

A Level Politics



Exam Board: Edexcel

Politics is all around you; in the workplace, in schools, even in your own home. Everyday, decisions are being made that will affect the lives of millions of people in this country and around the world. Yet what is Politics? What do politicians do when they do politics? Similarly, what is Democracy? Is Britain a democracy?

The aim of this course is two-fold. Firstly, to provide students with a sound understanding of how our system of government works, the 'actors' that influence the political process and the political ideas behind them as well as to consider current issues and potential reforms. Secondly, to develop your skills of independent investigative research and your ability to critically analyse information; thereby enabling you to express your thoughts and ideas clearly, concisely and construct a logical and forceful argument both verbally and in writing.

Course overview:

- **UK Politics and Core Political Ideas**
- **Democracy and Participation, Political Parties, differing electoral systems, as well as the political basis of Conservatism, Socialism and Liberalism.**
- **UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas**
- **The processes of government by evaluating the UK Constitution, Parliament, the Prime Minister and the non-core political idea of Anarchism.**
- **Government and Politics of the USA**
- **Processes of American government and politics, and comparisons with the UK processes of government.**

Assessment:

Paper 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

Two-hour written exam, 33% of qualification

Paper 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas

Two-hour written exam, 33% of – taught in Year 12.

Paper 3: Government and Politics of the USA

Two-hour written exam, 33% of qualification –taught in Year 13.



A Level Politics



Entry requirements:

Five grade 9–6 at GCSE. 9–6 GCSE English and History are recommended. A genuine interest in Politics and current affairs.

Other Course Information

Edexcel's A-level Politics textbook costs £35 and covers the entire course. There will also be an opportunity to travel to Washington DC and visit the Houses of Parliament in Westminster.

Who is the course for?

- Students with a willingness to work hard and put effort into this challenging yet rewarding subject.
- A willingness to engage in political discussion and contribute to class debates as well as learn from others.
- An ability to work independently and research new topics.
- An ability to present a reasoned and balanced argument both verbally and in writing.

Career pathways

Politics is a very well regarded subject for the following University courses and careers: Journalism, Banking, Finance, Economics, Law, Business Studies, European Studies, History, Philosophy, Sociology, the Media and other Social Studies courses including Public Administration.

'Politics is every changing and we can see this now more than ever. That's what makes it such a fascinating and dynamic subject.'



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A Level Sociology



Entry requirements:

Five level 9–5 grades at GCSE. Grade 9–6 is required in an essay based GCSE (e.g. History, English)

Who is the course for?

- Students who have a desire to know more about the world we live in and the institutions in contemporary Britain that regulate our behaviour.
- Students wishing to take degrees in Sociology, Psychology, Social Work, Health and Social Care, Anthropology, Theology, Philosophy, English, History and Education.

Career pathways

Students who are looking for careers in: education, health and social care, personnel, marketing, counselling, politics, social work, journalism, government research, childcare and advertising.

"Sociology helps me understand different view points on a variety of topics in society. i think its very useful and interesting to learn about."



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