



POLITICS

Qualification: A-Level

Overview of subject:

A-level Politics has a wide variety of topics which are sure to appeal to any burgeoning politicians or simply for those who are interested in discussing important political issues which affect us all. Through studying politics, students will gain a greater understanding of how the political system works both in the UK and the USA and form their own political opinions. It is assessed through examination only.

Topics studied in the syllabus include:

- Component 1 – UK Politics and Core Political Ideas.
- History of the development of rights, democracy, suffrage and the debates surrounding the extension of the franchise.
- Political parties, voting systems, the influence of the media and pressure groups.
- Conservatism, Liberalism & Socialism.
- Component 2 – UK Government and Other Political Ideas.
- The constitution, the role of parliament, the Prime Minister, and the relationship between branches of government.
- One of the following political ideas: Anarchism, Ecologism, Feminism, Multiculturalism, Nationalism.
- Component 3 – Comparative Politics – The USA.
- The US Constitution, federalism, the role of Congress and the Presidency.
- The Supreme Court, Civil Rights, Democracy and Participation.
- Comparative political theories – similarities and differences between USA and UK.



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The course might be of interest to:

Those who have enjoyed History or combined Humanities at GCSE and who have an active interest in politics, political systems and big political ideas. Politics combines well with History as well as other Humanities, Social Sciences and English.

Potential future pathways:

Politics develops analytical and debating skills as well as honing students' interest in current events and the news. Many Politics students go on to work in national and local government, management, healthcare, law, education, and social policy.