

Course Specification

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Produced By:	Laura Clode
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	Wolverhampton School of Art		
Course Code(s):	MZ029J01UV MZ029J31UV	Full-time Part-time	3 Years 6 Years
Course Title:	BA (Hons) Media and Sociology		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Media and Sociology Bachelor of Arts Media and Sociology Diploma of Higher Education Media and Sociology Certificate of Higher Education Media and Sociology University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:	12/May/2017		
Last Review:	2016/7		
Course Specification valid from:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid to:	2022/3		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr William Pawlett
Head of Department:	Dr Pauline Anderson

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS)

- 240 UCAS points from at least two 'A' levels or equivalent
- BTEC National Diploma grade MMM
- BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade MMM
- Access to HE Diploma full award (Pass of 60 credits - of which a minimum of 45 credits must be at level 3 including 18 at Merit or Distinction).
- If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact us for further advice before applying.

International student language requirements and application guidance can be found at

<http://www.wlv.ac.uk/international/apply>

Distinctive Features of the Course:

The degree in Media and Sociology is taught by a dedicated staff team from a range of academic and media industry backgrounds. You will therefore encounter diverse perspectives and evaluations of the role of the media in contemporary society.

Educational Aims of the Course:

The degree in Media and Sociology aims to provide you with an understanding of the significant role that media plays in contemporary societies. Students taking the courses will explore a variety of forms of media and their impact upon how we communicate in the global context. Forms of media range from radio, TV and newspapers to multimedia platforms, smart phones, tablets and iPlayers. Students will develop an understanding of the role and responsibility of the media, and the power of communication in a rapidly changing and multicultural society.

Over the course of your studies, you will develop critical understanding of a range of institutional conditions, cultural processes and social relations, within and across societies. In the course of learning selected 'social facts' of society, you will be able to apply those concepts, theories and methods that are unique to these exciting disciplines.

you will develop a range of research and analytical skills that are required not only in the creative and media industries, but also more generally in the public and private sectors. Graduates in Sociology and Media have taken up a wide variety of careers including: working in radio, television, journalism and marketing, as well as various management and communication roles in retail, business and local government. The degree in Sociology and Media provides an excellent foundation for continuing studies at a post-graduate level.

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2020/1	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9250.00
2020/1	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£12250.00
2020/1	H	Part Time	£3050.00
2020/1	Overseas	Part Time	£6125.00

PSRB:

None

Course Structure:

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4MZ009	Key Concepts in Media, Communication and Cultural Studies	20	SEM2	Core
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	20	SEM2	Core
4HU002	Popular Culture	20	SEM2	Core
4MZ001	Media, Culture and Society	20	SEM1	Core
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	20	SEM1	Core
4FI006	Representing the Real: From Documentary Film to Reality TV	20	SEM1	Core

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5MZ014	Analysing Media Texts	20	SEM2	Core
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	20	SEM2	Core
5MZ027	Mediated Lives: Lifestyle and Celebrity Culture	20	SEM2	Core

5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	20	SEM1	Core
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	20	SEM1	Core
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	20	SEM1	Core

January (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	20	SEM2	Core
6MZ019	Media Activism	20	SEM2	Core
6SL0036MZ002	Independent Study - Written Project in Media	20	SEM2	Core

6MZ012	Global Media/Global Culture	20	SEM1	Core
6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	20	SEM1	Core
6SL013	The Global World	20	SEM1	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4MZ001	Media, Culture and Society	20	SEM1	Core
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	20	SEM1	Core
4MZ009	Key Concepts in Media, Communication and Cultural Studies	20	SEM2	Core
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	20	SEM2	Core
4FI006	Representing the Real: From Documentary Film to Reality TV	20	SEM1	Core
4HU002	Popular Culture	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 2

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	20	SEM1	Core
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	20	SEM1	Core
5MZ014	Analysing Media Texts	20	SEM2	Core
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	20	SEM2	Core
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	20	SEM1	Core
5MZ027	Mediated Lives: Lifestyle and Celebrity Culture	20	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 80 credits in each academic calendar year.

