

We understand that you may want to prepare for the start of teaching on your Media, Communication and Cultural Studies degree. None of the modules that make up your degree programme require you to have read anything before the start of the semester, and all of the required reading will be available via the University Library, either electronically or in hard copy, when you arrive. Nonetheless we have some advice about preparation for each of the modules that you will be taking in Semester 1. The following are recommended readings that you are welcome to read before you arrive if you would like to.

**Compulsory modules:**

**MCH1023 Introduction to Media Studies**

Elliott, Anthony (2014) *Contemporary Social Theory: An Introduction*. 2nd Edition. London and New York: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0415521376.

Hall, Stuart, Jessica Evans and Sean Nixon (editors) (2013) *Representation: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*. 2nd Edition. London: Sage. ISBN: 978-1849205634

**MCH1025 Introduction to Scholarly Practice**

Bowell, Tracy, Robert Cowan & Gary Kemp (2019) *Critical Thinking: A Concise Guide*. 5th edition. London: Routledge. ISBN: 978-0815371434.

Greetham, Bryan (2018) *How to Write Better Essays. 4th edition*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. ISBN: 978-1352001143

**Optional modules:**

In semester 1 you can take one (or both) of the following modules (all will become clear when you arrive):

**MCH1028 Introduction to Professional Communication**

All of your required reading on the module will be available electronically via the University Library. Between now and the start of your degree, you can nonetheless prepare by consulting the following websites:

- Daily: The BBC's "The Papers" blog, at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cpml2v678pxt> – check out daily how different papers 'handle' stories
- Twice a week: Thinkbox's "Breaking Ads" page, at <https://www.thinkbox.tv>
- Weekly: PR Moment's weekly articles, featuring nominations for good PR and bad PR, at <https://www.prmoment.com/good-and-bad-pr>

### **MUS1014 Introduction to Popular Music Studies**

All the essential readings for this module will be available electronically, either in eBook format or in pdf format via the module's Virtual Learning Environment, once you have registered. You can find out more about all of these modules using the Module Catalogue at <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/module-catalogue/>.