

Subject: Politics

Qualification: A level

Course overview

Students will investigate in detail how people and politics interact. They will explore the emergence and development of the UK's democratic system and the similarities, differences, connections and parallels between direct and indirect democracy. Students will also be introduced to the set of rules governing politics in the UK, and the UK constitution, which is different in nature from most of the rest of the world. Students will explore the US Constitution and the arguments surrounding this guiding document of US democracy. Students will compare and contrast politics and institutions in the US with those in the UK. They will gain a wider understanding of politics as a discipline, underpinned by the theoretical concepts of comparative politics.

How will this course be assessed?

Grade A*– E awarded. Assessment comprises of three examinations at the end of the course, each worth a third of the final Grade: Paper 1 UK Politics; Paper 2-UK Government; Paper 3-Comparative Politics (USA).

Where can A level politics take you?

Completion of this qualification will give between 16 and 56 UCAS points, to gain entry onto a degree course or entry into the workplace. Government and Politics can lead to further study and careers including, law, economics, finance, government, and management.

Case Study

Year Group and Term	Subject Knowledge	Assessment	Curriculum/CIAG Links
----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------	------------------------------

Year 12 Term 1	Paper 1: Democracy and Participation	Essay paragraph x2	Students will gain an understanding of the systems of suffrage and the influences on suffrage in the UK
	Paper 2: UK Parliament	Source question paragraph x 2	Students will consolidate their understanding of the key features of the UK Parliament
Year 12 Term 2	Paper 1: Political Parties	Term 2 exam: Essay Essay paragraph Essay	Students will gain an understanding of the different political parties and make comparisons
	Paper 2: UK Constitution	Term 2 Exam: Source question Source question paragraph	Students will understand how the UK Constitution developed

		Source question	
Year 12 Term 3	Paper 1: Electoral Systems	Essay Source question	Students will gain an understanding of the different political systems and make links to current debates for reform
	Paper 2: Prime Minister and executive	Source question Essay	Students will gain an understanding of the powers of the Prime Minister and executive
Year 12 Term 4	Paper 1: Voting Behaviour and the Media	Term 4 Exam: Essay and source question Source question	Students will gain an understanding of the factors that affect voting behaviour
	Paper 2: Relationships between the branches	Term 4 Exam: Essay and source question Essay	Students will explore the relationships between the different

			branches including the UK Supreme Court and European Parliament
Year 12 Term 5	Paper 1: Conservatism	Essay paragraph Essay	Students will gain a historical understanding of the ideology of Conservatism and compare the ideas within Conservatism
	Paper 3: US Constitution and federalism	Essay paragraph Essay	Students will gain an understanding of the US Constitution and begin to compare with the UK
Year 12 Term 6	Paper 1: Socialism	Term 6 Exam: Paper 1 source question and ideologies essay	Students will gain a historical understanding of the ideology of Socialism and compare ideas within Socialism

		Socialism essay	
	Paper 3: US Congress	Term 6 Exam: Paper 2 essay and USA Essay USA Essay	Students will gain an understanding of the US Congress and begin to compare with the UK Parliament
Year 13 Term 1	Paper 1: Liberalism	Essay paragraph Essay	Students will gain a historical understanding of the ideology of Liberalism and compare ideas within Liberalism
	Paper 3: Comparative theories and US Presidency	Comparison question USA Essay	Students will learn the different comparative ideologies. Students will gain an understanding of the powers of the President and compare with the Prime Minister

Year 13 Term 2	Paper 1: Consolidate ideologies	Term 2 Exam: Ideologies essay Ideologies essay	Students will consolidate their understanding of the core ideologies
	Paper 3: US Supreme Court and civil rights	Term 2 Exam: USA comparison question and essay	Students will gain an understanding of the US Supreme Court and compare with the UK Supreme Court
Year 13 Term 3	Paper 2: Feminism	Essay paragraph Essay Mock Exam: Full paper 1	Students will gain a historical understanding of the ideology of feminism and compare ideas within feminism
	Paper 3: US democracy and participation	Comparison question USA Essay Mock Exam: Full paper 2 and 3	Students will gain an understanding of US election, political parties and the impact of funding before comparing with

			democracy in the UK
Year 13 Term 4	Teacher 1: Revision of Paper 1 and Feminism	Source question Essays	Consolidation of knowledge and applying to exam questions
	Teacher 2: Revision of Paper 2 and Paper 3 (USA)	Essays Comparison questions	Consolidation of knowledge and applying to exam conditions
Year 13 Term 5	Teacher 1: Revision Paper 1 and Feminism	Source question Essays	Consolidation of knowledge and applying to exam questions.
	Teacher 2: Revision of Paper 2 and Paper 3 (USA)	Essays Comparison questions	Consolidation of knowledge and applying to exam questions
Year 13 Term 6			

For further information on this course please contact:

slater@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk