MEDIA STUDIES

Canterbury
If you are fascinated by contemporary culture, curious to know what’s next and eager to influence that change, then our Media Studies degree is for you. Taught by leading researchers, you discover how media shape us, how they can enrich and transform our lives in the digital age and how you, through your creative practice, can shape the media.
WHY CHOOSE MEDIA STUDIES AT KENT?

Flexible programme
Create a programme focused on your interests. Your module choices include: contemporary culture; the media industry; digital filmmaking; podcasting; photography; psychology of the arts and video gaming. And you can choose to spend a year abroad or on placement.

Inspirational teaching
Great teachers inspire and challenge. Whether they’re lecturing on contemporary culture or sparking a discussion on violence in video games, our staff are skilled at bringing their subject to life and drawing you in to the conversation.

World-leading research
You learn from leading experts. Our staff undertake research of international quality; write and contribute to journal articles and books; are active practitioners; and provide expert comment to the media. They put you in touch with the latest ideas.

Kent’s Student Media Centre
Our student union runs a media hub where student volunteers work together to produce print, radio and online content. The hub houses industry-standard editing suites, a radio studio, and a TV studio, giving you further opportunities to get involved in media production.

Industry links
Our staff have excellent links with industry and frequently bring in colleagues from organisations such as the BBC and Guardian online to talk to students, helping them to start to build up contacts. We also hosted Oscar-winning film producer Caroline Waterlow.

Excellent resources
Access more than a million books, ebooks, databases and journals at the University’s Templeman Library. Use its dedicated viewing facilities, make the most of its DVD collection, and work at one of thousands of networked PC’s across the Canterbury campus.

Lively campus
Kent is a campus university, so everything you need is within walking distance. You can watch a play or a film at the Gulbenkian arts centre, dance at The Venue nightclub, keep fit at our sports centre and meet friends at one of the many campus cafés and restaurants.

Great location
The city of Canterbury combines medieval buildings, traditional pubs, modern bars and restaurants and chain and independent shops. London is less than an hour away by high-speed train; you can be in Paris or Brussels in around two.

Career success
Employability is a priority at Kent. By studying, you sharpen skills that are useful in working life, such as time management and developing an argument. You have opportunities to gain work experience and access to careers advice, boosting your CV and your confidence.
Media Studies: Shaping the future

Our Media Studies degree opens up many opportunities for its graduates. You gain experience of using industry-standard video and filmmaking equipment, a sound dubbing studio, individual editing suites and a digital studio. We constantly update our programme to ensure you develop the content creation and media making skills you need and, through analytical modules in media history, social media and participatory culture, the ability to understand the impact that content might have. An area that is changing so rapidly needs informed graduates able to shape its future.

Independent rankings

The Guardian University Guide 2020
• Media and Film Studies at Kent was ranked 24th overall out of 88 universities

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE)
• Over 95% of Kent’s graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017)

Research Excellence Framework
• Based on the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities

Teaching Excellence Framework
• Kent was awarded gold, the highest rating, in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework*

*The University of Kent’s Statement of Findings can be found at www.kent.ac.uk/tef-statement
Enoch Odubade is in the second year of his Media Studies degree.

Why did you choose Kent?
I came to Kent via Clearing so didn’t know a lot about it, but I instantly fell in love with the campus; it’s so green. I lived in Eliot College in my first year, it’s very central I could wake up and in five minutes be in my lecture. It’s good to be in the centre of things, you feel part of everything.

Why Media Studies?
I wasn’t sure if I wanted to study just one area. Media Studies allows you to select modules in other areas. Also, we don’t just look at media in its practical form, we analyse media, for example looking at how social media can influence political campaigns; it’s really interesting. The ability to mix and match and, to some extent, to create my own course really appealed to me. You start to discover what you’re good at, what you enjoy and what you don’t, which gives you a better idea of the path to take when you graduate.

Have you had a favourite module so far?
I’m currently studying a module about social media and participatory culture, looking at how, in the digital age, we are no longer just consumers of media, we are also content creators. This wasn’t the case, say 20 years ago, when only those in positions of power or with the right training could produce content. We are discussing what impact this wider access has on society as a whole.

