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AQH-B2-3b Postgraduate Programme  
Specification Template  
February 2014

## Postgraduate Programme Specification Template

### SECTION A: CORE INFORMATION

1. Name of programme      Media and Cultural Studies
2. Award title              Masters
3. Programme linkage  
Is this part of a group of linked programmes between which students can transfer at agreed points? (eg a group of programmes with a common set of taught modules)

Yes, MA Film and Cultural Studies

MA Film & Cultural Studies and MA Media and Cultural Studies offer the same modules for the Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and Masters, enabling students from both programmes to be taught together. This enables students to contextualize their work within the wider field of film, media and cultural studies, and acts as excellent preparation should they wish to go on to PhD study. For the MA Media and Cultural Studies, students will begin to specialize in media/cultural studies at Diploma level through their selection of an appropriate topic for an independent study module, which is done in consultation with the module leader or a designated tutor. Specialization in media/cultural studies continues at Masters level via the student's choice of research project for their dissertation. Again, this will be done in negotiation with the module leader or a designated tutor. For both modules, the consultation process ensures that the chosen topics are appropriate for the award for which the student is registered and will meet the

learning outcomes of the programme.

4. Is the programme a top-up only? No

5. Level of award: Level 7

6. Awarding body: University of Sunderland

7. Which department is it in? Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies

8. Programme Studies Board: Film, Media and Cultural Studies

9. Programme Leader: Professor Julia Knight

10. How and where can I study the programme?

At Sunderland:	
Full-time on campus	X
Part-time on campus	X
As work-based learning full-time	
As work-based learning part-time	
As a full-time sandwich course	
As a part-time sandwich course	
By distance learning	

At a partner college:	
Full-time in the UK	
Part-time in the UK	
Full-time overseas	X*
Part-time overseas	
By distance learning	
As a full-time sandwich course in the UK	
As a part-time sandwich course in the UK	
As a full-time sandwich course overseas	
As a part-time sandwich course overseas	
As work-based learning full-time in the UK	
As work-based learning part-time overseas	
Other (please specify)	

\* the final Masters module, the dissertation, is currently offered at HKUSpace (Hong Kong).

11. How long does the programme take?

	Min number of years	Max number of years
Full-time	1	3
Part-time	2	3
Distance learning		
Work-based learning		

For start-dates please see the current edition of the Prospectus or contact the relevant department at the University.

SECTION B – FURTHER CORE INFORMATION

23. Learning and teaching strategy.

The learning and teaching strategy for this programme is designed to encourage and develop independent, active and reflective learners, as well as offer students a combination of core competencies and flexible specialisms in Media and Cultural Studies.

The programme seeks to address the student experience in terms of both subject-specific knowledge and competencies and generic or transferable skills and abilities. The diversity of teaching, learning and assessment methods used on the undergraduate programmes at Sunderland is continued in this MA programme and is designed to enable students to develop as autonomous learners and researchers, encouraging the high degree of self-direction and responsibility that is the hallmark of work for a Masters award. Students are encouraged to develop their own theoretical and methodological perspectives to inform their future educational, professional and personal practices. The programme provides a learning environment within which the growth of subject-specific knowledge, analytic abilities, generic and specific skills can be developed and assessed. The teaching and learning strategy is designed to inspire students to approach their engagement with the programme content with curiosity and enthusiasm.

24. Retention strategy.

The University has a range of strategies in place to guide and support students which help to maintain retention.

Induction

Students enrolling on this programme have an induction day, introducing them to the University, the staff, support staff and fellow students. These usually include inductions to the library, IT support, social and student union activities, and are

all designed to help students make friends, settle in to University life, find their way around and get ready for their studies.

### Student handbook

All students have access to the student handbook that explains important details about their academic studies, how and where to get advice and support, and directs them to some of the wider support systems in place for students.