Year 3

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	20	SEM1	Core
6SL013	The Global World	20	SEM1	Core
6MZ012	Global Media/Global Culture	20	SEM1	Core
6MZ019	Media Activism	20	SEM2	Core
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	20	SEM2	Core

For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 20 credits

Students choosing 6MZ002 in semester 2 must take 6MZ020 in semester 1

Students choosing 6SL003 or 6SL004 in semester 2 must take 6SL012 in semester 1

Students must ensure that they select 60 credits (3 modules) for each subject.

6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	20	SEM2	
6MZ002	Independent Study - Written Project in Media	20	SEM2	

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

None

Reference Points:

Quality Code - [Part A: Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards](#). Including :

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements](#) – Communication, media, film and cultural studies Sociology

Quality Code - [Part B: Assuring and Enhancing Academic Quality](#)

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

[Equality Act \(2010\)](#)

Learning Outcomes:

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (CHECLO1)

Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with Media and Sociology, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (CHECLO2)

Demonstrate an ability to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of Media and Sociology.

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to Media and Sociology

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments

CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 1 (DHECLO1)

Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of Media and Sociology, and of the way in which those principles have developed with an understanding of the limits of your knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 2 (DHECLO2)

Demonstrate the ability to apply underlying concepts and principles in the study of Media and Sociology including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (DHECLO3)

Demonstrate knowledge of the main methods of enquiry in the study of Media and Sociology, and the ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (DHECLO4)

Use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (DHECLO5)

Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively

DipHE Course Learning Outcome 6 (DHECLO6)

Demonstrate the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment, requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making and undertake further training, developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

Engage with and analyse contemporary media texts, industry practices and media audiences.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (ORDCLO2)

Demonstrate knowledge of the interrelationship between media texts and the construction of cultural identities, such as class, gender, ethnicity and age.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

Demonstrate knowledge of the methods and theories used in the analysis of media and/or society.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (ORDCLO4)

Review, synthesise, analyse and evaluate a wide range of appropriate evidence in relation to a variety of social theories.

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions across a diverse range of media forms and texts

Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 6 (ORDCLO6)

Demonstrate independent learning

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

Critically engage with and analyse contemporary media texts, industry practices and media audiences.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 2 (DEGCLO2)

Understand the interrelationship between media texts and the construction of cultural identities, such as class, gender, ethnicity and age.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

Apply appropriate methods and theories in the analysis of media and/or society.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 4 (DEGCLO4)

Critically review, synthesise, analyse and evaluate a wide range of appropriate evidence in relation to a variety of social theories, and to mobilise a reasoned, sociologically informed argument

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

Demonstrate a critical understanding of the conventions across a diverse range of media forms and texts.

Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

Demonstrate independent research skills

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
4FI006	Representing the Real: From Documentary Film to Reality TV	CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4HU002	Popular Culture	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO4
4MZ001	Media, Culture and Society	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4, CHECLO5
4MZ009	Key Concepts in Media, Communication and Cultural Studies	CHECLO1, CHECLO2, CHECLO3, CHECLO4
4SL005	The Sociological Imagination	CHECLO1, CHECLO4
4SL009	Introduction to Classical Sociological Theory	CHECLO1, CHECLO4
5HU003	Body, Sexuality and Identity	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO4
5MZ014	Analysing Media Texts	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5MZ027	Mediated Lives: Lifestyle and Celebrity Culture	DHECLO1, DHECLO2, DHECLO3, DHECLO5, DHECLO6
5SL001	Racism, Diversity and difference in the British Context	DHECLO1, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
5SL005	Issues and Debates in Sociological Thought	DHECLO1, DHECLO3, DHECLO5
5SL007	Doing Quantitative Research	DHECLO1, DHECLO3, DHECLO4, DHECLO5
6MZ002	Independent Study - Written Project in Media	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5, ORDCLO6
6MZ012	Global Media/Global Culture	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO5, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO5, ORDCLO6
6MZ019	Media Activism	DEGCLO1, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO1, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO6
6SL003	Independent Project in Sociology	DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO6
6SL011	The Sociology of Migration	DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO6
6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, DEGCLO6, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4, ORDCLO6
6SL013	The Global World	DEGCLO2, DEGCLO3, DEGCLO4, ORDCLO2, ORDCLO3, ORDCLO4

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Students on the Media and Sociology degree can expect to encounter a wide variety of learning activities in the course of their studies, designed to ensure that a range of learning styles and abilities is catered for.

