



National 4/5 Media

Why study Media?

The media plays a central role in our world. It affects society at all levels, from economics, politics, community, culture and individual.

In this course you will analyse the media and its role in everyday life. You will develop your analytical and critical skills through looking at various examples of texts from newspapers, TV, film, radio or the internet. You will improve your creative and expressive skills when you learn to create your own media content.

The skills you learn in this course are useful in many career areas. This includes writing, the performing arts, journalism and publishing.

What will I study?

This course aims to help you develop critical and creative skills through analysing and creating media content. You will learn to look critically at examples of different media texts such as films, trailers or posters. You will also develop knowledge of the key concepts of media literacy. You will gain the practical skills to create your own media content, perhaps using camerawork or desktop publishing skills. You will learn to appreciate the opportunities and challenges going on in the media industry.

The course comprises **two** areas of study.

Analysing Media Content

You will develop:

- the skills to study media content
- develop knowledge and understanding of the key aspects of media literacy central to the detailed analysis of media content

Creating Media Content

You will develop:

- the skills needed to create media content and evaluate production processes
- knowledge and understanding of the key aspects of media central literacy to creating media content

Course Assessment

The course assessment has **two** components **totalling 120 marks**:

- Component 1: question paper – worth 60 marks

- Component 2: assignment – worth 60 marks.

For the assignment component, you will be asked to generate ideas in response to a design brief, develop and justify media content choices and evaluate the impact of actual or likely constraints on the media content.

Both the assignment component and the question paper will be set and externally marked by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA).

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Entry to the course is at the discretion of the teacher – usually pupils concurrently studying (or who have previously achieved) National 5 English.

What are the possible progression routes?

Progression Routes – Progress to Higher Media.