



Subject	Media (Key Stage 4 and 5)
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Curriculum vision

Media is organised to enable key stage 4 and 5 learners to explore how media products can be shaped and influenced by the time-period in which they were produced. Throughout the course, learners will encounter a range of media examples from traditional to new media; historical and recent texts; media products from the United Kingdom and America to broaden learners' knowledge and understanding of media. The two-year media key stage 4 curriculum at Avonbourne Academy marries and extends learners' academic and creative endeavours. Passion, ingenuity, and a desire to understand the world that learners inhabit are integral features of exploring media studies from year 10. Learners will discover and investigate a mix of older and more recent examples of media products: new media, music, advertising, gaming, websites, and more traditional media such as publishing including newspaper and magazines. By studying media, learners develop a greater appreciation of the 'manufactured' or 'constructed' nature of media products enabling them to evaluate the motivations, representations and values that may be being expressed within media products. Throughout the two-year curriculum media is guided by a theoretical underpinning.

The range of media case study examples studied throughout the two years actively recognise and explore issues of gender, ethnicity, inequality, and power thus presenting to learners a broad, varied and inclusive version of popular media products: past and present.

The study of media does not exist within a vacuum, so learners are taught the importance of making sense of meaning through the study of contexts including cultural, economic and political that may have shaped the representations or ideas expressed within the case study materials. Through this, learners secure a greater appreciation of wider factors and influences that may have impacted upon the content and messages implicitly or explicitly present.

The practical application of theory, through learners producing coursework, is a vital part of key stage 4 and beyond in media. Through learners exploring issues around representation and power, the creative coursework enables learners to use appropriate industry standard editing packages to demonstrate how much they have developed academically and creatively, and perhaps to become the media-makers of the future. At key stage 5, they will have the opportunity to produce audio, print, video, or web-based products, depending upon their passions and skillset.

The power of the media key stage 4 curriculum is that it equips learners with the tools to be creative media producers, and over time, to become critically autonomous academics, enabling them to be more questioning of the motivations and messages expressed back to audiences through media products. This is a life skill that all learners can use throughout their day-to-day lives, enabling them to become critically informed and engaged citizens.



Curriculum Overview

Term 1

	Autumn 1	Why this? Why now?	Autumn 2	Why this? Why now?
Year 10	Introduction to Media Language Terminology through Advertising. Component 1 Section A: Advertising (historical and modern print)	Advertising is an effective place to start because, it is media product learners are exposed to daily. The adverts are print based to give an introduction to deconstruction work.	Component 1 Section A: Analysis of Magazines. Two case studies	Magazines are popular choices made by learners when creating their own coursework projects, so it is useful to introduce this topic early in the delivery of the course. Also, they often raise issues and debates about representation of identity that can get learners to think about the potential power of media to reflect the world back to readers.
Year 11	Component 2 Section A: TV Fiction – Sitcom Coursework (non-examined assessment) Completion.	Synoptic Paper where learners are required to approach the close analysis two situation comedies through media contexts, media language, representation, audience, and media industries. Final stages of coursework completion.	Component 1 Section B: Radio Component 1 Section B: Gaming Coursework (non-examined assessment) Completion.	These topics introduce learners to the concepts of synergy and cross-media convergence, which is a growing trend for many media products to remain relevant to audiences in a digital age. This exposes learners to several relevant issues in the gaming industry and public service broadcasters such as marketing; revenue streams; multi-platform access. Focus is primarily on industry and audience. Final stage of coursework completion.
Year 12	Introduction to Media Component 1 Section A through the Music video set texts – first of two examples exploring Media Language and Representation.	Music is an effective place to start because it can only feature in Paper 1 Section A. It is a media product many learners are exposed to and engage with daily. It also introduces them to diverse representations that tap into current issues and debates such as Black Lives Matter.	Second music video exploring Representation and Media Language.	Focusing on more complex narrative and more sophisticated use of Media Language. Exploring representation of gender in more depth and close analysis of gender theorists.



