



Thank you for choosing to study A Level Media Studies at Poynton High School, you've made an exciting choice.

The following three slides guide you through some activities that you can complete both before the course starts, and during the course, in order to get the most out of your studies.

*Slide 2:* Introduces nine activities to complete before the A Level Media Studies course starts. Compile your own set of responses to each task either in a book, or in a file, or a folder. Work your way through the nine in any order and build your understanding of Media Studies.

*Slide 3: '18 by 18':* 18 products to read, watch or listen to, by the time you're 18 years old (or by the end of Year 13), in order to both broaden your general cultural understanding and also help with some specific aspects of your Media Studies A Level.

Slide 4: Covers the topics and products you will study over the course.

<p><b>1.</b> Look at front cover of two different newspapers from the same day, try to find newspapers that have differing political viewpoints. Analyse how they report the day's news differently – think about the pictures they use, the language used and how the headline affects how you view the story.</p>	<p><b>2.</b> Find an interesting magazine and analyse the front cover and a feature article (this is an article mentioned on the front cover).</p>	<p><b>3.</b> Research into how social media has changed how we communicate; you could make a timeline of social media sites, starting with the first email and ending in 2020.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Watch a new film – maybe one that is less mainstream – and make some notes on how it differs from a traditional Hollywood blockbuster.</p>	<p><b>5.</b> Watch a music video from 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, 2010s and finally 2020. Try to choose songs all from broadly the same genre and then compare what the similarities and differences are between the videos.</p>	<p><b>6.</b> Have a go at creating and editing your own videos using a video editing software package like Openshot, Shotcut (both available for free). Try editing your videos in different styles so they reflect different genres (you could try editing it super-fast so it looks like a youtube video for example).</p>
<p><b>7.</b> The most liked picture on Instagram is still the famous 'Egg' shot from January 2019 but you create a more iconic image? Download Adobe Photoshop Express (similar and free version of Photoshop) and use your phone / camera to upload and edit your own images.</p>	<p><b>8.</b> To be a great Media student you want to be up to speed with what is happening in the world around us. Subscribe / follow and browse a mainstream and alternative news source to see alternative viewpoints on the same stories and also to see some other (non-Corona related) stories too. Possibly mainstream news websites are BBC, Sky, Times (subscription needed), Guardian and alternative ones are Vice, BuzzFeed News and Huff Post.</p>	<p><b>9.</b> Find and listen to a Podcast about something you are interested in or something that just sounds interesting! Most Podcasts are free to listen to and can be found on Spotify, BBC Sounds, Podcasts on your iPhone (Google to find more!)</p>

# 18 by 18: 18 texts to read, watch or listen to, by the time you're 18 years old (or by the end of Year 13), in order to both broaden your general cultural understanding and also help with some specific aspects of your study of A Level Media Studies

1. Millennial Burnout Article:

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/annehelenpetersen/millennials-burnout-generation-debt-work>

2. Rise of the Vloggers: Youtube Documentary

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h\\_rn1h\\_tCaQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_rn1h_tCaQ)

3. Chicken film



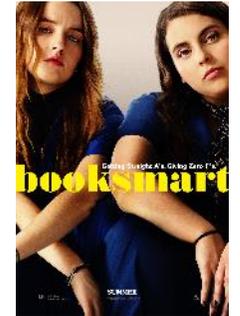
4. Charlie Brooker Media Documentaries - Screen Wipe/ News Wipe



5. Black Mirror TV Series on Netflix



6. Booksmart Film



7. Bladerunner film



8. Deutschland 83 (available for free on All 4)



9. Capital (BBC Drama)



10. Bowling for Columbine (Amazon Prime)



11. The 13th (Netflix Documentary)



12. Common: Nobody's Smiling album



13. The Specials: The Specials album



14. Spotlight film



15. Serial Podcast



16. This Game Changed My Life podcast



17. The Sisters Brothers book and film



18. Yeah Yeah Yeahs: It's Blitz! album



## A Level Media Studies: What We Study

**Male Grooming Products Advertising 1960s v Now**

**Music Videos**

**Newspapers: The i and the Daily Mail**

**Radio: Radio 1 Life Hacks and the original War of the World's radio broadcast**

**Film: Independent v Mainstream**

**TV Programmes: Deutschland 83 and Capital**

**Magazines: Men's Health and Oh**

**Online, Social and Participatory Media**

**Video Games**