



**1. Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):**

BA Media and Society (UCAS code: PL33)

BA Media and Society with a year abroad\*

\*Students may only enter these degree programmes by transferring at the end of year 1

**2. Awarding body or institution:**

University of Leicester

**3. a) Mode of study:** Full -Time

**b) Type of study:** Campus-Based

**4. Registration periods:**

The normal period of registration is three years

The maximum period of registration is five years

Year Abroad

The normal period of registration is four years

The maximum period of registration is six years

**5. Typical entry requirements:**

A/AS-levels

Three A-levels usually required. The entry requirement is ABB for the BA Media and Society. All subjects accepted. Two AS-levels considered in place of one A-Level.

GCSE

No specific requirements. Access to HE Diploma

Pass relevant diploma with some credits at distinction.

European Baccalaureate: Pass with 77% overall.

International Baccalaureate: Pass Diploma with 32 points.

Cambridge Pre-U

D3/M2/M2 in Principal Subjects.

BTEC Nationals

Full Diploma with DDM.

Other Qualifications

Other national and international qualifications welcomed. Mature students welcomed

Alternative qualifications considered.

## 6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

Second Year Entry

Possible for those with advanced qualifications compatible with our degree structure.

## 7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to:

- ☐ Provide students with the core content of the BA Media and Communication and the BA Sociology and to develop a distinctive programme within which students are able to explore and develop their interests in media and sociology specialist areas relating to staff research interests.
- ☐ Enable students to develop independent learning skills and autonomous thinking in conjunction with developing skills in critical analysis, communication, research methodologies, group work, leadership and employability.
- ☐ Provide a supportive and stimulating learning environment in which there is a strong sense of cohort.

For those on the Year Abroad:

- ☐ provide an opportunity for Leicester students to spend their third year abroad, studying at a partner institution in Europe as part of the European Erasmus framework exchange program or a partner institution on another continent as part of the Study Abroad exchange programme;
- ☐ develop study skills in another university following a guided programme of learning for the period spent abroad;
- ☐ provide an opportunity for exchange students from partner institutions in another country to study in the United Kingdom;
- provide and build on links between the University of Leicester and its partner institutions
- ☐ develop an appreciation of the different approaches to the study of media and communication adopted by different types of scholars.

## 8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications, <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/qualifications-frameworks.pdf>
- QAA Benchmarking statement for Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Communication-Media-Film-and-Cultural-Studies-16.pdf>  
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/CMF08.pdf>)
- University of Leicester Employability Strategy
- [University of Leicester Learning Strategy](#)
- Student Feedback
- University of Leicester Periodic Review
- Annual Developmental Reviews
- External Examiner's Reports

## 9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies</b>		
<b>(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge</b>		
<p>Summarise key debates within the fields of media and communication and sociology.</p> <p>[Year abroad]</p> <p>Acquire knowledge of</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, resource-based learning.</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.</p>
<b>(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques</b>		
<p>Explain the complex role of media and communication within societies and the processes of social change.</p> <p>Analyse the various approaches to understanding mass communication processes and key theoretical issues in sociology.</p> <p>[Year Abroad]</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.</p>
<b>(iii) Critical analysis of key</b>		
<p>Analyse media and social processes and structures at national and international levels.</p> <p>Analyse the role of societal, cultural, economical and technological factors in the processes of mass communication.</p> <p>Critically analyse issues relating to social justice.</p> <p>Critically evaluate the fields of media and sociology and how they relate to each other.</p> <p>[Year abroad]</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, independent research projects, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material</b>		
<p>Present problems relating to media and sociology in a variety of written and oral formats.</p> <p>Analyse and synthesise literature that addresses</p>	<p>Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.</p> <p>Tutorials, seminars, directed</p>	<p>Writing tasks, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, portfolios, online forums.</p>
<b>(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight</b>		
<p>Use social scientific and humanistic methodologies to address research questions within the fields of media and sociology.</p> <p>Develop and sustain scholarly arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence.</p> <p>Critically evaluate scholarly</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, computer practical classes, methods exercises.</p> <p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, independent research projects, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.</p>
<b>(vi) Other discipline specific</b>		
<p>Design, research and present an Independently conceived research project.</p> <p>[Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural</p>	<p>Independent research, methods exercises.</p>	<p>Independent research projects, dissertations.</p>
<b>(b) Transferable</b>		
<b>(i) Oral</b>		
<p>Present material using appropriate resources, including visual, written and aural material</p>	<p>Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises.</p>	<p>Seminar presentations, contributions to discussions.</p>
<b>(ii) Written</b>		
<p>Articulate ideas, information and debates through the use of clear and competent English, including the use</p>	<p>Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research</p>	<p>Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, independent research projects</p>
<b>(iii) Information</b>		
<p>Demonstrate competency with Information Technology and theoretical knowledge of its development and uses.</p>	<p>Study skills workshops, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercise.</p>	<p>Essay, dissertations, independent research projects, online forums, computer-based exercises, methods exercise.</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(iv)		
Demonstrate numeracy skills and use statistics in media and communication research.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercises.	Essay, dissertations, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, methods exercise.
(v) Team		
Work in groups and develop skills in group management, leadership and peer responsibility.	Tutorials, seminars, team problem solving exercises.	Seminar group presentations, contributions to discussions, contributions to team problem solving exercises, group tasks/projects.
(vi) Problem		
Evaluate and address problems.  Develop solutions and recognise that further problems that might arise.  Stimulate interest in	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.
(vii) Information		
Find and analyse new information.	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises.	Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.
(viii) Skills for lifelong		
Manage time effectively. Work independently as well as in groups.  Plan research and present results using oral and written communication.  [Year Abroad] Demonstrate strategies for self- monitoring and continued maintenance and	Directed reading, independent research.  Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	All of the above.

