

School administrators and Heads of Learning Area – Media Production and Analysis and teachers of Media Production and Analysis ATAR Year 12 are requested to note for 2026 the following minor syllabus changes. The syllabus is labelled ‘For teaching from 2026’.

Media Production and Analysis | ATAR Year 12 | Summary of minor syllabus changes for 2026

The content identified by ~~strikethrough~~ has been deleted from the syllabus and the content identified in *italics* has been revised in the syllabus for teaching from 2026.

Appendix 1 – Grade descriptions Year 12*

A	<p>Response</p> <p><i>Analyses how media languages are utilised in a breadth of media work, through systems of communication and narrative, codes and conventions.</i></p> <p><i>Analyses how representations are constructed to impact, persuade and challenge.</i></p> <p><i>Analyses how audiences use and interpret media work through the application of media theories and an understanding of cultural contexts, values, attitudes and trends.</i></p> <p><i>Analyses how media producers manage factors that affect the content of media work.</i></p> <p><i>Analyses how production context impacts media work.</i></p>
	<p>Production</p> <p><i>Advanced exploration and appropriate documentation of ideas, including refinement and evaluation of production choices.</i></p> <p><i>Advanced comprehension of controls and constraints and clear consideration of strategies to mitigate associated production challenges.</i></p> <p><i>Advanced application of skills and processes across all stages of production, including art direction, cinematography (or cinematographic elements), editing and sound design.</i></p> <p><i>Advanced construction of genre/style/narrative to support theme through experimenting, manipulating and refining the use of codes and conventions for a specific purpose/context/audience.</i></p>
B	<p>Response</p> <p><i>Explains how media languages are utilised in media work, through systems of communication and narrative, codes and conventions.</i></p> <p><i>Explains how representations are constructed to impact, persuade and challenge.</i></p> <p><i>Explains how audiences use and interpret media work, with reference to media theories and an understanding of cultural contexts, values, attitudes and trends.</i></p> <p><i>Explains how media producers manage factors that affect the content of media work.</i></p> <p><i>Explains how production context impacts media work.</i></p>
	<p>Production</p> <p><i>Proficient exploration and appropriate documentation of ideas, including refinement and evaluation of production choices.</i></p> <p><i>Informed comprehension of controls and constraints, and clear consideration of strategies to mitigate associated production challenges.</i></p> <p><i>Proficient application of skills and processes across all stages of production, including art direction, cinematography (or cinematographic elements), editing and sound design.</i></p> <p><i>Informed construction of genre/style/narrative to support theme through experimenting, manipulating and refining the use of codes and conventions for a specific purpose/context/audience.</i></p>

C	<p>Response</p> <p><i>Describes media languages in media work, through systems of communication and narrative, codes and conventions.</i></p> <p><i>Describes representations constructed to impact, persuade and challenge.</i></p> <p><i>Describes how audiences make meaning by referencing concepts such as media theories, cultural contexts, values, attitudes and/or trends.</i></p> <p><i>Describes how media producers manage factors that affect the content of media work.</i></p> <p><i>Describes how production context impacts media work.</i></p>
	<p>Production</p> <p><i>Competent exploration and documentation of ideas, including some refinement and evaluation of production choices.</i></p> <p><i>Comprehension of controls and constraints and some consideration of strategies to address production challenges.</i></p> <p><i>Competent application of skills and processes across all stages of production, including art direction, cinematography (or cinematographic elements), editing and sound design.</i></p> <p><i>Construction of genre/style/narrative to support theme through some experimentation, manipulation and refinement of codes and conventions for a specific purpose/context/audience.</i></p>
D	<p>Response</p> <p><i>Identifies the use of media languages in media work with limited reference to systems of communication and narrative, codes and conventions.</i></p> <p><i>Identifies representations constructed to impact, persuade and challenge.</i></p> <p><i>Identifies how audiences interpret media work with limited reference to concepts such as media theories, cultural contexts, values, attitudes and/or trends.</i></p> <p><i>Identifies how media producers manage factors that affect the content of media work.</i></p> <p><i>Identifies how production context impacts media work.</i></p>
	<p>Production</p> <p><i>Basic exploration and documentation of ideas, including limited refinement or evaluation of production choices.</i></p> <p><i>Basic comprehension of controls and constraints, and limited consideration of strategies to address production challenges.</i></p> <p><i>Basic application of skills and processes across all stages of production, including art direction, cinematography (or cinematographic elements), editing and sound design.</i></p> <p><i>Basic construction of genre/style/narrative which rarely supports theme through limited experimentation, manipulation and refinement of codes and conventions for a specific purpose/context/audience.</i></p>
E	<p>Does not meet the requirements of a D grade and/or has completed insufficient assessment tasks to be assigned a higher grade.</p>