Tell us about your lecturers.
My academic adviser is great, if I have any trouble with my essays, I just go and talk to her. She actually works in the media industry as well so has lots of contacts and is advising me about finding a work placement. It’s good to have a member of academic staff with these connections who knows how the industry works.

And your fellow students?
It’s quite a small course, so everybody knows each other and you don’t feel awkward asking questions in class if you don’t understand something. There’s a nice community feel.

I’m a student ambassador for my course. I enjoy it, talking to prospective students and helping them to understand what their choices are is rewarding. Having just been there myself, I know what it’s like. Being a student ambassador is also a good way to meet students from other courses.

What about the facilities?
The facilities are very good. We have the Lupino cinema and there are editing suites and computer rooms. I enjoy practical work so have experience of using this kind of equipment, but if you haven’t there’s lots of support. People in the School are very helpful.

Have you joined any student societies?
Yes. I joined the Photography Society, which I really enjoyed and I’m also in the Christian Union Society. Societies are a great way to meet people and make friends.

Do you like Canterbury?
Canterbury is a really nice city and the area is very green, it has a countryside feel, though actually it’s not far from London.

What do you want to do after you graduate?
Possibly journalism, I also enjoy documentaries and looking at how they influence society, so to move into that area would be great, and I like practical filming. I haven’t decided yet, but I think by the time I finish my degree I’ll have a good idea of what I want to do next. My academic adviser has told me to go to the University’s Careers and Employability Service, so I’ll do that.

What advice would you give to someone considering Kent?
The course itself is great and covers lots of different areas.

One thing I’d definitely recommend is visiting the campus, it’s a great campus, but you won’t appreciate how nice the environment is unless you visit. You can see pictures but it’s not the same. Also, come to uni with an open mind and throw yourself into every opportunity that comes your way. I can’t imagine myself at any other uni. You should come. I’m happy I came.
CHOOSING YOUR DEGREE

Media Studies is a new programme designed for students with a passion for contemporary culture and a desire to influence future developments in the arts.

Media Studies
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1901
This interdisciplinary degree focuses on contemporary media and the ways in which ideas about society are communicated. You examine how meaning is created, cultural expression generated, and everyday experience mediated by a rapidly evolving landscape of digital technologies and media practices.

Our teaching staff are leading researchers who guide you as you look to answer questions such as: how can we use mobile devices as tools to make art? How can we navigate ethical concerns such as violence in video games and exploitation in advertising? What are the most influential media organisations and how do they operate?

The programme includes modules that involve both theoretical discussion and creative practice. You also select modules from a wide range available in areas such as media arts, photography, television studies, screenwriting and contemporary art. In addition, you can also take a 'wild' module from subject areas such as, film studies, drama and theatre, art history, literature, history, philosophy, politics and sociology.

Our modules are designed to deepen understanding of contemporary media, develop critical thinking and analytical skills, and enhance creative ability. You also develop specialist subject skills and knowledge, providing an excellent grounding for employment in the media and creative industries. You also develop a range of transferable skills that are valuable in many careers beyond media and the arts.

Media Studies with an Approved Year Abroad
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1906
The year abroad programme is a four-year degree. You have the same module choices as you would on the three-year programme, but (subject to satisfactory progression) you spend a year between your second and final year studying abroad.

Teaching and assessment
All modules involve lectures, small group seminars, screenings and occasionally group trips to galleries, museums, libraries or festivals. Helping you to acquire independence of thought and the skills of autonomous learning are central to our teaching aims. At the same time, the Media Studies programme emphasises a close working relationship with students. You have access to a designated tutor for academic guidance throughout your time at university.

Methods of assessment vary between modules. The majority of modules are assessed solely by coursework, while others have a mix of coursework and exams.

Typically, you attend two lectures a week of one-and-a-half to two hours in duration and two seminars or workshops of two to three hours. In addition, many modules have screenings, readings, trips and related learning activity. In addition to seminars, workshops and lectures, teaching across the programme includes one-to-one guidance and project supervision.

