

Media Studies

Summary of course content

The course will be a two year A-Level that incorporates both written and practical work.

Coursework will remain as Non-Examination assessment (NEA) and the exam will have more weight than before. The key areas that you will have to learn about include: Media Language, media audiences, media representations and media industries. Students will be asked to both create and analyse media products over the two year course.

Summary of assessment scheme

The A-Level will be made up of NEA and 2 Exams:

Exam 70% (Written answers both short form and essay)
NEA 30% (Production work)

Why you should consider studying Media Studies in the Sixth Form

Media Studies will introduce you to the world of TV, film, print, 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 TV documentary 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. Throughout the course you will be on developing your skills in video camera work and digital editing using Adobe Premiere.

What other courses would go well with this one?

This course goes well with any other A Level 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