



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2026/27

Date created: n/a

Last amended: 17/12/2025

Version no. 1

Please note, this programme is currently undergoing review as part of the University's continuous cycle of curriculum enhancement. The information in Appendix 1 represents the current structure and content of the programme. Any future enhancements to the programme in terms of content will be communicated to applicants and offer holders once finalised.

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BA Media Society and Culture

BA Media Society and Culture with a year-abroad^

Notes

^ Students may only enter this programme by approved transfer at the end of Year 1

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%

b) UCAS Code (where required)

UCAS code: PL33

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

BA Media Society and Culture

The normal period of registration is 3 years

The maximum period of registration 5 years

BA Media Society and Culture with a year abroad

The normal period of registration is 4 years

The maximum period of registration 6 years

5. Typical entry requirements

A/AS-levels: Three A-levels usually required. The entry requirement is ABB for the BA Media, Society and Culture. 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.

Leicestershire Progression Accord: BBB plus full Accord Credits

BTEC Nationals: Full Diploma with DDM.

Other Qualifications: Other national and international qualifications welcomed. Mature students welcomed.

Alternative qualifications considered.

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see

<https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

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.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [QAA Benchmarking statement for Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies](#)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Summarise key debates within the fields of media and communication and sociology.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises and reports, portfolios, online forums, online diaries, reflective commentaries.
[Year abroad] Acquire knowledge of different debates and schools of thought in an academic context abroad.		

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Explain the complex role of media and communication within societies and the processes of social change.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, media production exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Analyse the various approaches to understanding mass communication processes and key theoretical issues in sociology.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, media production exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
[Year Abroad] Understand and explain the complex role of media and communication within a specific social context abroad.		

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Analyse media and social processes and structures at national and international levels.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Analyse the role of societal, cultural, economic and technological factors in the processes of mediated communication.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Critically analyse issues relating to social justice.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Critically evaluate the fields of media and sociology and how they relate to each other.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, computer-based exercises, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
[Year abroad] Demonstrate the ability to analyse media and communication processes and sociological approaches through different cultural contexts, political and social structures.		

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present problems relating to media and sociology in a variety of written and oral formats.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.	Writing tasks, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, portfolios, online forums.
Analyse and synthesise literature that addresses key debates within the fields of media and sociology.	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises.	Writing tasks, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, portfolios, online forums.

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use social scientific and humanistic methodologies to address research questions within the fields of media and sociology.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, practical classes, methods exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, independent research projects, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Develop and sustain scholarly arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, independent research projects, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.
Critically evaluate scholarly texts and source materials.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, practical classes, methods exercises.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, contributions to discussions, problem-based exercises, independent research projects, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries.

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Design, research and present an Independently conceived research project.	Independent research, methods exercises.	Independent research projects, dissertations.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
[Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural awareness and understanding		

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present material using appropriate resources, including visual, written and aural material.	Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises.	Seminar presentations, contributions to discussions.

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Articulate ideas, information and debates through the use of clear and competent English, including the use of grammar, spelling, sentence construction and clear structure.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research.	Essays, examinations, dissertations, seminar presentations, portfolios, online forums, reflective commentaries, independent research projects.

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate competency with Information Technology and theoretical knowledge of its development and uses.	Study skills workshops, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercises.	Essay, dissertations, independent research projects, online forums, computer-based exercises, methods exercise.

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate numeracy skills and use statistics in media and communication research.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, methods exercises.	Essays, dissertations, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, methods exercises.

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Work in groups and develop skills in group management, leadership and peer responsibility. Learning in group situations.	Tutorials, seminars, team problem solving exercises.	Essays, dissertations, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, methods exercises.

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Evaluate and address problems. Develop solutions and recognise further problems that might arise.	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.
Stimulate interest in problem solving.	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 handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Find and analyse new information.	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises.	Essays, independent research projects, computer-based exercises, problem-based exercises.

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Manage time effectively.	Directed reading, independent research.	All of the above.
Work independently as well as in groups.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises, media production exercises.	All of the above.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Plan research and present results using oral and written communication.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, practical classes, team problem solving exercises, methods exercises, media production exercises.	All of the above.
[Year Abroad] Demonstrate strategies for self- monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in a different culture and institution.		

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

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

a) Course transfers

Course transfers are decided on the basis of our general entry criteria. Each individual case will be evaluated by our admissions tutor and the UG Programme Director, as appropriate.

11. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of undergraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

12. Special features

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

Global Citizen Study Abroad (GCSA)