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	Component 1 Section A & B: Advertising: - close analysis of three set texts (two print and one moving image)	Advertising will also feature in Paper 1 Section A The adverts explore modern and historical contexts.	Moving images advert and revision of print based adverts and unseen	Introduction of Paper 1 Section B analysing audience and industry. Revision of Section A and unseen practise.
Year 13	Component 2 – Television in a Global Age Coursework completion of cross media production – completion of production task 1.	Exploration of a UK based and International (non-American) television drama. This part of the exam expects learners to be able apply knowledge of media language, representation, audience, and media industries. It also expects learners to know, apply and critically engage with a range of concepts and media theorists. Completion of the first production task from the cross-media production.	Component 1: Newspapers set texts and on-line Component 1 Section B : Radio and online audio content	This case study builds upon learners' analysis skills through media language and representation, but also introduces them more formally to the examined concepts of Media Industries and Audiences. It is supported by other concepts such as news values, power, hegemony, and audience effects. The online analysis part of this topic will need to be refreshed leading up to the exam in order to 'freshen' and 'enliven' the learning and show genuine critical autonomy. This topic introduces learners to ideas around public service broadcasting, the BBC's role in this, and exposing learners to different demographics who are likely to have differing interests and tastes that public service providers like the BBC are obligated to cater for through a variety of content beyond playing music.



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Term 2



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	Spring 1	Why this? Why now?	Spring 2	Why this? Why now?
Year 10	Component 1 Section A: Movie Posters	This case study builds upon learners' analysis skills through the application of media language and representation, but also introduces them more formally to the examined concepts of Media Industries and Audiences.	Component 1 Section B: Movie websites Coursework (non-examined assessment) Introduction to and development of initial ideas in response to the coursework briefs set by the exam board.	Looking at how websites are used to promote films for Paper 1 Section B. The focus is on the same franchise as Spring 1 so the units complement each other. Coursework (NEA) is released in the first week of March where they make choices informed by their creativity, practical skills and confidence.
Year 11	Component 1 Section A & B: Newspapers – Tabloid and Broadsheet	Final Cross Media Study covered. It requires learners to study specific front covers set by the exam board however, in addition to this learners' need to explore each institutions website, so, by leaving this as close to the exam will make the learning as current and memorable as possible for the learner.	Revisiting case studies from Year 10 and Year 11 with focus on exam technique. - Advertising and Marketing case studies - TV sitcoms - Music artists	Set course case studies covered but now a greater focus on applying accumulated knowledge of all key concepts as well as contextual factors. Fine tuning fluency in exam practice.
Year 12	Component 1 Section B: Film Promotion	Analysis of mainstream and independent film industry. Only Focusing on Paper 1 Section B. Exploration of the topic of film but from a movie marketing perspective. The focus is on media industries and audiences. Movie marketing is often a regular part of NEA briefs and has proven a popular option for many learners, so it is wholly appropriate to teach the topic at this stage	Component 2 – Magazine. Investigation into an historical mainstream magazine Component 1 Section B : Gaming	First in-depth study for component 2. Exploration of a mainstream magazine from around the 1960s and a more recent publication aimed at a specialist, often counter-hegemonic readership This case study exposes learners to a number of relevant issues in the gaming industry: marketing; revenue streams: the standard gaming model vs 'freemium' and in-game purchase; multi-platform access. Focus is primarily on industry and audience, and this focus will also assist learners for their NEA, helping them to place their creative solutions within institutional contexts.



				Coursework (NEA) is released in the first week of March.
Year 13	Component 2. Case studies on online media including a social media 'star' and official media producer. Completion of all coursework (deadline for this is in January)	This is the final topic of the A level Media course, and it encourages learners to explore two online media producers. As with all case studies in Component 2 it expects learners to apply knowledge of media language, representation, audience, and media industries. It also expects learners to know, apply and critically engage with a range of concepts and media theorists. All aspects of the coursework (NEA) will need to be submitted including: - Statement of Intentions - Research PowerPoint - All Cross Media productions containing all original imagery and fulfilling the exact requirements of the brief.	Revisiting case studies from Year 12 and Year 13 with focus on enhancing exam technique. - Set course case studies covered but now a greater focus on applying accumulated knowledge of all key concepts as well as contextual factors. Fine tuning fluency in exam practice, and enhancing confidence in utilising and critically evaluating the set theorists.	



