

## Course Specification

<b>Published Date:</b>	21-Sep-2020
<b>Produced By:</b>	Laura Clode
<b>Status:</b>	Validated

## Core Information

<b>Awarding Body / Institution:</b>	University of Wolverhampton		
<b>School / Institute:</b>	Wolverhampton School of Art		
<b>Course Code(s):</b>	MZ029T01UV MZ029T31UV	Full-time Part-time	4 Years 8 Years
<b>UCAS Code:</b>	P30L		
<b>Course Title:</b>	BA (Hons) Media and Sociology with Foundation Year		
<b>Hierarchy of Awards:</b>	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 Foundation and Preparatory Studies Media and Sociology University Statement of Credit University Statement of Credit		
<b>Language of Study:</b>	English		
<b>Date of DAG approval:</b>	01/Sep/2017		
<b>Last Review:</b>	2020/1		
<b>Course Specification valid from:</b>	2015/6		
<b>Course Specification valid to:</b>	2026/7		

## Academic Staff

<b>Course Leader:</b>	Dr William Pawlett
<b>Head of Department:</b>	Mr Pritpal Sembi

# Course Information

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

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## Entry Requirements:

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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)

### Typical Entry Requirements:

DD from A level

BTEC QCF Extended Diploma grade PPP, BTEC QCF Diploma grade MP

Pass Access to HE Diploma (Full Award)

If you've got other qualifications or relevant experience, please contact The Gateway for further advice before applying.

International entry requirements and application guidance can be found [here](#)

### Other Requirements:

Students must have studied a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, it is expected that some applicants will be mature students with work experience, who wish to further their career development. These applicants will be processed through standard procedures, which may involve an interview as part of the process. Please see <http://wlv.ac.uk/mature> for further information.

Younger applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may be asked to attend interview and/or to provide a sample of their academic writing, or they may be offered an alternative course.

## Distinctive Features of the Course:

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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.

At Foundation level you can develop the skills and knowledge that you need to study at undergraduate level, building on your strengths and working on your weaknesses, so that you can feel confident that by the end you are ready to commence a degree course, and to apply the skills to undertake the directed and independent learning which will help you to achieve your potential. This will allow you to embark on Level 4 study in an appropriate undergraduate discipline or combined award, confident that you have developed the skills and chosen the most relevant subject area(s) to specialise in, which will allow you to perform strongly at degree level and enhance your career aims.

## Educational Aims of the Course:

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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:

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September  
January

#### Major Source of Funding:

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Office for Students (OFS)

#### Tuition Fees:

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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:

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None

#### Course Structure:

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### 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
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	40	SEM2	Core
3HU005	Multiculturalism? Society & Culture in Modern Britain	20	SEM2	Core

3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	40	SEM1	Core
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	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
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 3

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 4

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
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**

6MZ020 is a pre-requisite for 6MZ002.

6SL012 is a pre-requisite for 6SL003 or 6SL004.

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	

6SL012	Qualitative Research Methods	20	SEM1	Core
6SL013	The Global World	20	SEM1	Core
6MZ012	Global Media/Global Culture	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
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	40	SEM1	Core
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	20	SEM1	Core
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	40	SEM2	Core
3HU005	Multiculturalism? Society & Culture in Modern Britain	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
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 3

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 4

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:

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)

AFRSC/19/16.2.2 FABSS Undergraduate degrees with Foundation Years.

Section 1.3.1 - Exemption from the standard University Academic Framework allowing for the use of 40 credit taught modules at Level 3 and delivery of these within semesters as follows;

3GK012 Preparing for Success at University (40 credits)

3GK013 Project-Based Learning (40 credits).

Effective date: September 2020.

APPROVED (by Chair's Action on 12/2/2020).

## Reference Points:

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

[Qualifications Frameworks](#)

[Characteristics Statements](#)

[Credit Frameworks](#)

[Subject Benchmark Statements](#)

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

[University Policies and Regulations](#)

Equality Act (2010)

## Learning Outcomes:

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Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 1 (UCCL01)

Can articulate your understanding of a range of facts and theories relating to the subjects studied.

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Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 2 (UCCL02)

Can complete tasks and address problems that, while well-defined, may be complex and non-routine

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Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 3 (UCCL03)

Can interpret and evaluate relevant information and ideas.

