

POLITICS

Course

A level Politics

Exam Board

Edexcel

Entry requirements

GCSE English Grade 5
GCSE Humanity Subject Grade 5

Why study Politics?

Politics combines well with other A level subjects such as Economics, History, Sociology, Geography, English and Modern Languages. Politics can be studied at degree level in many different combinations. As a subject it demands high levels of analytical skill and is therefore potentially attractive to employers. This is a subject that is growing in popularity.

Course content

The course is taught over two years. In the first year students will be concentrating on the politics of the United Kingdom. With this study students will investigate the electoral system that we currently use in the UK and how perhaps we should change it, how the political system in the UK currently operates and the ways in which people contribute to the democratic process.

The second year sees the focus switch to the United States. During the year students will study the political system which is employed in the United States and will consider how and why it is different to the system used in the UK.

Going deeper, students will evaluate how American politics is changing and consider many wider political issues such as the influence of religious groups on politics in the USA. Furthermore, there will be a study of political thought and how political ideas shape the society we live in.

- **Unit 1** - UK Politics
- **Unit 2** - UK Government & Political Theory
- **Unit 3** - Comparative UK and US Politics

Assessment

There are three 2 hour exams for this A level. All three exam papers are answered with predominantly essay questions with the use of political sources to stimulate students.

Progression after Sixth Form

The study of Politics can lead to various university courses such as Politics, International Relations and Global development. As an A level it is attractive to potential employers due to the high levels of analysis and communication demanded by the study of Politics.

Career opportunities

After studying Politics potential career pathways include politician, journalist, digital media consultant and teacher, amongst many others.

Other information

Politics is a text based, essay assessed subject and these facts cannot be ignored. It is however, a subject rich in debate. The subject matter lends itself to a great variety of teaching and learning styles and activities. We plan on a visit to the Houses of Parliament in Year 12, meeting our local MP.

For more information contact Head of Department:

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