



## **A level Media Studies**

### **Who is this course for?**

Media Studies is an excellent choice of subject for people who wish to work in the media industries – Television, Film, Radio, Newspapers, Magazines, Music and Advertising as well as in conjunction with other associated subject areas such as Photography, Graphics, Art and Design. Anyone with an interest in how still and moving images communicate with an audience and wish to explore how meaning is created within the contemporary world in which we live should choose Media Studies.

### **What are the entry criteria?**

Most students aiming to start A level Media Studies will have five GCSE'S at grade C or above including a Grade C in English.

### **The Media Studies department at Wyke Sixth Form College**

The Media Studies department has two dedicated media teaching rooms with permanent access to the Media resource room which is equipped with PC's and laptop computers for the use of Media students. It is also equipped with HD Digital video editing suites for the students use when video editing.

All students receive an AS and A2 textbook along with printed module notes, and a wide range of electronic and hand-out materials.

Creative skills, including magazine design, photography and some Photoshop ability are part of the course but no experience is necessary in these areas as you will be supported by our experienced teachers and skilled technician. As a department we ensure opportunities are available to enhance learning, develop skills and confidence in this area.

The Media Studies staff team is:

- ✿ Tim Anderson (Head of Media)
- ✿ Emma Philipson
- ✿ John Hamlin
- ✿ Ray Hutty (A.V. Technician)

## Course Details

At Wyke we use the OCR A-level specification. This consists of 4 units:

### AS

#### **G321-Foundation Portfolio in Media**

This is a coursework unit and is worth 50% of the AS year. For this unit you will produce the front cover and contents page of a new college magazine as a preliminary task and the main task is to produce the front cover, the contents page and a double page spread for a new music magazine of your own design. You will photograph all the images for this project and all your planning and research is produced electronically on a blog.

#### **G322- Key Media Concepts (TV Drama)**

This is an examined unit and is worth 50% of the AS year. You will study and gain an understanding of textual, representation, institutions and audiences by a study of British TV Drama (Soap Operas, Medical and Police Dramas, Sci-fi Dramas) e.g., EastEnders, Dr. Who, Life on Mars, Cranford, Casualty. For the exam a short drama sequence is shown in the exam room, students take notes and write up their findings in relation to textual analysis and representation. There is also a case study prepared on the impact of digital technology on the Music Industry for the second part of the exam.

### A2

#### **G324- Advanced Portfolio in Media**

This is a coursework unit and is worth 50% of the A2 year. It consists of working with digital video to research, plan and produce a music video or a film trailer or a short film. All the research and planning are presented on a blog.

#### **G325- Critical perspectives in Media**

This is an examined unit and is worth 50% of the A2 year. It consists of the application of media theory towards your Advanced Portfolio and a study of Postmodern Media and Contemporary Media Regulation.

## Departmental Enrichment

The department runs a regular visit to the IMAX screen at the Bradford Media Museum and has, for the past three years, run a six day visit to New York.



## Student success

With excellent pass-rates (100% at A2), the department has helped many students achieve excellent grades above their own expectations and move on to further education.



### **Sarah McKinley**

Former Withernsea High student. Sarah studied A Level Media Studies (grade A) alongside Dance, English Language & Literature and Psychology. She is now studying Design for Digital Media at Hull University, Scarborough Campus.

<http://www.sarahmediaa2.blogspot.com/>



### **Charlotte Frank**

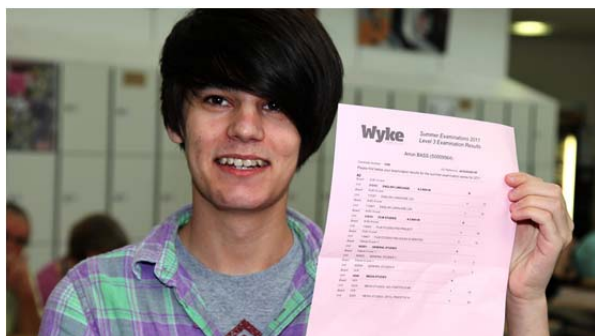
Former Beverley Longcroft student. Charlotte studied A level Media Studies (grade A) with English Language, Textiles, Graphics and Photography. She is now studying Creative Advertising at Leeds College of Art.

<http://charliefrankmediaadvanced.blogspot.com/>



### **Adam Amini**

Former Malet Lambert student. Adam studied A level Media Studies(grade A\*) together with Film Studies, English Language & German. He is now studying Film Production at Middlesex University. <http://adam-amini-mediaa2.blogspot.com/>



### **Arron Bass**

Former student Sydney Smith student. Arron studied A Level Media Studies (grade A) with English Language and Film Studies. He is now studying Journalism Studies at the University of Sheffield. <http://www.aronbassmedia.blogspot.com/>

## **What does this course lead to?**

Having **A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES** can open up a world of opportunities in both university choices and career options. If you are considering applying to university, Media Studies can work on its own or in conjunction with many other subjects - Film, Photography, Art and Design, Graphics, Sociology, Psychology, Advertising, Entertainment Management, History, Travel, Politics and English. Media offers a wide ranging scope for study in our media dominated world.

## **What can I do now that would help prepare me for this course?**

Engage with the Media that is all around you. Watch and examine what you are familiar with, with a critical eye.

For Example: Why, for example, do we have many different newspapers and not just one?

Why do we buy this magazine rather than that magazine?

Why do some people prefer Coronation Street than EastEnders?