### Attendance

The University has a system of attendance monitoring whereby students swipe in electronically each contact session. Any unexplained absences are noted and admin staff contact each missing student to make sure everything is okay and to ask if they need any support. Further unexplained absences result in more formal letters being sent to ask for a meeting with the student at which any issues can be resolved.

### Student Reps

Students on all MA programmes elect a student representative who can speak for them at the various committees and forums where decisions are made about how their programme is run.

### Staff Student Liaison Committee (SSLC)

Each area holds SSLC meetings at least once per term at which students and staff are invited to identify elements that are worth commending about the operation of each programme, as well as things that need to be addressed. An action plan ensures that all agreed actions are followed up and addressed.

### Personal tutor

All students are allocated a personal tutor who is there to turn to and who can support them or direct them to where appropriate help may be obtained. Students can request a change of tutor without any questions asked.

### Student Support Manager

The Faculty has a Student Support Manager who they can meet to discuss anything if a student prefers to discuss issues with someone who is outside of their immediate academic community.

25. Any other information?                      No

## SECTION C - TEACHING AND LEARNING

26. What is the programme about?

The overall aims of the programme are to:

- facilitate a high level of research enabling individual students to explore the relationship between their specialist discipline(s) and the broadly based context of Cultural Studies;
- develop critical awareness of the interdisciplinary study of Media and Cultural Studies;
- encourage students to identify, explore, develop and debate their own research interests as they relate to those of their peers, contemporary media and/or culture and contextualised within current theoretical issues and debates;
- encourage the development of advanced research skills through the exploration of a broad range of approaches, perspectives, themes and issues;
- produce postgraduates capable of advanced and independent research in the area of Media and Cultural Studies.

27. What will I know or be able to do at the end of the programme?

### Learning Outcomes Postgraduate Certificate – Skills

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Skills

- S1 Demonstrate the ability to select and compare relevant theory information from a range of theories from the field of Media and Cultural Studies
- S2 Demonstrate the ability to use academic skills
- S3 Use a range of learning resources, manage information and undertake research or investigative tasks independently.

### Learning Outcomes Postgraduate Certificate – Knowledge

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Knowledge

- K1 Critically evaluate and be able to discuss how established techniques of research and enquiry could be used to create and interpret knowledge in Media and Cultural Studies
- K2 Demonstrate originality in their approach to research issues and perspectives and evidence of self-directed investigation and engagement with research processes.

### Learning Outcomes Postgraduate Diploma – Skills

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Skills

- S4 Demonstrate the ability to adapt and apply knowledge, concepts or theories in new contexts
- S5 Demonstrate the ability to critically reflect on their own and others' work in order to improve their research skills and engage confidently in academic and professional communication with others.

### Learning Outcomes Postgraduate Diploma – Knowledge

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Knowledge

- K3 Demonstrate understanding of theories and methodologies appropriate to interdisciplinary studies of Media and Culture
- K4 Apply conceptual ideas and advanced analytical skills to the study of Media and Culture

### Learning Outcomes Masters – Skills

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Skills

- S6 Demonstrate the skill and critical awareness to analyse, synthesise, evaluate and interpret ideas and information, and work with it at the forefront of the discipline
- S7 Demonstrate expertise in research and analytical skills
- S8 Demonstrate initiative and decision making abilities, the ability to organise and present information, and the independent learning skills required for further academic study (eg progression to a PhD in a related area of study) and/or professional development (eg employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility).

