



A Level Media Studies 2020 -2022



Name

Follow us on Twitter @MediaXavs
for up to date resources, deadline reminders,
information on trips and competitions.

What will I study?

You will learn ...

- the theoretical framework, the main concepts of media studies
- how to critically analyse media products
- to apply and critically evaluate theories
- to debate the contexts the media is produced and consumed in
- technical skills and develop your creativity
- to become a more independent learner that can organise their own work, have your own ideas and opinions and be able to improve your work

You will study ...

MEDIA FORMS AND PRODUCTS

A range of media forms – advertising and marketing, film, magazines, music videos, newspapers, online media, radio, TV and video games.

This will include products set by the exam board and additional products

You will study a range of different media products from different genres, historical periods and global settings, aimed at different audiences that are mainstream and alternative

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK (TF)

The main concepts of media studies, the theoretical framework includes

- media language
- representation
- media industries
- audience
- plus media contexts

THEORIES

A number of set media theories with different theoretical approaches. You will learn to apply them and also critically evaluate them.

CONTEXTS

How contexts shape media products and their consumption, including:

- historical
- social and cultural
- economic
- political

Results 2019

We are very proud of the results we achieved last year. If you work hard you can achieve a high grade too.

A* 5% (National A* 1.6%)

A 12% (National 11.4%)

AB% 57% (National 45%)

A-D 100%

Outstanding coursework commended by exam board who, “deemed the work sampled to be of an exemplary

Excellent ALPs grade 3

A Level Media assessment – exams and coursework

Component 1 Media Products, Industries and Audiences

Written exam - 35%

Assesses media language, representation, industries, audiences, plus contexts

Section A Media Language and Representation

Two of the following - advertising and marketing, music videos, newspapers

- One question assessing media language of an unseen text
- One extended response comparison question assessing representation and contexts in one set product and one unseen product

Section B Understanding Media Industries and Audiences

Two of the following - advertising and marketing, film, newspapers, radio and video games plus contexts

- One stepped question on industries
- One stepped question on audiences.

Component 2 Media Forms and Products in Depth

Written exam - 35%

Assesses media language, representation, industries, audiences, plus contexts

Section A TV in the Global Age

One two part question or one extended response question

Section B Magazines Mainstream and Alternative Media

One two part question or one extended response question

Section C Media in the Online Age

One two part question or one extended response question

Component 3 Cross Media Production

Practical coursework - 30%

An individual cross media production based on a brief set by your exam board, Eduqas, both

- print - magazine pages
- audio visual – music video

You will apply your knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework.

ASSESSMENT

You will complete lots of different types of assessments, so you know how you are progressing and how to improve your work and grades.

ONE: Classroom Assessments



Ongoing Assessments

Your teacher will be assessing your progress every week, this will include your contribution to whole class tasks and discussions, the ideas you contribute to group work and the written work you produce in class.

Topic Assessments

You will also have more formal assessments at the end of each topic, such as short tests and practice exam questions. At the end of each element of the course you will complete a past paper question. After you have completed the assessment you will

receive clear guidance on how to improve. If you do nothing with this, your answer and so your grade will stay the same and you will struggle to improve. To improve your work and grades you need to act on this feedback, for example, rewrite sections, add extra points, revise a topic, learn topic words, revise theories. Always attend support that week if you need some help to improve your answer.

TWO: Independent Tasks



Every week you will be given work to do in your own time in your exercise book. This will help to develop your understanding of the topic you are working on in class. Your teacher will check your book to see that you have completed all the tasks. If you haven't then you will be expected to come to a support session to complete the set work.

Extension Tasks

You'll also find extension tasks that are designed to develop your higher grade understanding, such as watching a relevant video or reading an article. These tasks are optional, but if you really want to do well then you

need to give them a go. When your tutor does the book check they will note how many of these extension tasks you have attempted.

THREE: Coursework drafts



When you are working on your coursework you will be expected to complete drafts of your work before a final version is sent to the exam board. Your coursework is 30% of your final marks and is an excellent opportunity to achieve above your target grade. These drafts are designed to make sure that your final work is the best you can produce. Your teacher will give you detailed feedback on what you have done well and how you can improve your work.

Working Independently

One of the key aspects of studying at A Level is being able to work independently and take responsibility for your own success. You can do this by -

One: Independent tasks

Independent tasks are designed to help you complete your best work in the topic you are working on at that time

To achieve a high grade you should also complete the Extension tasks.

Two: Support Sessions

Media support sessions are available throughout the week, depending on when your teacher is available.

You are welcome to drop in to any of these support sessions if you need some extra help, have missed work or just need somewhere quiet to do your Media work. You must attend these to do extra work to achieve a high grade for your production coursework.

You will be required to attend the support sessions if you do not keep up with the work that you are asked to do.



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Three: Online Resources

Follow us on Twitter @MediaXavs for up to date resources and information on trips, events and competitions. This will mean you can include up to date and original ideas in your work.

Do **your own research**.

Media Magazine – written for A Level Media students. There are copies of the magazine in the college Library or online at www.englishandmedia.co.uk/media-magazine - User name = xavmediamagazine Password = media

Keep up to date with events and issues in the media at www.mediaguardian.co.uk

Don't forget **Media Studies textbooks** to improve your understanding of all the main media concepts, you'll find these in the college library. Your exam board textbook is - WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies For A Level Yr 2 & A2: Student Book

EXTRACURRICULAR MEDIA

Get involved and make the most of your time at Xaverian

TRIPS

Every year we visit New York, London and HOME cinema. These trips cost from £1000 to £4 so there is something for everyone. On the trips you will learn about the media industry, have a great time and make good friends.



CAREERS

Every year we have talks and visits by local media industries to enhance your knowledge of media industries and how to build a career in the media. Local Universities also come to tell us about the courses they run and how to get on to the best ones. We have a fantastic careers day at the BBC in Media City to learn about all the opportunities in BBC TV, radio and online, learning and networking with new and established talent.



AND THE WINNER IS

At the end of Year 2 we have an Awards Evening where the best student work is celebrated with bright lights, a red carpet and (plastic!) Oscars. Could you be the best photographer, magazine designer or video editor in your year?

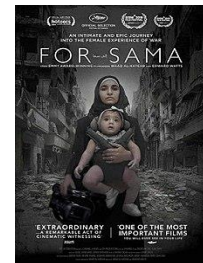


Suggested work in preparation for Year 1

Follow us on @mediaxavs for up to date information on what's going on in the media relevant to your course

Then, choose some of the tasks below .

Take your time to hunt around to find something that, firstly you think looks really good and that is a bit different from what you would normally read/watch/listen to.



- Read an independent magazine
- Listen to a podcast
- Watch one film that won an Oscar
- Watch one TV programme that one a BAFTA
- Download a news app to keep up to date with what's going on in the world – knowledge is power!
- Watch one music video with a message

