

Media Studies AS/A2

EXAMINATION BOARD OCR

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Grade C at GCSE in English Language and Literature.

OVERVIEW

This course enables candidates to develop a critical awareness and understanding of the media and its role in building and shaping society and its attitudes through the exploration of the products of media production processes (media texts), the instructions which produce them and the audiences which respond to them.

A distinctive feature of the course is the practical production element at both AS and Advanced GCE. This enables candidates to put theory into practice by creating their own media products, this affording opportunity for engagement in creative, imaginative and aesthetic activity.

Assessment is by means of three units of assessment for AS and further three units of assessment for Advanced GCE.

The course leads to qualifications that are recognised by the industry thus opening up opportunities for future employment in the media sector. In addition, they provide an excellent foundation for further study in media related courses in higher education.

Media Studies as a subject is highly compatible with many subjects in the post 16 curriculum because of the training it provides in independent and critical thinking and analysis. Specifically, there are opportunities for links with Art and Humanities subjects.

AS Level (Year 12)

2730 Foundation Production Coursework

Candidates make one media product using their own photographic images. This is accompanied by a commentary of 1500 – 2000 words.

2731 Textual Analysis/ Comparative Textual Study

A one-hour examination tests student's knowledge of moving image language and conventions in Action/Adventure films. A one and half hour examination tests students' study of the representation of gender in Television Situation Comedy.

2732 Case Study: Audience & Institution

The area of study is **New Media Technologies, which** is part of the course that looks at how we use the mass media in our modern world. A one-hour examination tests students for this unit.

2733 Advanced Production Coursework.

A substantial piece of video production work is expected at this level. The commentary is 2000 –3000 words.

2734 Individual Critical Research Study

An individual in depth research study into a set topic. Annotated notes may be taken into the examination, which is two hours long.

2735 Media Issues and Debates

A two-hour examination on Media Controversies. There will be 3 questions on subjects ranging from Broadcast News, to Magazines and Gender and British Films of 1990's