### Learning Outcomes Masters – Knowledge

By the end of this part of the programme successful students should know, understand or be able to do the following:

#### Knowledge

- K5 Demonstrate depth and systematic understanding of specialised knowledge in Media and Cultural Studies
- K6 Demonstrate mastery of a specialised area of Media and Cultural Studies

## 28. What will the programme consist of?

Taught postgraduate programmes generally consist of a number of taught modules leading to the award of a Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits) or Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits). A Masters qualification (180 credits) usually culminates in a major piece

of independent work such as a project or dissertation. All modules are at postgraduate level (level 7 in the UK's national scheme). The summary below describes briefly what is contained in the programme. The programme structure, including a detailed list of modules, can be found in the [programme regulations](#)

In term 1, students will take:

### Key Thinkers: Engaging with Theory (30 credits)

On this module, students are encouraged to engage critically with theoretical issues that will help to inform their broader media and cultural studies at Masters level. The approach employed is to engage with a range of key thinkers. While the precise list might change from year to year, it would include such theorists/thinkers as Judith Butler, Manuel Castells, Jürgen Habermas, Henry Jenkins, Laura Mulvey, Janice Radway, Edward Said and Raymond Williams.

### Consumption in Everyday Life (30 credits)

This module begins with a consideration of why consumption and everyday life have become important areas of study in recent years. Students will explore debates about structure and agency in relation to everyday consumption practices, as well as look at more specific cases of consumption in everyday life. For example, these cases may include: the consumption of fashion, popular literature and popular music, as well as the consumption of video games, television, film and online content. In addressing these various cases, students will encounter a range of theories and research methods.

These two Postgraduate Certificate modules are designed to generate discussion around and engagement with a range of key thinkers and theories and to enable students to begin to apply theoretical approaches to their own particular areas of interest.

In term 2, student will take:

### **Research Methods in Film, Media & Cultural Studies (30 credits)**

This module fosters and develops the skills necessary for the completion of the MA and independent research more generally, including preparing students for progressing to PhD study. Via a series of case studies – covering such approaches as film analysis, researching film history, feminist methods, archival research and ethnography – students will engage with a number of methodological traditions and practical skills in researching areas of media and cultural studies.

### **Independent Study Topic in Media & Cultural Studies (30 credits)**

This module is independent study, allowing students to engage in a small-scale self-directed piece of research in order to produce an extended essay of 6000 words. Topics

are agreed in negotiation with the module leaders to ensure they are appropriate for the named award.

These two Postgraduate Diploma modules are designed to equip students with more advanced research skills to enable them to explore in more depth and complexity those particular areas of the broader field which interests them. The modules allow greater scope for independent learning and the development of research interests.

In term 3, students will take:

**Dissertation** (60 credits)

This module is an independent, self-directed study, which enables students to undertake a substantial research project and produce a 12000–14000 word dissertation. Topics are agreed in negotiation with the module leaders to ensure they are appropriate for the named award.

This final Masters module draws on all the elements of the previous modules to enable students to deliver an individually initiated and authored major project, which exhibits the high level of initiative and independent work that is expected at Masters level.

29. How will I be taught?

Scheduled teaching activities	X
Independent study	X
Placement	

Scheduled teaching activities include:

**Lectures:** to disseminate historical, contextual and theoretical knowledge and to provide the basis for generating further debate in seminars or tutorials or for further enquiry in independent learning or research.

**Screenings and/or field trips:** to provide a shared experience of ‘consumption’ to provide the basis for group of the application of theories and critical approaches to understanding film and culture.

**Seminars:** to provide opportunities for the group debate of theories, contexts and approaches which in turn allow students to describe, develop and explore their areas of interest and get feedback on their ideas and perspectives from lecturers and the peer group. Seminars can be student-led allowing individuals and groups the opportunities to present topics of research, develop skills in formulating materials for an audience, and refine their oral communication skills and build confidence in presentation.

Supervision: to provide students with individual academic guidance specifically in relation to the two independent study modules, the Diploma level Independent Study Topic, and the Masters level Dissertation

Tutorials: to provide students with individual academic guidance, encouragement and feedback as well as more focused discussion and debate than might be generally attainable within group seminars.

