



Key Stage: 5

Subject: Media Studies

Aims of the subject: The aim of the Media Studies course is to enable students to become critical users and creators of media. It gives them a conceptual framework (group of theories) that can be used to analyse how meanings are created. Alongside this, students will also study how audiences respond to media texts – to explore how they are influenced by the media. This includes considering how the media encourages audiences to see themselves, and the world around them. It gives students the foundations on which to be able to create media products that are informed by a deeper understanding of how they are used by institutions and audiences. On the practical side, they will also develop the technical skills to be able to produce media texts that could be used within a range of areas in the media.

A-Level Examination Board: Year 13 AQA (final examination 2018) Year 12 – OCR (first examination 2019)

Assessment Overview:

Course	What will I study?	Assessment
Year 12 (new A Level course)	<p>Term 1: Basic introduction to key concepts; Paper 1: News – analysis of unseen texts with a focus on how different institutions construct representations</p> <p>Term 2: Paper 2 - Section A: Media Industries and Audiences - Changing Media Platforms – study of film, video games and radio over time; Evolving media forms: study of music videos from different genres</p> <p>Term 3: Long form TV drama: study of audience engagement in drama series; NEA: Practical production</p>	<p>Practise question on news and a mini-practical production task.</p> <p>Mini-mock on elements of the papers.</p> <p>Mini-mock on Long form TV and practical productions</p>
A2 (Legacy specification – final year)	<p>Term 1: Theories for A2 to be applied to essays and completion of Critical Investigation essay and practical coursework</p> <p>Term 2: Section A: Textual analysis, Issues and Debates, Wider Contexts and Section B: Impact of New and Digital Media Case Study</p>	<p>Critical Investigation and Linked Production coursework unit</p> <p>Section A and Section B of the exam – practice responses for each unit.</p>

	Term 3: Section A: Continue further preparation for Issues and Debates and Wider Contexts and Section B: Identities Case Study	Section A and Section B of the exam – practice responses for each unit.
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Enrichment opportunities: Students are encouraged to set up enrichment groups themselves. If there is enough demand, they can also be done with the support of a teacher. These could include photography, film production, desktop publishing, animation and web design.

Suggestions for wider reading: There are a wide range of resources available in the main Media Studies classroom (S2), the JCL and on Firefly. These include textbooks, academic books and Media Magazine. This is an excellent resource that students can also access online – it is produced by examiners, course designers, teachers and even has some students make contributions. On the first page of the Media Studies pages on Firefly, there is also a wide range of TV programmes and websites that are useful to enhance learning.