

Media Studies

Exam Offered: OCR AS/A2 Media studies (H140/H540)

Teachers for 6th Form

(brief bio/specialist areas of interest/e-mail addresses)

Linda Compton: Head of Film and Media Studies.

Specialist Areas of Interest: European Cinema, Surrealism, Issues of Ideology and Representation.

David Sears: Film and Media Studies Teacher.

Specialist areas of interest:

Matt Compton : Film and Media Studies Teacher.

Specialist Areas of Interest: Independent Film Making, Music Production.

Hannah Molloy: Senior Technician.

Specialist Areas of Interest

Department Learning and Teaching Policy and Practice

“Media literacy allows us to engage in cultural practices through which we make sense of and take control of our world and ourselves.”

(Burn and Durran, 2007)

Media Studies is a ‘living’ and ever-changing subject and keeping up to date is crucial. Reflecting on your own media use, both as a consumer and as a producer of texts like You Tube videos and MySpace is a very important aspect of the course. To be successful you also need to develop your practical skills and be able to make links between theory and professional practice.

Master Learner

In the table below you will find descriptions of attitudes, skills and qualities you will need in order to be a successful Media student. The **Master Learner Learning Journey** consists of the following stages : Novice, Apprentice, Practitioner, Expert, and Master. It is possible that you will start your journey at Novice or Apprentice level, but you will be expected to be working at Expert or Master level as soon as possible. To achieve this you will need to take active responsibility for assessing your strengths and weaknesses as a learner and identifying what you need to do to improve. The sooner you work at the higher levels the better your time on the course and, therefore, your grades will be. There will be a formal Master Learner Assessment and Review at least twice a year.

Master Learner Descriptors:					
(Novice)	<p>You find it very difficult to motivate yourself. You usually rely on others to push you in the right direction but do not always respond. You do not find studying rewarding and are not really interested in the areas of study.</p> <p>You find it difficult to be creative and rely on others for ideas.</p> <p>You do not know how to research effectively and find it difficult to work independently.</p> <p>You have never really developed your ability to analyse texts and your knowledge of the topics and theories studied is hazy and lacking detail. You may also need to develop your technical skills.</p>				
(Apprentice)	<p>You know that you are not always well motivated and you need to work on this area. With encouragement you can achieve some success.</p> <p>You are often unenthusiastic about your learning but you are aware that this is an area you need to improve. When you find an area which interests you can become enthusiastic but you should try and always do your best.</p> <p>You do not see yourself as a very creative person. You often rely on others for ideas and prefer to put your energies into other areas rather than your studies. You need to be prepared to have a go and try to contribute ideas.</p> <p>You find independent research very difficult. You often do not know how to start and are more comfortable when given clear guidelines. When you understand how to tackle the task you can be successful. Make sure you ask for help when needed and set time aside for your work.</p> <p>Your knowledge and understanding of the areas of study is rudimentary. With support you are capable of improving your skills and know you need to try harder. Make sure you learn topics as you go along, read your notes before lessons and make an active effort to involve yourself more actively in your studies.</p>				
(Practitioner)	<p>Most of the time you work and see yourself as a well motivated person. You are keen to do well and are prepared to work to achieve good results.</p> <p>You enjoy learning and think studying is worthwhile. You work well with others and are willing to contribute ideas.</p> <p>You are a creative and intelligent person who enjoys the opportunity to create Media artefacts. You contribute original ideas and collaborate effectively with others.</p> <p>You have developed confidence working independently and have good research skills. You sometimes need encouragement to get going but are beginning to find independent work satisfying and enjoyable.</p> <p>You have a good understanding of the topics studied during the course. You are developing your skills of analysis and can frequently show insight. Your technical skills are good and you</p>				

	enjoy creating your own Media artefacts.
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- **Assessment Policy and Practice:** You will be assessed throughout the course in a variety of ways such as *Self, Peer and Teacher Assessment*. You will be assessed on a day-to-day basis, periodically and transitionally. Practical coursework assignments will involve you in working in groups but it is important to remember you will be assessed individually based on your contribution to every stage of the project.

Day-to-Day:

Class Discussion: you will be expected to contribute to class discussion in most lessons. This is an important part of your learning which will give you an opportunity to express and clarify your own ideas and respond to the ideas of others. You will assess your work and that of others and you will mark your work and that of others using the exam criteria. Your teacher will comment on your work regularly and you will receive comments on your written work

Periodic:

You will receive detailed comments for coursework both written and practical. You will also self and peer assess this work. You will receive a progress report, a mock report and 2 master learner current performance reports per year.

Transitional:

You will sit one exam in year 12 in January - *Key Media Concepts* and one in year 13 in the Summer – *Critical Perspectives in Media*. You will also submit a Foundation Portfolio at the end of your AS course and an Advanced Portfolio at the end of your A2 course.