The two Postgraduate Certificate modules are both taught modules, with some content delivered via lectures. Group discussion is an important part of the learning and teaching strategy here, with the aim of fostering a critical awareness of a broad range of perspectives, issues and approaches, along with starting to develop students' ability to apply them to their own areas of interest. Since some students on the programme might have academic backgrounds in areas outside of Media and Cultural Studies, the learning and teaching strategy on these two modules is intended to cater for their learning needs whilst helping to develop the understanding of students who are more familiar with these fields at the outset. This is a difficult balance to strike – but the interdisciplinary approaches of Media and Cultural Studies enable connections to be made with other areas in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

The Diploma 'Research Methods' module is also a taught module with some content delivered via lectures, but greater emphasis is placed on class discussion, with students being invited to enter into a critical dialogue with staff and fellow students. These class discussions are designed to be flexible, allowing students to participate in shaping the dialogue, so enabling them to explore ideas relating to research methods and their uses critically at an advanced level, laying the groundwork for transition to more independent learning. At the same time, this module has a clear framework organised around a structured selection of methods that allows a range of possible research interests to be explored. This strategy is in line with the aim of fostering in students core competences and flexible specialisms, with a view to producing postgraduates who are capable of advanced and independent research in the area of Media and Cultural Studies. The Diploma level 'Independent Study Topic' and Masters level 'Dissertation' modules provide opportunities for students to pursue the interests they have developed in the preceding taught modules or expand their interests through independent study.

Taught contact time reduces as students progress through the Diploma level modules in preparation for the final Masters level module and as expectations increase for the students to develop Masters level transferable skills such as self-reliance, initiative and ability to manage complex situations. The nature of contact time with students changes from largely seminars and lectures at the Certificate and Diploma levels to mainly individual supervision by the final Masters level.

In addition to the scheduled teaching activities, students on the programme

are expected to attend the Research Seminars organised by the Centre for Research in Media & Cultural Studies (CRMCS), where a range of internal and external speakers present research in progress and new projects. On occasions, the programme team also organise research symposia or conferences where speakers present their latest research, and students on the MA will be invited to attend. These events offer excellent opportunities to students to gain an understanding of the range and multiplicity of approaches, methodologies and traditions within Media and Cultural Studies and to be motivated by the vibrancy of the field.

A list of the modules in the programme can be found in the [Programme Regulations](#).

A summary of the types of teaching, learning and assessment in each module of the programme can be found in the [Matrix of Modes of Teaching](#).

30. How will I be assessed and given feedback?

Written examinations	
Coursework	X
Practical assessments	X

A summary of the types of teaching, learning and assessment in each module of the programme can be found in the [Matrix of Modes of Teaching](#).

The generic assessment criteria, can be found [here](#). Some programmes use subject-specific assessment criteria which are based on the generic ones.

This programme uses the Generic University Assessment Criteria	YES	
This programme uses the Subject Specific Assessment Criteria		NO

The University regulations can be found [here](#).

Assessment strategies at Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma levels are designed to provide a foundation for the independent research and academic skills required to produce the MA level dissertation (between 12,000 and 14,000 words). The Postgraduate Certificate and Diploma modules are assessed by means of shorter projects or essays (equivalent to 6,000 words per 30 credits). On the Certificate level modules, essays will be set in such a way that they test the ability of the student to engage critically with a broader range of ideas. Assessment of – and feedback on – these essays will also focus on the academic writing skills of

students, since these skills will be essential later in the preparation of the dissertation. On the Diploma level modules, projects or essays will be set in such a way that they encourage individual exploration, analysis and evaluation in a specific strand of Media and Cultural Studies. The emphasis throughout on assessing individual writing and research is appropriate for a postgraduate programme of this sort, especially when one of the intended learning outcomes is to equip students with the high level of independent learning skills necessary for progression to PhD research and/or professional employment. On the Masters level dissertation module, submission of an outline proposal and oral presentation of work in progress to staff and fellow students will be required. These are designed to create opportunities for informal feedback to the student and will not be formally assessed.

