Creative iMedia
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What will I learn on this course?

A: The course is split across four units:

Pre-production Skills: This initial unit will teach students pre-production skills used in all forms of digital media. Students will develop an understanding of client briefs, time frames, deadlines and preparation techniques essential to planning for a creative project. Students will learn to produce their own production plans and evaluate the effectiveness of others.

Creating Digital Graphics: In this unit students will learn about the basics of digital graphics editing in digital media. Creative techniques will be explored and students will have the chance to develop their own artistic skills. We will also explore a range of graphic formats and styles and how they are used in commercial industries.

Designing a Game Concept: This unit sees students develop an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of a range of platforms, the core features of a variety of digital games and how to prepare a game design concept proposal for a client. The planning and development time spent here will be key in the final unit.

Developing Digital Games: Our final unit explores the creation of digital games from sprites and environments through to programming and logic. Students will build their own games, test and develop further, using everything they have learned about planning and preparation, creating their own graphics, and designing a game idea.

Q: How is the course assessed?

A: Students will sit a written paper for unit R081 which lasts for 1 hour 15 minutes.

Other units are assessed through class-based projects, lasting approximately 10 hours each.

Each unit carries an equal weighting of 25% of the final grade.

Q: Is this course a GCSE?

A: iMedia is a Cambridge National, not a GCSE. Cambridge Nationals are vocational qualifications equivalent to GCSEs but without such a heavy reliance upon terminal exams. Cambridge Nationals do contain exams but are predominantly based on internal assessment. Instead of the 9-1 grading system used by GCSEs, Cambridge Nationals are graded Pass, Merit or Distinction on a Level 1 or 2 basis. In no way is a Cambridge National a lesser qualification.

Q: What is the difference between Computer Science and iMedia?

A: Computer Science is far more about the understanding of computing, with a focus on hardware and evolving technology as well as software and programming. Computer Science is broadly more theoretical than iMedia. In contrast, iMedia is a much more practical subject with a focus on the

creative use of technology through graphics and video games. iMedia does however have more writing throughout the subject than Computer Science as it is mostly assessed by internal projects rather than terminal exam.

Course Specification: https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/115888-specification.pdf

Past exam paper: https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/320557-question-paper-unit-r081-01-pre-production-skills.pdf