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
	<p>Overview: The BA Media Society and Culture programme involves research inspired content. Its modules - situated across the three years of the programme – are underpinned by staff interests and research groupings. Core and optional modules incorporate experiences for students to engage with media and sociological research, developing skills and assessing the appropriateness of research design and methodological choices. Research experience is integrated, similarly. Scaffolding the programme is a pathway of research and skills training which helps students to produce related academic research and media product-based outputs and related reflections.</p>
<p>Research-briefed Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.</p>	<p>Research-briefed: The programme reflects current scholarship in the field of media and communication alongside the present research interests and outputs of our internationally recognised staff. Module content and related assessments introduce students to a variety of theories, concepts and forms of analysis. This provides a conceptual foundation to the programme in years one, two and three and one that is developed across a range of research-focused optional modules from which students can select in years two and three.</p>
<p>Research-based Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.</p>	<p>Research-based: The programme encourages critical analysis of academic ideas and studies. Modules, teaching and assessments reflect focused analyses of media trends, origins and developments, established and new academic traditions and concepts in addition to the evaluation of the process by which research and research outputs are produced. As introduced in year one, this research-based content is then developed in both core and optional modules in years two and three.</p>
<p>Research-oriented Students critique published research content and process.</p>	<p>Research-oriented: The programme includes a pathway of dedicated modules which address research methods and skills and span years one, two and three. These modules introduce students to the process of research design alongside the established outlooks and analytical skills they require to assess the methodological choices and outcomes of published research. In addition, the teaching and assessments of other modules in the programme demand that students show similar understanding and analysis of media products and their production.</p>
<p>Research-apprenticed Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.</p>	<p>Research-apprenticed: The programme includes research methods training. This aspect enhances students’ understanding of the design and execution of research projects, including the selection and application of various research techniques and analyses. Equally, sets of general research skills based around locating, analysing and presenting information feature within the programme, beginning with the first introductory modules.</p>

As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

The programme as part of the wider School of Arts, Media and Communication hosts a number of events based around media production, writing and research throughout the academic year for which undergraduates are invited.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

Staff attend the School of Arts, Media and Communication Pedagogy Forum, which explores educational best practice, innovations, and how they can be incorporated into curricula and programme delivery across the School.

The teaching team are involved in yearly processes of reflection on teaching and marking (i.e., peer observations) and programme content (through annual programme reviews).

12b. Work-related learning

The workload of all students on this programme includes the opportunity to engage with *at least* 100 hours of employer informed, work-related learning activity. Further information regarding work-related learning is available [online](#).

13. 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 have 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.”

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners’ reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

BA Media Society and Culture

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module	Change
2027/28	MS2013 Professionalism and Employment in the Media	0-credit core module removed
2027/28	MS2016 Media and Communication Research in Practice	Was 30 credits, now 15 credits
2027/28	MS2003 Film Making	New core module

Level 4/Year 1 2026/27

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	MS1001	Introduction to Media and Communication	30 credits
Sem 1	SY1005	Sociology in Practice	15 credits
Sem 1	SY1021	Power, Privilege and Diversity	15 credits
Sem 2	SY1002	Society in Transformation	30 credits
Sem 2	MS1003	Global Media	15 credits
Sem 2	MS1010	Creative Audiences	15 credits

Notes

n/a

Level 5/Year 2 2026/27

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	15 credits	45 credits
Optional	n/a	45 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	SY2091	Live Sociology	15 credits
Sem 2	SY2078	Sociological Theory Explored	15 credits
Sem 2	MS2016	Media and Communication Research in Practice	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	MS2003	Film Making	15 credits

Notes

[n/a]

Media Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	MS2000	The Production of News	15 credits
Semester 1	MS2001	Political Communication	15 credits
Semester 1	MS2006	Identity and Popular Culture	15 credits
Semester 1	MS2012	Global Film Culture	15 credits

Sociology Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY2094	Gender and Society	15 credits
Semester 1	SY2012	Youth, Young adulthood and Society	15 credits
Semester 2	SY2098	Sociology through Literature and Film	15 credits
Semester 2	SY2102	Environmental Sociology	15 Credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

In Semester 1 Students need to select TWO optional Media Modules and ONE optional Sociology Module.

In Semester 2 Students need to select ONE optional Sociology Module

Level 6/Year 3 2027/28

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	60 credits OR	30 credits AND	30 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	MS3030	Dissertation <i>OR</i>	60 credits
Semester 1	SY3103	Research, Reflection and Future Direction <i>AND</i>	30 credits
Semester 2	SY3104	Doing Social Research	30 credits

Notes

Students can select to do their dissertation in Media OR Sociology

Media Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	MS3004	Global Cultures and Everyday Politics	15 credits
Semester 1	MS3024	Reporting Panics	15 credits
Semester 1	MS3041	Media, Rights and Responsibilities	15 credits
Semester 1	MS3040	Influencer Cultures	15 credits
Semester 1	MS3011	Games and Culture	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	MS3025	Online Journalism: Theory and Practice	15 credits
Semester 2	MS3027	Writing for PR	15 credits
Semester 2	MS3019	Advertising and Consumer Culture	15 credits
Semester 2	MS3009	The Media, Celebrity and Fan Culture	15 credits
Semester 2	MS3026	Content and Podcast Creation	15 credits

Sociology Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY3100	Social Psychology	15 credits
Semester 1	SY3091	Education and Social Justice	15 credits
Semester 2	SY3057	Football and Society	15 credits
Semester 2	SY3092	Social Movements	15 credits
Semester 2	SY3095	Sociology of Health & Illness	15 credits
Semester 2	SY3097	International Migration	15 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Students opting for the Media dissertation:

In Semester 1 students need to select ONE optional Media module and ONE optional Sociology module.

In Semester 2 students need to select ONE optional Media module and ONE optional Sociology module.

Students opting for the Sociology dissertation:

In Semester 1 students need to select ONE optional Media module and ONE optional Sociology module.

In Semester 2 students need to select ONE optional Media module and ONE optional Sociology module.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).