

A LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES

THINKING OF TAKING MEDIA STUDIES AT A-LEVEL?
HERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO KEEP YOUR BRAIN WORKING OVER THE LOCKDOWN PERIOD.

Reading:

- Visit the A-Level Media Studies website to access a complete reading list. These are academic resources we are likely to use to inform our learning next year.
- Keep up to date and informed by reading newspapers, and news websites as well as reading reviews of television, films, games, etc. Much of our work next year will require a good knowledge of contemporary issues and debates.



Viewing:

Television: at A-Level we study the popular rise of the crime-drama genre. Some helpful viewing:

- Criminal Justice - series 2 (BBC series available on iPlayer)
- Twin (BBC series available on iPlayer)
- La Manta (French series available on Netflix)
- Happy Valley (BBC series available on Netflix)
- Fargo (FX series available on Netflix)
- Unforgotten (ITV series available on Netflix)

Film: we study the differences between mainstream Hollywood cinema and independent British cinema. Some suggestions:

- Wonder Woman (2017, 12 cert)
- Straight Outta Compton (2015, 15 cert)
- Avengers: Endgame (2019, 12 cert)
- Sorry We Missed You (2019, 15 cert)
- Journeyman (2018, 15 cert)
- This Is England (2006, 18 cert)

Independent Tasks:

- Go to langleyparkmediastudies.wordpress.com to find a series of research and writing tasks for you to complete.
- A successful A-Level student is someone who is willing to work independently and complete extended research tasks on a particular topic.
- Some of the concepts and theories in these tasks are Y13 level and will be tough - but look closely at some of the questions and research some of the theories and gain as much of an understanding as possible.

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CREATIVE TASKS

A SECTION OF A-LEVEL MEDIA STUDIES IS A CREATIVE PIECE OF COURSEWORK. THIS WORK CONSISTS OF FILMMAKING AND PHOTOSHOP DESIGN WORK. BELOW ARE SOME TASKS TO COMPLETE TO GET INTO THE PRACTICE OF CREATIVE MEDIA WORK.

Write a screenplay / draw a storyboard:

- You have been commissioned to create a new crime-drama TV programme to feature on BBC One. This programme should target a mainstream audience of 20-39 year olds.
- Write a screenplay or draw a storyboard for the opening 3 minute sequence of your new programme. 4-5 pages for screenplay. 30-40 shots for a storyboard.
- You can access a storyboard template on the Media Studies website. To write a screenplay download a free screenplay template for Word.

Design a poster:

- If you have Photoshop or any other design software try designing film posters. You have been commissioned to create a poster for a new independent British film aimed at 20-39 year olds.
- Watch some of the films suggested in the viewing section to get an idea of the typical themes and styles of independent British cinema. Look at their posters for inspiration.
- Try to use original photography but feel free to use internet images if required. Include title, tagline, actors names, release date, reviews and film festival awards, credit block.

Make a film:

- Make a film called 'Life in Lockdown'.
- Perhaps you have access to a camera and editing software and can create a short film about your daily routine in lockdown.
- If you don't have a camera use your phone. If you don't have editing software, try planning and filming a one take shot.
- BE CREATIVE! A simple youtube search of 'life in lockdown short film' will bring up a huge variety of short films, animations, stop motion films, vlogs, documentaries. Watch some of these for inspiration and come up with something unique, fun and clever.

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE SOME OF THIS WORK SO IF YOU ARE A CURRENT MEDIA STUDENT PLEASE UPLOAD TO YOUR TEAMS AREA. IF YOU ARE NEW TO MEDIA STUDIES OR NEW TO LANGLEY PARK PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SEND YOUR WORK TO JCOSTELLO@LPSB.ORG.UK