

WJEC Advanced Level AS/A2 Media Studies



Entry Requirements

Students should have achieved a minimum of 5 GCSEs and it is suggested students should have at least grade C in English Language. (Please note that subjects can only be counted once); national data shows that this course is not suitable for students with an average GCSE points score of less than 34.0. As this is a new subject for most students they will need to be prepared to read widely to add to their knowledge and understanding.

Course Description

On average young people watch more than ten hours of TV per week, and in addition, listen to the radio and music, look at newspapers or magazines or comics and watch films on video and at the cinema. Clearly these mass media now play a very important role in our everyday lives.

There are four units of study for A level

AS Level

MS1 Media Representations and responses

MS2 Media Production Processes

A2 Level

MS3 Media Investigation and Production

MS4 Text, Industry and Audience

Learning Style

Students will develop an understanding of the four units through lectures, seminars, group work, research, practical activities and simulations. The course is divided into four units and will be available at both AS and full 'A' level: Students will be taught important skills in the analysis and production of different media forms and be required to produce samples of their own media productions.

Assessment

'AS' Level: Students will be required to produce a paired set of practical coursework either in video, print, audio or ICT which is worth 40% of the AS. They also have to sit an examination, which is worth the other 60%. This exam tests the student's ability to analyse a set media text and, their knowledge and understanding of representation and audiences.

WARNING - After doing this course you will never look at TV, listen to the radio or read a newspaper or magazine in the same way again!

'A2' Level: Students will be required to produce an advanced element of practical coursework. There is also an examination, which concentrates on contemporary media issues and debates, along with a written evaluation of their practical work.

Career Opportunities and Pathways

The Media industry has undergone rapid growth over the last few years in line with all other leisure industries. Many media based careers will require further training or qualifications beyond 'A' level, and this course gives you the opportunity to develop both knowledge and skills in this field. There has been a remarkable increase in the number of range of Media related courses available and it is now possible to train for or study in many different areas of the Media.

Subject staff contacts for further information

Mr G Andrew at Kingsmead