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Foundation Year Course Learning Outcome 4 (UCCL04)

Can describe key academic skills and conventions, appropriate to the level of study, and apply them to your work.

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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

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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."

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CertHE Course Learning Outcome 3 (CHECLO3)

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

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CertHE Course Learning Outcome 4 (CHECLO4)

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



arguments"

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CertHE Course Learning Outcome 5 (CHECLO5)

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

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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."

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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"

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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"

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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"

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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"

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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."

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Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (ORDCLO1)

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

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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."

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Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (ORDCLO3)

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

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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."

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Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (ORDCLO5)

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

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Ordinary Degree Course Learning Outcome 6 (ORDCLO6)

Demonstrate independent learning

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Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 1 (DEGCLO1)

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

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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."

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Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 3 (DEGCLO3)

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

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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"

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Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 5 (DEGCLO5)

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

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Honours Degree Course Learning Outcome 6 (DEGCLO6)

Demonstrate independent research skills

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Overview of Assessment:

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<b>Module</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>
3GK012	Preparing for Success at University	UCCL01, UCCL03, UCCL04
3GK013	Project-Based Learning	UCCL01, UCCL03, UCCL04
3GK014	Wolverhampton and its People	UCCL02, UCCL04
3HU005	Multiculturalism? Society & Culture in Modern Britain	UCCL01, UCCL02, UCCL03
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.

At Foundation level, you can develop the skills and knowledge that you need to study at undergraduate level during the foundation year, building on your strengths and working on your weaknesses, so that you can feel confident that by the end you are ready to commence a degree course, and to apply the skills to undertake the directed and independent learning which will help you to achieve your potential. This will allow you to embark on Level 4 study in an appropriate undergraduate discipline or combined award, confident that you have developed the skills and chosen the most relevant subject area(s) to specialise in, which will allow you to perform strongly at degree level and enhance your career aims.

All of our foundation modules are taught in small subject-specific groups. Several of the modules on the foundation part of the degree are assessed via portfolio, so lots of tasks contribute to your final grade. This means that we can give you credit for the things that you do best, and give you support to identify areas of strength and areas for potential development.

For the foundation part of the degree you will study two taught modules per semester, in the autumn semester you will study one 40 credit study skills module, this is designed to help you get to grips with university life and to gain the skills you need to exceed at degree level. The other 20 credit module contains subject-specific content, so you begin learning your subject from day one. In the spring semester you will take one subject-specific module, plus your individual project, this guarantees you weekly one-to-one sessions with a subject-specific member of our team, in these sessions you will work with your tutor to develop your own project on what interests you the most. For the degree part of the course you will study three modules per semester.

Level 3 modules are taught in small groups and you will encounter a range of assessment and learning activities during your foundation year with us, including: a range of guest speakers, lectures, tutorials, seminars, small group work and one-to-one advice on your own projects. You will be assessed via a variety of written work, presentations, and in-class tasks during the foundation part of your degree with us.

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:

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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:

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General University support:

[University Learning Centres](#) are the key source of academic information for students. Learning Centres provide physical library resources (books, journal, DVDs etc.) and offer a range of study areas to allow students to study in the environment that suit them best: Social areas, quiet and silent areas. Learning Centres also provide access to wide range of online information sources, including eBooks, e-Journals and subject databases.

Learning Centres also provide students with academic skills support via the [Skills for Learning programme](#). Students on campus can attend workshops or ask for one-to-one help on a range of skills such as academic writing and referencing. Students can access a range of online skills material at: [www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills](http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills)

The [University Student Support website](#) offers advice on a variety of matters (careers, counselling, student union advice, etc.) Students can also access these services by booking appointment with the SU, careers, counselling services, etc.

## Course Specific Support

Academic Coaches and GTAs provide 1:1 and subject specific support with learning, assessment and general study skills.

## Employability in the Curriculum:

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There are many opportunities to explore your employment potential if you study with us, including modules that see you go out into the world of work, opportunities to attend events at employability weeks every spring semester and activities and assignments that help you to explore and demonstrate the transferable skills that you have gained; including the production of material that can be taken to interviews/used in application forms to allow you to show potential employers what you can do.



THE UNIVERSITY OF OPPORTUNITY