



Course Requirements
GCSE English Language – Grade 4

Syllabus
AQA

Who to Contact
Mrs O Barnes
Course Leader

Overview

The Media Studies courses are designed to encourage you to take a step back from the media that surrounds us and is consumed by us. It teaches you to analyse how it has been constructed to shape meanings, and in influence those who use it. The course also aims to look at how audiences' identities are being shaped by the ways in which we use media texts and the extent to which we are able to assert our own identities through modern, interactive media. You will develop a critical understanding of the media through a range of conceptual approaches in which you will develop effective research and evaluation skills. Alongside the academic side, there is a practical element where you will use what you have learned about how the media communicates, to create your own media texts. This will enable you to develop practical production skills where you can choose to make moving image, e-media or print materials.

Assessment is in the form of two examinations and a practical production weighted at 70% examination and 30% production. The examination covers a broad range of areas for which you complete in-depth studies of products and industries across the media. These include: video games, magazines, news, TV drama, radio and music videos. For the practical production work, you complete research, pre-production and then two linked production pieces (each from a different platform – print, e-media or moving image). For this, you work to a brief which changes each year. We encourage you to interpret this in ways that will give you a good degree of freedom to be creative and adventurous.

You

An A Level in Media Studies is accepted as a qualification for many university courses across a wide range of subjects. Although Russell Group universities do accept Media Studies, you need to look carefully at other subjects you are choosing to make sure it is an acceptable combination.

If you choose to specialise in Media Studies, or a related course, the range of career prospects available is very broad. The media and its creative industries are ever expanding, diverse and thriving. A degree in a media related area could lead directly to work in the media such as research, broadcast production, animation, journalism, web or graphic design, marketing, advertising, public relations etc.. This is by no means an exhaustive list.