

# Media Studies

## AS/A Level

### OCR

#### Structure

**Year 1:** H140-Two units Media AS

**Year 2:** H540- Two units Media A2

#### What does the course include?

##### Year One- AS

##### **G321 Foundation Portfolio in Media**

This is a coursework unit where candidates produce two paired media artefacts from a series of briefs. This process involves progression from a pre-production, preliminary exercise to a more fully realised piece. The briefs offered are: print, video, audio and website. This unit is internally assessed and externally moderated.

##### **G323 Key Media Concepts**

This paper covers the two areas of Textual Analysis and Representation alongside Institutions and Audiences. In Section A, candidates answer questions on an unseen moving image extract that is then linked to some aspect of the representation within the sequence. In Section B, candidates study a specific media industry from a choice of: film, music, newspapers, radio, magazines or video games. This unit is externally examined.

##### Year Two- A2

##### **G 324 Advanced Portfolio in Media**

This is a coursework unit where candidates engage with contemporary media technologies to produce a media portfolio through a combination of two or more media and then present their research, planning and evaluation in two or more forms. This is a development of the skills from Unit One and is also internally assessed and externally moderated.

##### **G325 Critical Perspectives in Media**

This paper covers the two areas of Theoretical Evaluation of Production alongside a study of Contemporary Media Issues. In Section A, candidates describe and evaluate their skills development in their production work and then select one production to evaluate in relation to a media concept. In Section B, candidates choose one topic and then demonstrate their understanding of a contemporary issue through a range of texts, institutions, audiences and debates. This unit is externally examined.

#### How will I learn?

The course will be divided between two teachers, and you may be covering two units at the same time. The course has been designed to make links across the units, in order to give you a thorough understanding of the inter-relationship of different areas and aspects of the media. Much of the classwork is discussion based and you are expected to be able to give presentations, make notes and write essays.

#### How will my work be assessed?

All units are equally weighted.

**AS:** Unit 1 is assessed by examination and Unit 2 is the coursework practical production unit. **A2:** Unit 3 is assessed by examination and Unit 4 is assessed as coursework.

#### What skills will I need to be successful in this subject?

This course suits people with enquiring minds who are prepared to discuss their own ideas and those of others. It is *not* a practical vocational course. You need to undertake wider reading to supplement what you learn in class, as well as being prepared to spend extra time on practical work. The more you are involved and interested in the world and, in particular, the media around you, the more you will get out of the course.

#### What are the entry requirements?

Five GCSEs including a **grade C in English**. (An A - C in GCSE Media is not the equivalent to A - C in GCSE English)

#### What are the opportunities after this course for further/higher education and employment?

The skills acquired in Media Studies are highly transferable to many areas of employment as well as a range of courses and degrees in higher education. An A Level or degree in Media Studies however will not guarantee you entry into the industry- though it may help!