#### 10. Progression points:

Senate Regulation 5: Regulations governing undergraduate programmes of study:

<http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/documents/senatereg5-undergraduates>

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

### **Progression Points with a Year Abroad**

As per Senate Regulation 5.29, in the case of four-year programmes in which the year out does not count towards the final classification, the second and fourth years are used in determining the degree class, according to the standard scheme for three year programmes.

### **Application to Transfer from single subject BA to BA with a Year Abroad**

Students are invited to apply at the end of their first year to transfer to the BA with a Year Abroad. Students are selected on the basis of their first year average of 60% and above with those obtaining the highest average having priority. In addition, performance is also reviewed, taking into account such indicators as attendance and observation of academic obligations. Absence from tutorials without mitigating circumstances and non-submission of required coursework would be examples of poor performance and would result in an application being rejected.

### **Progression from 2nd year to year abroad**

Students may progress to the year abroad with no failed modules in year 2 and an average of 60% from years 1 and 2. Good attendance and observation of academic obligations must continue to be maintained throughout year 2. Failure to do so may result in the opportunity to study abroad being withdrawn.

### **Progression from year abroad to final year**

For the year abroad year students are required to complete the equivalent of 60 ECTS if studying at a European partner institution or an equivalent number of credits at one of the International partner institutions.

For a student to progress to the final year of the BA with a Year Abroad programme the student has to achieve an average of 50% for the whole year. If a student has failed to achieve an average of 50% for the year, including resit options as per the partner institution's rules, by the September Board of Examiners, the Board will consider whether the student should have to transfer on to the single subject BA for their final year, taking their overall attendance and observation of academic obligations into consideration.

## **11. Special features:**

The programme has strong profile in international and global media and communication, as well as in digital media and communication technologies.

Students may apply to transfer to the BA (with a Year Abroad) after successful completion of the first year and subsequent successful completion of the second year.

The BA with a Year Abroad provides for students spending their third year at one of our partner institutions and then returning to Leicester for their final year.

### **Our partner institutions for the BA with a Year Abroad are currently:**

Erasmus University Rotterdam (Netherlands)  
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Germany)  
Charles University Prague (Czech Republic)

### **Our partner institutions for a semester abroad in Year 2 are currently:**

Deakin University (Australia)  
University of Windsor (Canada) Unitec (New Zealand)  
Illinois State University (USA) The University of Tulsa (USA)  
University of Miami – Coral Gables (USA)

The exchange is a 'cultural exchange', so that students cannot apply to study at a University in a country/region from which they originally come.

Applications to transfer on to the BA with a Year Abroad degree are made towards the end of the first year. Students are selected on the basis of their first year marks.

## **12. Indications of programme quality**

The programme has consistently sustained a high level of student satisfaction with teaching and learning. Positive reports of the quality of the programme has been received from External Examiners who have noted, for example, the balance between core and elective subjects, the breadth of options, and the fact that “Teaching, learning and assessment are all of a very high standard.”

## **13. External Examiners**

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners’ reports can be found [here](#).

