



## A Level Media Studies



A Level Media Studies is designed to enhance your enjoyment, understanding and appreciation of the media and its role in your daily life. The course introduces you both to media ideas and the practice of production. A Level Media Studies is composed of AS in year one and A2 in year 2.

### AS

In the first year you'll study two key aspects of the media. In the unit on 'Investigating Media' (Unit 1), you'll learn the fundamentals of media forms and platforms and the concepts, as well as the role of marketing and promotion of these products. Unit 2, 'Creating Media', takes you through the production process, from researching the codes and conventions of professional media products to producing products of your own.

**Unit 1 – MEST1 - Investigating Media**  
Section A – four compulsory short answer questions  
Section B – choice of one from two essays  
50% of AS, 25% of A Level



**Unit 2 – MEST2 - Creating Media**  
A practical unit, internally assessed and moderated by AQA  
Externally set production briefs.  
Two linked production pieces taken from two of the three media platforms studied in Unit 1  
1500 word evaluation  
50% of AS, 25% of A Level



### A2

In the second year you'll look at different ways of explaining and understanding the media and how it works in 'Critical Perspectives' (Unit 3). You'll also undertake a case study on some of these issues and look at how they can be understood. In 'Research and Production' (Unit 4) you'll carry out an individual piece of work that will give you the chance to really understand the relationship between research and practical production.

**Unit 3 – MEST3 - Media: Critical Perspectives 2**  
hour written examination  
Section A – three compulsory questions on unseen stimulus pieces  
Section B – one essay from a choice of two topics  
25% of A Level



**Unit 4 – MEST4 - Media: Research and Production**  
Practical unit, internally assessed and externally moderated  
Two sections: Critical Investigation & Linked production piece 25% of A Level



## Course Requirements

Progression to A Level Media Studies will require at least 5 GCSEs, or equivalent, at grade C or above and you will need to have at least a Grade C in GCSE English Language.