Joint honours
You can study Media Studies as part of a joint honours degree with the following subjects:
- Media Studies and Art History
- Media Studies and Drama
- Media Studies and Film

For more details about our joint honours programmes, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

International students
If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme (IFP), which can provide progression to the Media Studies programme. For more information, see our website: www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Further information
If you want to know more about this programme, please contact:
T: +44 (0)1227 823177
E: arts@kent.ac.uk
At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience either by studying overseas or through a work placement.

All students within the School of Arts can apply to spend a year studying abroad or on placement as part of their degree programme. The year usually takes place between the second and final years of study.

Year abroad
Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally.

You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and being able to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing and rewarding experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

We have exciting exchange links with universities in Asia, the USA, and Canada, as well as many European destinations via the Erasmus exchange network. See the A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities/az.html for details.

Placement year
The placement year provides the opportunity for you to gain experience in the workplace as part of your degree. The placement can be either paid work or an internship.

It gives you the opportunity to increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate. If taken, the year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and employers may offer expenses or a salary.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement
Your studies are divided into three stages. At Stage 1 you take a series of introductory modules. Your studies at Stages 2 and 3 build on these foundations and also allow you to follow your own interests.

Module information
Please note that these module lists are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. The details are correct at the time of publication (June 2019). See www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

In addition to the listed modules, you can choose to take up to 30 credits per year from the University’s extensive list of ‘wild’ modules in subject areas such as, film studies, drama and theatre, art history, literature, history, philosophy, politics and sociology.

To read a full description of any of the modules listed, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search for the module code. Where a module code isn’t shown, just search using the module title.

Stage 1
You take the following module:
• Media and Meaning (MSTU3010).

You then take at least two from:
• Media and Identity (MSTU4002)
• Making Media (MSTU3000)
• Media Audiences (MSTU4001).

You then choose optional modules that may include:
• Contemporary Culture and Media (SO335)
• Film Style (FI313)
• Introduction to Contemporary Art (HA314/HA315)
• Introduction to the History of Photography (HA316/HA317)
Stage 3
You take the following modules:
- Media, Industry and Innovation (MSTU6001).

You then choose optional modules from a list that may include:
- Arts Internship (ART501)
- Arts Funding and Policy: Making It Happen (ART526)
- Independent Project (ART500)
- Social Media and Participatory Culture (MSTU6003)
- Transmedia: Comics, Games and VR (MSTU5003).

“After I graduate, I will probably do a Master’s. This degree has opened my eyes to modern media and I feel there is so much more research to be done. With regards to a career, I hope to go into marketing and advertising, where I can apply the skills I’ve learnt at Kent.”

Aldo Manella
Media Studies
SUPERB STUDY SUPPORT

We’ll support you throughout your time at Kent, from helping you adjust to university study to discussing module choices and essay topics with you.

You are assigned an academic adviser in your first year, and they help you get the most from your degree programme. They meet with you regularly to discuss general academic issues or specific assignments. They are able to assist you in developing academic skills and refer you to other sources of help if you need it.

Peer support

The best advice often comes from people who’ve been in your situation. On our buddy scheme, first-year students can request to be matched with second- or third-year students on a similar degree programme.

‘Buddies’ can help you settle in to university life and find your feet. They can help you to discuss ideas and improve your study skills as you progress through your first year.

Study skills advice

Successful students take control of their own learning. Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service (SLAS) can help you increase your competence and confidence and fulfil your potential. You can request a one-to-one appointment or attend workshops on a diverse range of topics from making the most of lectures to writing well and avoiding plagiarism.

Student support and wellbeing

You might need extra help to get the most from university. If you have a medical condition, specific learning difficulty, mental health condition or disability, the Student Support and Wellbeing team is there to support you.

They are committed to improving access to learning for all students at Kent and can assist with many things, including:

• talking to your lecturers about any help you need in lectures or seminars
• arranging note-takers, signers and other support workers for you
• discussing exam access arrangements
• helping you with emotional, psychological or mental health issues
• applying for relevant funding to support you.

Find out more at: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

“There may be times during your studies when you need friendly support and guidance. You may have issues with your health, concerns about money, or worries about your studies. Whatever it might be, you will be welcome at the Arts Student Support Office, where we will listen and advise.”

