

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?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge		
<p>Summarise key debates within the fields of media and communication and sociology.</p> <p>[Year abroad] Acquire knowledge of different debates and schools of thought in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</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>
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		
<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] Understand and explain the complex role of media and communication and key theoretical issues in sociology within more specific social contexts in Europe, USA, Australia and New Zealand</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>
(iii) Critical analysis of key		
<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] Demonstrate the ability to analyse media and communication processes and sociological approaches through different cultural contexts, political and social structures.</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?
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
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.	
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
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, computer 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.	
Critically evaluate scholarly texts and source materials.	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises, computer practical classes, methods exercises.	
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Design, research and present an Independently conceived research project.	Independent research, methods exercises.	Independent research projects, dissertations.
[Year Abroad] Demonstrate inter-cultural awareness and understanding		
(b) Transferable		
(i) Oral		
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		
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		
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 exercise.	Essay, dissertations, independent research projects, online forums, computer-based exercises, methods exercise.
Use software packages e.g. SPSS, and the internet for research purposes.		

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 working		
Work in groups and develop skills in group management, leadership and peer responsibility. Learning in group situations.	Tutorials, seminars, team problem solving exercises.	Seminar group presentations, contributions to discussions, contributions to team problem solving exercises, group tasks/projects.
(vi) Problem solving		
Evaluate and address problems. Develop solutions and recognise that further problems that might arise. 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		
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		
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 development of skills in a different culture and institutions.	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 are currently:

Current Erasmus partnerships

1. Lund University Sweden
2. Universiteit Utrecht Netherlands
3. Charles University Prague

Current Study abroad partnerships:

1. USA California State University, Long Beach
2. USA The University of Georgia
3. USA University of Florida

This list is subject to change at short notice.

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.

Students for the BA with a Year Abroad degree must apply originally though UCAS for the BA

degree.

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

87 percent of students are satisfied with media undergraduate teaching and learning.

97 percent of students are satisfied with sociology undergraduate teaching and learning.
(*National Student Survey 2014*)

External Examiner stated that “the curricular creates space for students to gain a critical understanding of media and communications within a global context, combining courses focussing on theory and practice associated with the media and communications’ industries and range of communication practise. Different teaching and learning practices support student experience and support the achievement of learning outcomes.” (July 2013).

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
Core modules			
MS1001	Introduction to Media and Communication		20
SY1017	Cybersociology		20
SY1004	Sociology: A Beginner's Guide		20
MS1009	Introduction to Academic Skills		0
		Semester total	60
		SEMESTER 2	Credits
Core modules			
MS1002	Topics in Media and Communication		20
MS1003	Media and Globalization		20
SY1002	Society in Transformation		20
		Semester total	60

YEAR TWO

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

YEAR THREE

		SEMESTER 1	Credits
Core modules			
MS3030	Dissertation		30
OR			
SY3042	Research Project		
One optional module from the following:			
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:

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

SEMESTER 2

Core modules

MS3030	Dissertation	30
OR		
SY3042	Research Project	15

One optional module from the following

MS3000	Media and Gender	(15)
MS3005	Music as Communication	(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	
Programme Learning Outcomes																										
(v) Team working																										
Work as a group			X				X	X		X		X							X					X		
Work with the strengths and weaknesses of others							X	X				X							X					X		
Evaluate the contribution of others							X	X				X							X					X		
Appreciate the strengths and weaknesses of team working							X	X				X							X					X		
(vi) Problem solving																										
Capacity to address problems	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Critical evaluations	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
Development of solutions	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Recognising further problems that might arise	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(vii) Information handling																										
Ability to construct strategies for locating information	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
Ability to locate and access information	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
Ability to compare and evaluate information obtained	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
Ability to organise, apply and communicate information to others	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
Ability to synthesise and build upon existing information	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
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning																										
Time Management	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
Independent working	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
Research skills	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
Use of library	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.