

Media Studies – Advanced Subsidiary GCE and Advanced GCE

Course Synopsis

Media Studies has enjoyed a massive rise in popularity in the UK and it continues to be a broad-ranging and fast-moving field: increased globalization and the convergence of technologies mean that it has become ever more important to be able to assess and evaluate the myriad of media messages that we receive every day.

As a Media student you will be expected to take an active interest in both the production and reception of media texts across a range of media including television, film and internet channels. Emphasis is put on students developing a degree of critical autonomy, meaning simply an ability to analyse and apply academic theory independently to both new and existing texts.

The practical component of the course offers students the creative freedom to produce their own media artifact. This is a valuable part of the course and is always greatly enjoyed; modern digital technologies afford students the opportunity to skillfully author credible products.

Syllabus Summary	
Year 12 – AS Level (AQA)	Year 13 – A2 Level (AQA)
<p>Unit 1: Reading the Media 1 ¼ hour exam: 30% AS Establishes the framework for academic analysis (key concept) of media texts and seeks to develop the essential skills of deconstruction</p>	<p>Unit 4: Texts and contexts 1 ½ hour exam: 30% A2 The areas of Representation and Genre in texts is studied in more depth with the wider contexts of both production and reception addressed</p>
<p>Unit 2: Textual topics in contemporary media 1 ½ hour exam: 30% AS Study of: Film and Broadcast Fiction; Documentary is undertaken via close study of specific texts</p>	<p>Unit 5: Independent study Coursework: 40% A2 An extended study (3000 words) of a media issue as identified and researched by the students</p>
<p>Unit 3: Practical production Coursework: 40% AS A kinesthetic learning opportunity to put into practice the theory learnt in MED1 & MED2</p>	<p>Unit 6: Critical comparison 1 ½ hour exam: 30% A2 This unit is similar to Unit 1 but it seeks to further test students by providing two unseen texts for analysis and requires students to consider the text in context</p>
<p>Entry Requirements: A 'B' grade in English is necessary to cope effectively with the written components of the course.</p>	