### 31. Teaching, Learning and Assessment Matrix

### 32. How does research influence the programme?

Most members of staff hold research degrees at Doctoral and Masters level, and are presently engaged in the wider academic community as external examiners on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes at other institutions. Staff are also active as academic and critical practitioners. Recent research projects have covered a range of theoretical and practical concerns, and outcomes have been disseminated via publication, conference presentation, community work and public engagement activities. Staff research underpins and informs the three taught modules on the programme and facilitates the specialist supervision on the independent study modules. The Diploma level 'Independent Study Topic' and 'Masters' level Dissertation enable students to engage in their own research projects and develop their research skills.

The media area continues to consolidate and develop its research activities, skills and methodologies through initiatives based on individual and collaborative research projects, collaborative exchange, industry and community links and contact with external scholars and funding partners.

The Centre for Research in Media and Cultural Studies (CRMCS) research seminars, held fortnightly on Monday evenings, also provide important staff development, and staff from across all parts of the Media Area attend, as well as postgraduate students. Speakers at these events often discuss research in progress that is directly related to the programme. CRMCS also regularly holds conferences and symposia on a range of topics which are open to all staff and students.

The Prospect Building at St Peter's Campus is equipped with a cross-Faculty Learning Resource Centre and specialist Library provision. Staff liaise regularly with these resource providers, who are supportive and generally responsive to expressed needs and provide excellent help with the development of online learning resources.

## SECTION D EMPLOYABILITY

33. How will the programme prepare me for employment?

The programme gives students the opportunity to develop advanced skills and knowledge which they can use in the future. Some postgraduate programmes are associated with a particular career path but most skills can be applied to a range of employment situations. This programme equips students for progression to a PhD in a related area of study and professional employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility).

There are also opportunities for on-campus students outside your programme of study. For information about other opportunities available to our students who study on campus, click [here](#).

34. Particular Features

None

35. Professional statutory or regulatory body (PSRB) accreditation. Choose one of the following.

PSRB accreditation is not relevant to this programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PSRB accreditation is currently being sought for this programme	<input type="checkbox"/>
This programme currently has PSRB accreditation	<input type="checkbox"/>

## SECTION E PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND REGULATION

Use Programme Regulations Form, for questions 36 and 37

**Name of programme:** *Media and Cultural Studies*

**Title of final award:** *MA Media and Cultural Studies*

**Interim awards:** *Postgraduate Certificate in Media and Cultural Studies; Postgraduate Diploma in Media and Cultural Studies.*

**Accreditation:** *None*

**University Regulation** (please state the relevant University Regulation):

*AQH-F1-2 Postgraduate Regulations 2015–16 Version 18.0 October 2015*

**Regulations apply to students commencing their studies from** (please state the date / intake that these regulations will apply to students for each Stage):

Regulations apply to students	Date the regulations apply	Intakes affected
Stage 1	2016–17	2016–17

### **Certificate**

**Core modules:**

Code	Title	Credits
<i>MACM24</i>	<i>Key Thinkers: Engaging with Theory</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>MEDM06</i>	<i>Consumption in Everyday Life</i>	<i>30</i>

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme-specific progression regulations*

### **Diploma**

**Core modules**

Code	Title	Credits
<i>MACM25</i>	<i>Research Methods in Film, Media &amp; Cultural Studies</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>MEDM07</i>	<i>Independent Study Topic in Film and/or Media and Cultural Studies</i>	<i>30</i>

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme specific progression regulations*

## **MA**

### **Core modules**

Code	Title	Credits
MACM08	<i>Dissertation</i>	60

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme-specific progression regulations*

## SECTION F ADMISSIONS, LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORT

### 38. What are the admissions requirements?

The University's standard admissions requirements can be found in the [university regulations](#). Programme-specific requirements which are in addition to those regulations are given below. Admissions to the MA programme are administered through the University's Applications Unit, involving consultation with the Programme Leader.

Applicants are normally required to have a good honours degree in an appropriate field or discipline (2.1 or above), and those with a 2.2 are considered on a case-by- case basis.

