

A Level

Media

WJEC - Eduqas



If you choose not to continue this subject onto year two, you are able to sit an AS exam at the end of year one.

What will I be studying?

The media is a dynamic and vital part of contemporary culture. This course provides you with the opportunity to explore a wide range of media forms, from television programmes, music videos and magazines to video games, vlogs and social media. Through the course, you will develop an understanding of key critical debates in the subject. You will explore the role that the media plays in shaping our understanding of events, issues and groups, as well as looking at the cultural and institutional contexts in which media production and consumption take place.

Year 1

In Year 1, you will be introduced to some of the main critical approaches in the subject, developing an understanding of how media texts convey their messages and meanings, as well as considering debates regarding media representations and audience response.

Year 2

In Year 2, you will study a broader range of texts, including examples produced outside the commercial mainstream, as well as looking at more advanced critical theories

What sort of work will I be doing?

- Analysing a wide range of media products in relation to their key cultural and industrial contexts, using relevant critical theories.
- Close study of key media industries such as Television, Magazines and On-line Media.
- Creating media products according to a set brief (hands-on experience).
- Exploring and debating media texts e.g. documentaries, video games and blogs with reference to audience responses, representation and genre.



Methods of Teaching

These are varied and include group work, including practical exercises; whole class and group discussions; individual and group research; individual and group presentations; lectures; student directed learning; workshop and activity sessions.

How will I be assessed?

Through a combination of two written examinations (70%) and coursework (30%). For the coursework, you will create your own cross-media production e.g. music video or film trailer.



Media

Financial Implications

Students will have an initial cost of £10 for the provision of Media Studies Resource Packs.

Students may have occasional costs for mini DVDs and trips.

The College has a Student Support Fund for those students who have difficulty meeting these costs.



Where will it take me?

Career possibilities include journalism, practical production (directing, filming, editing), marketing, PR, programming, research and advertising, among many other roles within a wide range of media industries. Media Studies courses provide students with experience in a number of these fields and offer guidance on how to access these industries.

Many of our students go on to study Media, Cultural, Film, Communication or English related courses at competitive universities. An understanding of Media practices and industries and a strong portfolio of work produced on this course will enable students to progress to the next level with practical experience, self-confidence, academic collateral and a critical awareness of the media-saturated world. Although this is a course which offers a number of creative opportunities, Media Studies is largely about developing the students ability to think critically, to analyse and to synthesise academic theory and research, formulating their own arguments and ideas. An enquiring subject for an enquiring mind.

Minimum Entry Requirements

5 GCSE's at grade A* - C, including Maths and English.

Apply online: www.psc.ac.uk/apply t: 01962 857555 e: admissions@psc.ac.uk

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