



Media Studies A Level

Why study this subject?

The media is an integral part of modern life. It could be argued that nearly everything we learn about the world comes to us through the media, which makes the voice of the media producer incredibly powerful. Whether you watch television, are an avid film-buff, hard-core gamer or smartphone user, you are interacting with media products. All these products have been specifically constructed to convey meaning and values, but few people are conscious of what these values are, or how they are being affected by the products they consume. Choosing Media Studies provides you with the opportunity to objectively analyse existing media texts. You will also develop industry specific skills in the creation of your own media texts.

Entry Requirements

Please see the entry requirements page on the school website.

Content

You will learn how to analyse and deconstruct different forms of media using a range of contemporary theory and academic perspective. You will learn how to use audio-visual equipment and how to construct a media product. Media Studies allows you to develop your written skills as well as your practical skills.

The AQA specification for Media Studies covers four theoretical perspectives over two years.

During Year 12 you will cover:

- Media Language
- Media Industries
- Media Audiences
- Media Representation

You will be applying all of this work to a set of CSPs (Close Study Products) throughout the year.

During Year 13 you will cover:

- A range of larger close study products to enhance learning
- Practical production work: Print and Broadcast

Assessment

70% Examination – externally assessed (two papers)

30% Practical Coursework – internally assessed and externally moderated

Future courses and possible careers

Media Studies A-Level is a stepping stone into higher education. You could choose to take any Media related degree, including Media Production, Film Studies or Broadcast Journalism. Media students develop excellent communication and practical skills which make them suitable for a wide range of employment opportunities, including PR and marketing work, media production roles and other roles within the creative industries. Media Studies complements subjects such as Sociology, English Language, English Literature and Photography.