As part of the University's widening participation policy, applicants with no formal academic qualifications will be considered if they have an appropriate professional background or experience. All such applicants are required to demonstrate, through interview, or letter of intent and essay that they have the ability, motivation and commitment to cope with the demands of postgraduate studies.

Can students enter with advanced standing?

No

The University has a process by which applicants whose experience to date already covers one or more modules of the programme they are applying for may seek Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL). Full details can be found [here](#) but if you think that this may be relevant to you, please contact the department which offers the programme you are interested in.

39. What kind of support and help will there be?

a. in the department: describe the student support in place in the department/ faculty:

Pastoral support is provided by the Programme Leader (first point of call), Module Leaders and dissertation supervisors. All teaching staff are available during their publicised office hours and via email for the purpose of providing academic support, guidance and advice on student progress. Students may, at any time, request an alternative support tutor from within the MA or wider Media Team.

b. in the university as a whole:

The University provides a range of professional support services including [health and well-being](#), [counselling](#), [disability support](#), and a [Chaplaincy](#). Click on the links for further information.

40. What resources will I have access to?

On campus

General Teaching and Learning Space	X
IT	X
Library	X
VLE	X
Laboratory	
Studio	
Performance space	
Other specialist	X
Technical resources	X

The David Puttnam Media Centre has a range of resources, including a large cinema used for viewing films, and is based on the St Peter's Campus along with the St Peter's Library, which is an important resource with an excellent stock of books in the media and culture areas. The University Library Services offer a range of resources, both in print and online, in support of University learning, teaching and research activities. The three site libraries provide information collections, a variety of study spaces, IT facilities and experienced library staff during core hours, with online services and support available at any time off-campus. In addition, both the Murray and St. Peter's libraries offer 24/7 access during main teaching weeks.

On joining the University, all students attend a Library Induction session and library

staff are available to help with enquiries during library opening hours. In addition, library staff are experienced in working with academic colleagues in designing and delivering customised Information Skills workshops, either timetabled sessions embedded into core modules or individual sessions provided on request. These workshops provide students with the skills they need to identify and evaluate information from both print collections and

electronic sources, including subject specific databases and gateways, online journals and other quality sources available on the Internet. Students can also access subject specific help sheets, online tutorials, FAQs and many more sources of information on the Library website [www.library.sunderland.ac.uk](http://www.library.sunderland.ac.uk) Information about the University's facilities can be found [here](#).

41. Are there any additional costs on top of the fees?

No, but all students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials.	X
Yes (optional) All students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials. In addition there are some are additional costs for optional activities associated with the programme (see below)	
Yes (essential) All students buy some study materials such as books and provide their own basic study materials. In addition there are some are essential additional costs associated with the programme (see below)	

42. How are student views represented?

All taught programmes in the University have student representatives for each programme who meet in a Student-Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC) where they can raise students' views and concerns. The Students' Union and the faculties together provide training for student representatives. SSLCs and on occasion focus groups are also used to obtain student feedback on plans for developing existing programmes and designing new ones. Feedback on your programme is obtained every year through module questionnaires and informs the annual review of your programme

Student representatives are also invited to attend Programme and Module Studies Boards which manage the delivery and development of programmes and modules. Various Faculty committees, particularly Faculty Student Success Committee, Academic Development Committee and Quality Management Sub-Committee also have student representation. This allows students to be involved in higher-level plans for teaching and learning. There is a parallel structure at university level on which students are represented by sabbatical officers who are the elected leaders of the Students' Union.

The University's student representation and feedback policy can be found [here](#).

Every two years we participate in the national Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) which is run by the Higher Education Academy.

## SECTION G QUALITY MANAGEMENT

### 43. National subject benchmarks

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education publishes benchmark statements which give guidance as to the skills and knowledge which graduates in various subjects and in certain types of degree are expected to have. They do not cover all subjects at postgraduate level but those which exist can be found at [here](#).