Jacqui Double
Arts Student Support Officer
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

What do you hope to do once you have your degree? Whether you have a specific career path in mind or haven’t yet thought much beyond university, we can help you to plan for success in the future.

Build your CV
Your degree studies help you to develop skills such as thinking critically, expressing yourself clearly, solving problems and working both independently and as part of a team. These transferable skills are valued by employers and will also be vital if you go on to further study.

At Kent, you have lots of other great opportunities to enhance your skills. For instance, you could:
• join a society or sports club (even better – get involved in running it)
• volunteer in the community
• work in a part-time job or take up a summer internship
• represent your fellow students as a student rep, or become a student ambassador
• learn a new language or skill with Study Plus.

Getting involved like this means that you can earn Employability Points, which you can exchange for employability rewards. The more points you earn, the more valuable the rewards. We work with local, national and international employers to offer internships, work experience and a range of other activities that prepare you for the world of work.

Developing career skills
The creative industries are competitive, but if you combine ambition with the skills you gain at Kent you will be in a great position to succeed. If you choose to spend a year on placement, you give yourself the opportunity to make contacts and assess possible career paths. Many students find that working during their summer break is a good way to gain valuable experience.

Find a great job
Your degree can lead to a wide range of fascinating careers – graduates from the School of Arts have gone on to work in journalism, photography, film and TV production, arts organisations, film and TV archives, marketing and distribution, and university and school teaching. Our Media Studies graduates will have lots of options open to them including online film and content producers, gallery curators, podcast producers and media analysts.

Your School supports you with employability events tailored to humanities students, from exploring career options to presenting your skills and experience effectively to employers.

Visit our careers fair to talk to potential employers and use our award-winning Careers and Employability Service for advice on preparing your CV. Our track record speaks for itself: over 95% of Kent graduates who responded to the most recent national survey of graduate destinations were in work or further study within six months (DLHE, 2017).
Choosing a university is a big step, so it’s important to find out as much as you can before you make your decision. Come and visit us to see what we can offer you.

Open Days
Open Days are a great way to find out what life as a student at Kent is like. For instance, you can:

- learn more about the course you are interested in at a subject presentation
- ask questions – talk to the academic teams at the information stands
- find out about student finance, opportunities to study abroad and extra-curricular activities such as those run by Kent Sport.

Explore the campus at your own pace on the self-guided walking tour. You can visit different types of accommodation, chat to current students and enjoy the stunning views over the city of Canterbury.

Open Days are held in the summer and autumn. Book your place at www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to Kent and we offer you a place (or ask you to come for an interview), you will usually be invited to an Applicant Day. Applicant Days run in the spring term and are an opportunity to find out about the course in more detail. You spend time with your academic school meeting staff and current students, and take part in activities that give you a flavour of your prospective course and university life.

Informal visits
If you can’t make it to an Open Day or Applicant Day, you can still visit us. We run tours of the campus throughout the year.

If you live outside Europe, we appreciate that you might find it difficult to attend our scheduled events, so we can arrange a personal campus tour for you and your family.

Let us know you’re coming
Scheduled tours and personal campus tours (for international students) need to be booked in advance – you can do this via www.kent.ac.uk/informal

Meet us in your country
Our staff regularly travel overseas to meet with students who are interested in coming to Kent. We also have strong links with agents in your home country who can offer guidance and information
Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programme
Single honours
• Media Studies (W990)
• Media Studies with an Approved Year Abroad (W991)

Joint honours
• Media Studies and Art History
• Media Studies and Drama
• Media Studies and Film

For UCAS codes please see: www.kent.ac.uk/ug

Offer levels
Single honours
BBB at A level;
BTEC Extended Diploma: DDM
IB Diploma 34 points overall including 15 points at HL.

Year abroad
Those students taking a year abroad must meet the necessary requirements at the end of Stage 1 and Stage 2 in order to spend a year abroad studying at one of our partner universities. The year abroad is between Stages 2 and 3. For more details, see p7 or visit our website at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

Placement year
Students have the opportunity to apply for a placement year in the UK or abroad, working for an organisation or company as part of their studies. The placement year takes place between Stages 2 and 3. For more details, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement

Funding opportunities
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug/funding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug

This brochure was produced in June 2019. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit