Screen position edit</i>		
<i>Form edit</i>		
<i>Concept edit</i>		
Long take		

Overlapping editing		
Rhythm		
Continuity		
montage		
Elliptical editing		

Sound

TERM	SUMMARY DEFINITION	EXAMPLE AND MEANING
Sound bridge		
Sonic flashback		
Diegetic sound		
Non-diegetic sound		

Off-screen sound		
Sound perspective		
Synchronous sound		
Voice over		
Foley sound		
Contrapuntal		
Parallel sound		