



North Halifax Grammar School – A Level Transition Work

A level Media Studies

Specification

OCR Media Studies

<https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/316672-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-media-studies-h409.pdf>

Course Overview

Year 1 Subject Content	Year 2 Subject Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media messages: Advertising, music video, newspapers and magazines• Evolving media: Film Industry• Non exam assessment (coursework) Students will select a brief of their choice and create a product and a website linked to one of the following mediums: TV, music video, Radio or magazine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non exam assessment (coursework) Students will complete the creation of a brief related product and companion website as starter in Year 12.• Evolving media: Radio, Video Games and Long Form TV Drama

Non exam assessment 30%

Exam 70%

Super curricular reading /viewing /listening

Please purchase and read:

My Revision Notes: OCR A Level Media Studies Paperback – 30 Nov 2018 by Michael Rodgers

https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Level-Studies/dp/1510429212/ref=pd_lpo_sbs_14_t_0?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=ZH5COAM30A5291X91BZ6

Please watch or listen to:

BBC Sounds have a couple of great podcasts/radio shows to listen to:

- **The Media Show** is fantastic and explores a wide range of Media industries. Some of these are properly fascinating.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b00dv9hq?authuser=0>

- **Front Row** is an excellent cultural show which mixes up media, film, art, literature and theatre. Well worth a listen but for a keen media focus just dip in and out of these by reading the episode descriptions so see if there is something media focussed in that particular show.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b006qsg5?authuser=0>

You may need an account but its free to sign up and you can app this on your smart phone as well. I listen to BBC sounds in the car on the daily commute.



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Whilst on the subject of the BBC - Please download the news app. Its free and will give you up to date news 24 hours a day. It will also give you access to the front pages of the newspapers every morning which is important for one of your exams.

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/bbc-news/id377382255?authuser=0>

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=bbc.mobile.news.uk&hl=en_GB&gl=US&authuser=0

BBC iPlayer has a couple of series to check out:

- **Inside Cinema** - is lots of little short compilations from across cinema history that focus on specific tropes or genre conventions. Useful for film, TV and Music video topics.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p0bw890v/inside-cinema-shorts-96-famous-last-words?page=2&authuser=0>

On **YouTube** there are a couple of excellent resources:

- **Mrs Fisher Media Revision Channel** is ace. It covers GCSE and A-Level and all exam boards. Her videos explanation of individual academic ideas and arguments are brill. There is even a play list specially around the set texts of the course.

<https://www.youtube.com/@mrsfisher8961?authuser=0>

- **The Media Insider** Channel is a good all rounder to watch and has lots great generic knowledge and understanding videos.

Transition work for Media A level students

Task 1

Select an extract from a TV show or film of your choice (no more than 3 minutes) and write an analysis using the guide below:

1. What is in the frame? (Shot types, costume, character's appearance, props)
2. How do these features create meaning for the audience?
3. Does the show/film follow generic conventions? E.g. science fiction, horror
4. How are characters represented? Positively, negatively, stereotypically, subversively...
5. Why do you think the characters are being represented in this way? Consider the beliefs of the producer/director.
6. Why have you selected this extract?

Task 2

Engage with some of the super curricular material and write a short review recommending (or not) the resources to other Media students. You should choose to review either a podcast, show or YouTube video from the recommendations list above.