

“How it is we have so much information, but know so little?”  
— Noam Chomsky

## **Media Studies A Level Transition Pack**

### **Welcome to Media Studies**

Media Studies is a fast-paced and everchanging subject which encompasses pretty much every interaction that you have with the world around you. This transition guide will help you to prepare for the challenge of a new A' Level as well as providing you with an insight into new concepts and ideas.

### **Course Overview**

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes

35% of qualification

The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of two sections:

Section A: Analysing Media Language and Representation

Section B: Understanding Media Industries and Audiences

Component 2: Media Forms and Products in Depth

Written examination: 2 hours 30 minutes

35% of qualification

The examination assesses media language, representation, media industries, audiences and media contexts. It consists of three sections:

Section A – Television in the Global Age

Section B – Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media

Section C – Media in the Online Age

Component 3: Cross-Media Production

Non exam assessment

30% of qualification

## Suggested Activities

As a Media Student you will need to develop and maintain an interest in all things Media throughout the course. This interest can range from the obvious – such as watching new movies and television shows through to the more thought provoking, such as, keeping up with the latest theorists on the 'MediaMagazine' website.

- Visit the website below and read about your favourite media texts or have a read of the MediaMagazine itself.  
<https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/media-magazine/mmag-login/>  
Login: Ladyl  
Password: vanzoonen1
- Make certain you read a range of newspapers and magazines. Don't just stick to one genre, read both tabloids and broadsheets – you'll be surprised by the way news is reported differently.
- You could produce a short film about a subject of your choice.
- Listen to 'The Media Show' on Radio 4 – it's a show that deals with Media issues as they happen and offers an overview of how Media institutions work.
- The Guardian's Media coverage is wide-ranging and covers many of the issues that you will be exploring during the course, have a read at <http://www.theguardian.com/uk/media>.
- Media Contexts – visit the links below and explore how representations have changed over time.  
Pre 1950s - [https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18\\_3-27/pdf/2-pre-1950s.pdf](https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18_3-27/pdf/2-pre-1950s.pdf)  
1950s-1960s - [https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18\\_3-27/pdf/3-1950-60s.pdf](https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18_3-27/pdf/3-1950-60s.pdf)  
1970-1980s - [https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18\\_3-27/pdf/4-1970-80s.pdf](https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18_3-27/pdf/4-1970-80s.pdf)  
1990-200s - [https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18\\_3-27/pdf/5-1990-2000s.pdf](https://resource.download.wjec.co.uk/vtc/2017-18/17-18_3-27/pdf/5-1990-2000s.pdf)

- A visit to the National Media Museum in Bradford will provide you with a glimpse behind the scenes of how a television programme is filmed and there are always a variety of exhibitions to have a tour around.
- Take a series of photographs of locations that might be suitable for the following film genres: Horror, Rom-Com, Science Fiction and Action.
- Watch two or three of the silver screen classics on the BBC iPlayer - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p07y2frq?page=1> - I recommend 'Citizen Kane'.
- Fill the table in below with as much detail as you can, always provide evidence to support your ideas.

<b>Film Genre</b>	<b>Film Title</b>	<b>Audience: Who do you think the film is aimed at?</b>	<b>Genre Conventions: How similar is this to other films that you've seen?</b>	<b>Representations: How are men and women shown?</b>
<b>Science-fiction</b>				
<b>Action</b>				
<b>Romantic comedy</b>				
<b>Horror</b>				

<b>Animation</b>				

“All over the place, from the popular culture to the propaganda system,  
 there is constant pressure to make people feel that they are helpless,  
 that the only role they can have is to ratify decisions and to consume.”  
 — Noam Chomsky