Wider reading

	Summer 1	Why this? Why now?	Summer 2	Why this? Why now?
Year 10	NEA (non-examined assessment) Introduction to and development of initial ideas in response to the coursework briefs set by the exam board.	NEA focus at this stage will be on creativity, selection of ideas, and completing of written tasks.	Component 2 Section B: Music Industry – artists and websites	Synoptic Paper where learners are required to approach the close analysis of two music artists through the application of media contexts, media language, representation, audience, and media industries to artists' music videos and websites.
Year 11	Revisiting case studies from Year 10 and Year 11 with focus on exam technique. - Movie posters - Radio - Gaming - Newspapers	Set course case studies covered but now a greater focus on applying accumulated knowledge of all key concepts as well as contextual factors. Fine tuning fluency in exam practice.		
Year 12	Component 2 – Magazine. Investigation into a modern 'niche' targeted magazine.	Detailed analysis of all key concepts in preparation for the 'in depth' paper. Theories are taught in much more detail.	NEA Introduction to and development of initial ideas in response to the coursework briefs set by the exam board.	NEA focus at this stage will be on creativity, selection of ideas, researching real-world examples of cross media products and fine-tuning the required practical skills. Completion of written work, mock ups and all planning and preparation task.
Year 13	Revisiting case studies from Year 12 and 13 with focus on exam technique. - Radio / Podcasting - Gaming - Movie Marketing - Component 2	Set course case studies covered but now a greater focus on applying accumulated knowledge of all key concepts as well as contextual factors. Fine tuning fluency in exam practice and technique.		

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Extracurricular Opportunities (competitions, associations and clubs)

1. Media production club
2. 6th Form media focused projects such as producing promotional content, local brand promotion opportunity,
3. Trips to BU.

Revision Guides

1. [WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Media Studies Student Book Revised Edition: Amazon.co.uk: Sheard, Hayley: 9781913963255: Books](#)
2. [WJEC/Eduqas GCSE Media Studies Revision Guide: Amazon.co.uk: Sheard, Hayley: 9781911208891: Books](#)
3. [Study and Revision Guide \(WJEC GCSE Media Studies\): Amazon.co.uk: Bell, Christine: 9781908682215: Books](#)
4. [WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A level Year 2 & A2: Revision Guide: Amazon.co.uk: Bell, Christine, Johnson, Lucas: 9781912820184: Books](#)
5. [WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A Level Year 2 & A2: Student Book: Amazon.co.uk: Bell, Christine, Johnson, Lucas: 9781911208112: Books](#)
6. [WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A Level Year 1 & AS: Student Book: Amazon.co.uk: Bell, Christine, Johnson, Lucas: 9781911208105: Books](#)
7. [WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A Level AS and Year 1 Revision Guide: Amazon.co.uk: Bell, Christine, Johnson, Lucas: 9781911208877: Books](#)
8. [Media Theory for A Level: The Essential Revision Guide: Amazon.co.uk: Dixon, Mark: 9780367145439: Books](#)

Academic Reading

1. [The Media Teacher's Handbook eBook : Scarratt, Elaine, Davison, Jon: Amazon.co.uk: Kindle Store](#)
2. [\[Teaching Film at GCSE\] \[by: James Baker\]: Amazon.co.uk: James Baker: Books](#)
3. [\[Teaching Analysis of Film Language\] \[by: David Wharton\]: Amazon.co.uk: David Wharton: Books](#)
4. [Media Literacy Around the World \(Information and Behavior Series Book 6\) eBook : Kubey, Robert: Amazon.co.uk: Kindle Store](#)