

Level 3 Courses

Media Studies - A Level**What will I learn?**

At AS Level, candidates will investigate the media in order to reach an understanding and basic evaluation of how meanings and responses are created. The contemporary media landscape and its changing contexts will be studied in terms of products, platforms and technologies. The AS course has two units:

In Unit 1 Investigating the topics covered include:

- Media texts, concepts and contexts which include looking at areas such as Gender and Media, Postmodernism, Power and Control of Media, Race and Stereotypes.
- Media Text types such as Print, Digital, Film, Photography, Music and Advertising.

In Unit two candidates will create two linked media productions taken from two of the three media platforms studied in Unit 1 with an evaluation and pre-production folder for both pieces.

Topics covered include:

- Technical and creative skills
- Knowledge of relevant codes and conventions
- Relevance of platforms and target audiences
- Production in broadcast, e-media and conventional print media.

How will I be assessed?

There is a two hour written paper which is worth 50% of the AS grade and 25 % of the A LEVEL grade. The question paper consists of five questions: one question on each theme. Each question consists of two parts worth 15 and 30 marks. Candidates must answer two questions. The coursework element is worth 50% of the AS grade and 25% of the A LEVEL.

What can the qualification lead to?

You could take this course to complement other A Level courses such as English or Sociology and to prepare for the A Level GCE in Media Studies. This could lead onto higher education to study Media related courses within the Arts and Humanities, or more general higher education courses. With further training, you could go into a job related to media such as a Journalist, News Reporter, TV Producer, and Public Relations Officer. You could also go straight into a job as the AS GCE is a recognised qualification that will help you develop the skills, understanding and knowledge that many employers across lots of industries are looking for, especially in the media and communication sectors.

Highlights from last year

Strong overall exam performance with 100% A-B at A2*

Students from Media being shortlisted for a full scholarship to study at the SAE Institute on a Film Production degree course.

Participation in an Oxfordshire Schools Film Festival

Selection of students to take part in the BFI Film Academy workshops

Entry requirements

A minimum of six A*-C passes at GCSE.