

Media Studies



AQA
A-Level

Overview

Media Studies offers an insight into the way the media creates meaning all around us. It offers you the opportunity to scrutinise the information we are presented with every day and to challenge and discuss contemporary issues, ideas and theoretical approaches.

Aims

- ▶ To develop knowledge and understanding of media concepts, contexts and critical debates
- ▶ Apply knowledge and understanding when analysing media products/ processes, and when evaluating your own practical work.

Grade Requirement

Students must achieve 5 A*-C grades at GCSE, including Mathematics. If you have studied Media Studies at GCSE you must have a 'B' grade to be able to study this subject. If you have not studied Media before, you must have a 'B' grade in English Language.

Complementary Subjects

English Language, English Literature, The Extended Project, Philosophy of Religion and Ethics, History, ICT

AS-Level

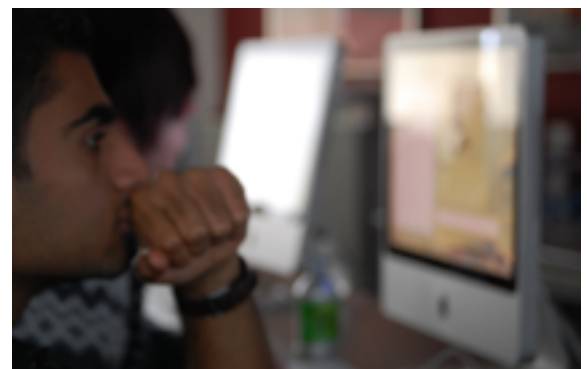
Unit 1: Investigating the Media

Unit 2: Creating Media

A2-Level

Unit 3: Critical Perspectives

Unit 4: Critical Investigation



It is a common misconception that Media Studies is a 'soft' subject but you will be engaging with difficult concepts and theoretical approaches. Media Studies is incredibly popular and is best suited to students who enjoy analysing the symbolism and ideological meanings that are explicit or implicit in texts and those who are interested in the media, politics and current affairs. In order to succeed, you must be able to write fluent and coherent essays which draw upon your knowledge of media theory and contextual examples and issues. It is also suited to those who enjoy working with visual texts and ICT, particularly if you have experience of working with Photoshop and Illustrator.

Media Studies offers an insight into the way the media create meaning all around us. It offers the opportunity to create two practical productions and the flexibility to research any aspect of the media you are interested in. It offers you the opportunity to scrutinise the information we are presented with every day and to challenge and discuss issues and ideas. Media Studies aims to develop knowledge and understanding of media concepts, contexts and critical debates and encourages students to apply knowledge and understanding when analysing media products and processes, and when evaluating practical work, to show how meanings and responses are created. Applicants will also need to demonstrate the ability to plan and construct media products using appropriate technical and creative skills and demonstrate the ability to plan and undertake, apply and present appropriate research.

A significant number of students have gone on to study Media or Film Studies at university or to find careers in the media. It has also helped those students who wish to apply for Arts-based degrees and those who wish to combine Media and ICT in their studies.

Department: English and Media Studies

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