Students in the course of their studies engage in a mixture of traditional and cutting-edge learning activities. Independent learning takes place through attendance at lectures, contributions to seminars and workshops, and via research on- and off-line. Engaging in independent research demonstrates commitment, self-reliance, self-motivation and enterprise on the part of the student – all key skills in the creative industries. Group learning takes place in a variety of contexts, whether in preparing presentations, discussing topics in workshops and seminars, or producing media content (videos, radio broadcasts, podcasts), and again allows students to develop and refine key collaborative skills, essential for a career in the creative industries.

Students can expect to encounter a variety of assessment tasks in the course of their studies, including for example essays, oral presentations (working either as individuals or in groups), on-line forum discussions, practical work (such as media content production, podcasting, blogging etc), individual or group projects, library searches and other research tasks.

The nature of assessment, and the level of ability expected of the students, changes with each level of study.

Level Four Students will be expected to demonstrate a basic understanding of the subject. Assignments at this level are designed not only to test a student's knowledge of the subject, but also to ensure a basic understanding of key theoretical and methodological issues, and a familiarity with the academic terminology. Assignments at this level are designed to assess a student's basic academic skills, such as the ability to summarise an argument effectively, express ideas clearly and concisely, to find and use appropriate academic sources, etc.

Level Five assignments are designed to allow students the opportunity to demonstrate a more in-depth, detailed understanding of theoretical and methodological issues. In particular students will be assessed on their ability to analyse media and cultural texts, and communication practices. Students will be expected to be able to apply their theoretical knowledge to particular media texts and/or communication practices.

Level Six assignments are designed to assess the student's substantial knowledge of the subject, and also the ability to rigorously apply theories and methodologies in the analysis of media texts and communication practices. At this level, students will be expected to demonstrate a critical engagement with the subject. Furthermore, assessments at this level will test their competence as independent learners. All of the skills, knowledge and competences acquired over the three years of study will be assessed in the final year project

Assessment Methods:

At the University of Wolverhampton, a variety of modes of assessment will be used to support and test your learning and progress and to help you develop capabilities that are valued beyond your University studies and into your working life. Your course may include a variety of assessment activities:

Written examinations (including online examinations, open and closed book examinations and quizzes)
Coursework (for example, essays, reports, portfolios, project proposals and briefs, CVs, poster presentation)
Practical (for example, oral and video presentations, laboratory work, performances, practical skills assessment)

In the final year of your undergraduate degree, and at the end of your postgraduate degree, you are likely to be expected to write an extended piece of work or research, such as a dissertation or a practice-based piece of research.

Student Support:

Studies skills, such as finding, understanding and using academic sources, research skills writing and communication skills are embedded in core modules.

One to one study skills tutorials are offered by tutors in the Faculty of Arts and can be booked by emailing artstudentstupport@wlv.ac.uk

Employability in the Curriculum:

Employability skills, such as effective communication, and research and analytical expertise are embedded in all modules. In addition you will have the opportunity to take specific modules on employability, which will cover topics such as CV writing. You also have the opportunity to take work placement modules, which will enhance your employability prospects. Options for volunteering at Levels 4 and 5 will also contribute to your CV and give you invaluable experience for the world of work.

Graduates in Media and Sociology have taken up a wide variety of careers including: working in radio, television, journalism and marketing, as well as various management and communication roles in retail, business and local government. The degree in Media provides an excellent foundation for continuing studies at a post-graduate level, and is a pathway to taking our MA programmes in Contemporary Media, Film Studies or Popular Culture.



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