## Appendix 1: Programme structure

### BA MEDIA AND SOCIETY

#### YEAR ONE

		SEMESTER 1	Credits
<b>Core modules</b>			
MS1001	Introduction to Media and Communication		30
SY1017	Cybersociology		15
SY1021	Power, Privilege and Diversity		15
MS1009	Introduction to Academic Skills		0
		<b>Semester total</b>	<b>60</b>
		SEMESTER 2	Credits
<b>Core modules</b>			
SY1002	Society in Transformation		30
MS1003	Global Media		15
MS1010	Creative Audiences		15
		<b>Semester total</b>	<b>60</b>

#### YEAR TWO

		SEMESTER 1	Credits
<b>Core modules</b>			
SY2078	Sociological Theory Explored		15
SY2091	Live Sociology		15
<b>Two 15 credit media modules from:</b>			
MS2000	The Production of News		(15)
MS2001	Political Communication		(15)
MS2006	Identity and Popular Culture		(15)
MS2012	Global Film Culture		(15)
		<b>Semester total</b>	<b>60</b>
		SEMESTER 2	Credits
MS2016	Media and Communication Research in Practice		30
<b>Two 15 credit Sociology Options from:</b>			
SY2061	Japan: Culture, History and Power		15
SY2083	Sociology of Fashion		15
SY2089	Work, Employment & Society		15
SY2088	Victims & Offenders		15
SY2098	Sociology through Literature and Film		15
SY2012	New Youth, Young adulthood and Society		15
		<b>Semester total</b>	<b>60</b>

#### YEAR THREE

		SEMESTER 1	Credits
<b>Core modules</b>			
MS3003	Dissertation		30
OR			
SY3042	Research Project		
<b>One optional module from the following:</b>			
MS3003	Environmental Communication		(15)



MS3014	The Media on Film	(15)
MS3009	The Media, Celebrity and Fan Culture	(15)
MS3011	Games and Culture	(15)
MS3013	Media and the Body	(15)
MS3024	Reporting Panics	(15)
MS3004	Global Cultures	(15)

**One optional module from the following:**

SY3099	Identity Troubles: nationalism, jihadism and the extreme right	15
SY3090	Drugs & Society	15
SY3100	Social Psychology	60

**Semester total**

**SEMESTER 2**

**Core modules**

MS3030	Dissertation	30
<b>OR</b>		
SY3042	Research Project	15

**One optional module from the following**

MS3000	Media and Gender	(15)
MS3005	Music as Communication	(15)
MS3041	Media Rights and Responsibilities	(15)
MS3022	Activism and Protest in the Information Age	(15)
MS3025	Online Journalism: Theory and Practice	(15)
MS3019	Advertising and Consumer Culture	(15)

**One optional module from the following**

SY3057	Football and Society	(15)
SY3092	Social Movements	(15)
SY3093	Space, Place and Contemporary Society	(15)
SY3094	Autobiographical Society	(15)
SY3095	Sociology of Health & Illness	(15)
SY3096	Growing Up & Growing Older	(15)
SY3097	International Migration	(15)
SY3098	Global Sex Trade	(15)

**Semester total 60**

NOTE:

Students may substitute approved modules from an institution participating the University's Study Abroad programme.

**Appendix 2: Module specifications**

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>

**Appendix 3: Skills matrix**

The skills matrix provides a look-up-table for the degree programme to show in which

modules the different discipline specific competencies and transferable skills are developed. It also helps departments confirm that all potential routes through the degree pathway enable students to develop all the discipline specific competencies and transferable skills identified in the programme specification.



	MS1001	MS1003	MS1009	MS1XXX Creative Audiences	MS2000	MS2001	MS2006	MS2009	MS2012	MS2013	MS2XXX Media Research in Practice	MS3000	MS3003	MS3004	MS3005	MS3030	MS3009	MS3011	MS3013	MS3014	MS3021	MS3022	MS3024	MS3025	MS3027	
<b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b>																										
<b>(v) Team working</b>																										
<b>Work as a group</b>			X				X	X		X		X							X					X		
<b>Work with the strengths and weaknesses of others</b>							X	X				X							X					X		
<b>Evaluate the contribution of others</b>							X	X				X							X					X		
<b>Appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of team working</b>							X	X				X							X					X		
<b>(vi) Problem solving</b>																										
<b>Capacity to address problems</b>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Critical evaluations</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Development of solutions</b>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Recognising further problems that might arise</b>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>(vii) Information handling</b>																										
<b>Ability to construct strategies for locating information</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Ability to locate and access information</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Ability to compare and evaluate information obtained</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Ability to organise, apply and communicate information to others</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Ability to synthesise and build upon existing information</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>(viii) Skills for lifelong learning</b>																										
<b>Time Management</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Independent working</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Research skills</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Use of library</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

\* Please see Sociology skills matrix for details of Sociology modules.