Are there any benchmark statements for this programme? No

### 44. How are the quality and standards of the programme assured?

The programme is managed and quality assured through the University's standard processes. Programmes are overseen by Module and Programme Studies Boards which include student representatives. Each year each module leader provides a brief report on the delivery of the module, identifying strengths and areas for development, and the programme team reviews the programme as a whole. The purpose of this is to ensure that the programme is coherent and up-to-date, with suitable progression through the programme, and a good fit (alignment) between what is taught and how students learn and are assessed – the learning outcomes, content and types of teaching, learning and assessment. Student achievement, including progress through the programme and the way in which the final award is made, is kept under review. The programme review report is sent to the Faculty Quality Management Sub-Committee which in turn reports issues to the University's Quality Management Sub-Committee (QMSC) and Academic Development Committee (ADC).

External examiners are appointed to oversee and advise on the assessment of the programme. They ensure that the standards of the programme are comparable with those of similar programmes elsewhere in the UK and are also involved in the assessment process to make sure that it is fair. They are invited to comment on proposed developments to the programme. Their reports are sent to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) as well as to the Faculty so that issues of concern can be addressed.

All programmes are reviewed by the University on a six-yearly cycle to identify good practice and areas for enhancement. Programmes are revalidated through this review process. These reviews include at least one academic specialist in the subject area concerned from another UK university. The University is subject to external review by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education on a six-year cycle. Their review reports for Sunderland can be found at [here](#).

Further information about our quality processes can be found [here](#).

**Name of programme:** *Media and Cultural Studies*

**Title of final award:** *MA Media and Cultural Studies*

**Interim awards:** *Postgraduate Certificate in Media and Cultural Studies; Postgraduate Diploma in Media and Cultural Studies.*

**Accreditation:** *None*

**University Regulation** (please state the relevant University Regulation):

*AQH-F1-2 Postgraduate Regulations 2015–16 Version 18.0 October 2015*

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### **Certificate**

**Core modules:**

Code	Title	Credits
<i>MACM24</i>	<i>Key Thinkers: Engaging with Theory</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>MEDM06</i>	<i>Consumption in Everyday Life</i>	<i>30</i>

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme-specific progression regulations*

### **Diploma**

**Core modules**

Code	Title	Credits
<i>MACM25</i>	<i>Research Methods in Film, Media &amp; Cultural Studies</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>MEDM07</i>	<i>Independent Study Topic in Media and Cultural Studies</i>	<i>30</i>

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme specific progression regulations*

### **MA**

**Core modules**

Code	Title	Credits
<i>MACM08</i>	<i>Dissertation</i>	<i>60</i>

### **Progression Regulations**

*There are no programme-specific progression regulations*

Appendix 2: Matrix of modes of teaching, learning and assessment  
Postgraduate Certificate

Module	Code	Core	Modes of T&L	Modes of Assessment	LO S1	LO S2	LO S3	LO K1	LO K2
Key Thinkers	MACM24	Core	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, small group work, directed independent learning	Coursework (two essays)	D	T A	D	T A	
Consumption in Everyday Life	MEDM06	Core	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, small group work, directed independent learning	Presentation, essay	D A	T A	D	T A	T A

Postgraduate Diploma

Module	Code	Core	Modes of T&L	Modes of Assessment	LO S4	LO S5	LO K3	LO K4
Research Methods in Film, Media & Cultural Studies	MACM25	Core	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, small group work, directed independent learning	Critical review, presentation, research project proposal	D A	T A	T A	
Independent Study Topic in	MEDM07	Core	Supervised self-directed independent learning	Research Project		D	D	D T A

Masters

Module	Code	Core	Modes of T&L	Modes of Assessment	LO S6	LO S7	LO S8	LO K5	LO K6
Dissertation in Film and/or Media & Cultural Studies	MACM08	Core	Supervised self-directed independent learning	Presentation, Essay	D	D	D	T A	T A