



AS/A2 MEDIA STUDIES

Head of Department – Ms N. Moore



The Media Department is now housed in spacious facilities in the 'The Manor' together with the Art Department, creating an enviable working environment.

Film making and creative uses of media play an important part in the course and resources include purpose designed digital editing and recording facilities with AppleMac computers.

EXAMINATION BOARD OCR

AS GCE H140

Advanced GCE H540

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Enthusiasm and interest are the main requirements.

Together with the determination and initiative to complete major production assignments and research, you should have at least GCSE grade B in English and English Literature or grade B in Media Studies if you have taken it. **Very able students will find that the course offers strong academic challenges.** Many students join the course who have never studied media before - and go on to do very well.

COURSE CONTENT AND ASSESSMENT

Year 12 AS

Unit One

Video Production:

1. A preliminary technical "training exercise" emphasising key filming skills.
2. The construction of the opening of a new fiction film (thriller genre) of 2 minutes maximum to include the titles.
3. The research, planning and evaluation of this production work are also assessed through individual contributions to group blogs.

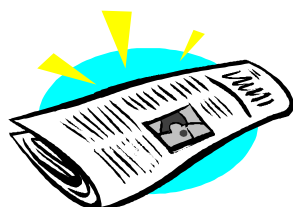
This unit counts for 50% of the AS marks

Unit Two

Two hour exam in 2 parts:

Part 1: A study of British TV drama, (can include US from 2013) assessed by examination with an "unseen" extract.

Part 2: A study of British based magazines, on-line editions and other forms of new media distribution.



Year 13 Advanced - Unit One

- The main production brief will be an extract / package from a local TV news programme (approx. 5 mins), together with support materials using other media. (e.g. the design of 2 linked web pages)

Unit Two - A two hour examination

1. Students must describe and evaluate their skills development in production work over the WHOLE course. They are also asked to assess one of their productions in detail.
2. One question on Media in the online age or 'WeMedia' following detailed theoretical case studies from class discussion and independent research.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GCSE & A LEVEL

While GCSE pupils will have studied elements of film and know something about film analysis, other areas of study for the A Level course are quite distinct from the GCSE course. As the course progresses it is hoped that the depth of work will give students a sense of expertise in the topic areas. We know, as a result of feedback from former students studying Media at University, that at the end of the A Level course the students are very well prepared for a Higher Education programme in Film / Media / Journalism.

WHAT SUBJECTS COMBINE WELL WITH MEDIA STUDIES?

There is no hard and fast rule here. We know, for example, that a University such as Bournemouth would *ideally* like students who have previously studied Media, Physics/Maths and Business Studies! [The Science/Maths element suggests that such students can cope with the complexities of new technologies and computer-related knowledge]. However, many other combinations are possible, so somebody seeking a career in journalism might well be studying English, Media and Politics - or Sports Studies. In previous years our most successful candidates (including Oxbridge entrants) have studied a wide combination of subjects. In Year 12, this might provide an excellent 4th subject, even though career interests are in other areas.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The course is a stepping stone to further training on increasingly specialist media and journalism courses. Many of our former students now work in what is a fast changing and developing industry.