A

Critically analyses and evaluates the selection and manipulation of information, codes and conventions in media work, and evaluates how meanings, themes, representations, viewpoints and values connect to audiences and their values.

Independently manipulates a wide range of elements in own media productions to produce sophisticated and/or innovative media work that shows a particular style and theme/s.

Generates effective solutions for unpredictable problems during production.

Analyses and evaluates the relationship between media work and contexts, examining the impact of trends, social issues, cultural values and attitudes.

Analyses mainstream and niche audiences, referring to cultural experiences and values.

Provides a range of appropriate examples to justify why, and how, audiences interpret media work to result in a particular or range of reading/s, using appropriate communication models and theories.

Analyses and evaluates controls and constraints that impact on media production, particularly those with a strong societal and/or industry focus, such as technologies, production context, regulation and censorship.

Consistently uses relevant and sophisticated media terminology.

B

Analyses how the selection and manipulation of information, codes and conventions construct meanings, themes, representations, viewpoints and values, and provides a clear explanation of how aspects of media work connect to audiences and their values.

Produces quality media work, manipulating codes and conventions to construct narratives, preferred meanings, theme/s, representations, and viewpoints that reinforce or challenge audience values.

Generates solutions for unpredictable problems that arise during production.

Makes clear connections between media work and contexts, referring to the influence of factors such as trends, social issues, and cultural values and attitudes.

Analyses how shared cultural experiences and values influence the use of media work.

Discusses examples of how audiences interpret media work resulting in a particular or range of reading/s, using appropriate communication models and theories.

Analyses a range of controls and constraints that influence media production in personal and professional contexts; for example, technologies, production skills, censorship and audience expectations.

Consistently uses appropriate media terminology.

C	<p>Discusses how the selection of a range of relevant codes and conventions constructs meanings, themes, representations, viewpoints and/or values, and describes aspects of media work that will appeal to audiences.</p> <p>Performs production roles, using skills, technologies, codes and conventions to construct narratives, theme/s, representations, and/or viewpoints in own media productions.</p> <p>Adapts plans and processes when particular problems are encountered during production.</p> <p>Discusses and provides relevant examples of contextual factors, such as trends, social issues, cultural values and attitudes, that have influenced the content or style of media work.</p> <p>Identifies and describes cultural experiences and values that influence the use of media work, and provides some relevant examples and reasons for shared and alternative interpretations.</p> <p>Explains some specific controls and constraints operating in the media production context, referring to own productions and those of others.</p> <p>Correctly uses media terminology.</p>
---	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

D	<p>Identifies some codes and conventions, and briefly explains how they are used to construct meanings, themes, representations or viewpoints, and appeal to audiences.</p> <p>Fulfils a production role, using technologies, codes and conventions to construct meanings in own media productions that are produced for particular audiences and/or purposes.</p> <p>Deals with predictable problems during the production process.</p> <p>Identifies and offers brief, superficial explanations of contextual factors, such as trends and/or social practices that have influenced the content of specific media work.</p> <p>Identifies limited cultural factors that influence the use of media work.</p> <p>Makes a basic attempt to relate values in media work to audience values, and provides some simplistic examples of alternative interpretations.</p> <p>Identifies general controls and constraints operating in media production, and provides incomplete explanations and some examples drawn from productions, for example technologies and production skills, deadlines and school/community expectations.</p> <p>Uses some or imprecise media terminology.</p>
---	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

E	<p>Does not meet the requirements of a D grade and/or has completed insufficient assessment tasks to be assigned a higher grade.</p>
---	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

* These grade descriptions will be reviewed at the end of the second year of implementation of this syllabus.