

Media Studies

Exam Board: OCR

Summary of course content

AS Level

G321: Foundation Portfolio in Media

The purpose of this unit is to develop your skills in planning and constructing media products for different purposes and audiences. The focus will be on filming and editing.

G322: Key Media Concepts

This unit will build your analytical skills and understanding of how meaning is created in various types of TV drama and will also involve study of a major media industry e.g. film, newspapers.

A2 Level

G324: Advanced Portfolio in Media

For this unit you will need to plan and produce a media portfolio combining video with print and/or web-based media and present your research, planning and evaluation in digital form (e.g. PowerPoint, blog, website or podcast).

G325: Critical Perspectives in Media

This unit requires you to evaluate your own production work and also show understanding of a contemporary media issue e.g. Media in the Online Age.

Summary of assessment scheme

AS Level

25% Internal Assessment (production work)

25% External Examination (essays and answers to stimulus material)

A2 Level

25% Internal Assessment (production work and presentation)

25% External Examination (written essay paper)

Why you should consider studying Media Studies in the Sixth Form

Media Studies will introduce you to the world of TV, film, print and web media and advertising and will give you the conceptual framework you need to begin to analyse, understand and criticise them. You will also develop skills in various aspects of media production including digital image manipulation, camera work and digital editing.

Frequently Asked Questions

What skills do I need to do well?

You will need good communications skills both in writing and spoken presentation. You will be taught the media terminology to undertake analysis and evaluation of different types of media texts and you will have the opportunity to use your creativity in the production of your own video and print based texts e.g. the opening sequence for a new film or pages from a new music magazine. Good time management is also essential.

Is there a lot of practical work?

From the beginning of the course you will be undertaking practical activities on a regular basis. In the AS year the focus will be on developing your skills in video camera work and digital editing using Adobe Premiere. Your examination production work can be undertaken either individually or as part of a group.

What other courses would go well with this one?

This course goes well with any other A or AS course, but especially relevant ones might include Art, Photography and English.

How will studying Media Studies help me after A levels?

Media Studies is now an established academic subject and recognised as such by university admission tutors. It is ideal as part of an application for any degree course dealing with film, TV or the media generally, but also fine for anyone wanting to take an arts or humanities subject in higher education. Media Studies graduates have a high success rate in finding related employment.

Luke Macdonald, Head of Media Studies