Media Studies FAQs

**What is Media Studies?**

Media Studies is a two-year A-Level subject that you would study alongside two other subjects as part of an A-level programme.

**What would I be studying?**

You will study a range of media ‘texts’ covering several areas of media production. These include newspapers and online news including social media, TV drama, film, music video, video games, magazines, radio and advertising. You will study the productions themselves but also the way in which the industry operates and adapts in a changing world. You will also look at academic ideas about the way in which the media evolves and influences audiences.

The current set texts are:

* *The Guardian* and *the Daily Mail*
* *Stranger Things* and *Deutschland 83*
* *The Jungle Book* 1967 and 2016
* Radiohead’s *Burn the Witch* and Massive Attack’s *Unfinished Symphony*
* *Minecraft*
* *The Big Issue*
* The Radio 1 Breakfast Show

**Is there coursework?**

There is a coursework element which is worth 30% of your final grade. You will need to design and make a magazine and website aimed at a specific target audience.

**How long are the exams?**

There are two, 2-hour-long exams at the end of the second year which are worth 70% of your final grade.

**How long are the lessons?**

You will get four hours or teaching each week and you will be expected to complete around four hours of homework.

**How big are the classes?**

The classes are usually around 20-22 students although this can vary from year-to-year.

**What are the entry requirements?**

The standard entry requirements for an A-Level programme at The Henley College.

**What can an A-Level in Media Studies lead to?**

Students may go on to study the subject at degree level and go on to careers in the media. The course also qualifies you for entry to other degree-level subjects in related fields such as arts and humanities. Media Studies provides students with good communication and critical thinking skills and an understanding of marketing and social media.

You can find more information here: <https://www.ucas.com/job-subjects/media-studies>