Course Outline:

- **Year 12**

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to the course • Textual Analysis • Representation • Study of different genres of TV Drama • Study of the effect digital technology has had on the Media. • The changes in the relationship between producers and audiences in Media industries. • Study of the Music Industry and case studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of conventions of film opening sequences • Study of conventions of different genres • Study of cinematography, editing and sound techniques. • Production of Foundation Portfolio. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete work on coursework portfolio • Review and improve Blog
<p>Suggested reading/resources</p> <p>OCR Media Studies for AS – course text book. Media Guardian www.ocr.org. Long row sixth form college website – www.longroadmedia.com</p>	<p>As Autumn term</p> <p>A Level Film Studies – Text Book</p>	
<p>Key pieces of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays - Textual Analysis of representations of different social groups in a range 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blogs detailing Research, Planning, Production and Evaluation stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation Portfolio

of genres of Television Drama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Study of Independent record label • Exam practice 	of practical coursework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVD - Production of opening sequence of film 	
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- **Year 13**

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research and Planning for practical coursework - Music video production - Theoretical Evaluation of Production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exam preparation. Study of key concept areas: Genre, Narrative, Representation, Media Language - Study of exam topic <i>Media and Collective Identity</i> 	Exam Revision
Suggested reading/resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding Popular Music – Roy Shuker (Routledge 2001) - OCR Media Studies for A2 – Text Book - Media Guardian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OCR Media Studies for A2 – Text Book - Advanced Level Media - Bell, Joyce, Rivers (Hodder and Stoughton) several copies available in Media Library 	
Major pieces of work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advanced Portfolio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essays – Key concept areas - Case Studies based on Media representations of selected social group across two media - Exam practice - Mock Exam 	- Exam practice questions

Wider Learning Opportunities

(Include Extra-Curricular, Extended School, Work Related Learning and Work Experience Opportunities, Gifted and Talented, Study Support, Special Needs, Visiting Lecturers, University Relations)

We offer opportunities for students to participate in the Silver Arts Award in year 12. Students are encouraged to participate in a range of online Media courses offered by the Open University for Gifted and Talented Students. Students are also invited to take part in an extra-curricular film production project with the aim of entering a short film in local and national film competitions productions..

Students will be expected to commit to work on their productions after school and at weekends, at times this means making sacrifices in your social lives and perhaps other commitments like part time jobs.

We offer a tutorial system to support students in their independent research and improving their technical skills.

Wider Reading and Study:

Books

There are a wide range of useful books available to borrow in the Media Studies Library

Drama and Theatre Arts RA Banks Hodder & Stoughton 0340371625

Drama and Theatre Studies at AS/A Level Jonathan Neelands and Warwick Dobson 0340758600

The Theatre, A Concise History Phyllis Hartnoll Thames and Hudson 0500200734

Actions, The Actor's Thesaurus Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloyd-Williams Nick Hern Books 1854596748

Certain Fragments Tim Etchells Routledge 01415173833

Stage Design and Properties Michael Holt Phaidon 0714825158

Lighting and Sound Neil Fraser Phaidon 071482514x

Antonin Artaud – Selected Writings Susan Sontag University of California 0520064437

Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty Albert Bermel Taplinger 0800803957

Artaud Anthology Jack Hirschman City Lights Books 0972860000

Antonin Artaud – Blows and Bombs Stephen Barber Faber 0571172520

Avant Garde Theatre 1882-1992 C Innes Routledge 0415065186

The Twentieth Century Performance Reader Huxley and Witts 0415116287
Twentieth Century Actor Training Alison Hodge 0415794520
Theatre Directions Jonothan Neelands and Warwick Dobson Hodder & Stoughton 0340758619
Through the Body, a Practical Guide to Physical Theatre Dymphna Callery Nick Hern Books
1854596306
The Moving Body Jacques Lecoq Methuen 0413771946
Devising Theatre Alison Oddey Routledge 0415049008
Devising, A Handbook for Drama and Theatre Studies Students Gill Lamden Hodder & Stoughton
0340780088
Experimental Theatre, From Stanislavsky To Peter Brook James Roose-Evans Routledge 0415009634
The Director and The Stage Edward Braun Methuen 0413463001
Federico Garcia Lorca David Johnston Absolute Press 1899791612
Lorca, Living in the Theatre Gwynne Edwards Peter Owen 0720611482
Modern Drama in Theory and Practice 1: Realism and Naturalism J L Styan Cambridge 0521296285
Modern Drama in Theory and Practice 2: Symbolism, Surrealism and the Absurd 0521296293
Modern Drama in Theory and Practice 3: Expressionism and Epic Theatre 0521296307

Websites:

There are numerous useful websites and you will be given a handout of these in your first lesson.

Newspapers:

Media Guardian – supplement to Guardian newspaper published every Monday.