

Government & Politics A Level

AQA

Politics is an engaging subject which develops an awareness of politics and the relationship between political ideas, institutions, and processes. There has never been a better time to study Politics. Unexpected elections, surprise referendum results, an earthquake in US politics; the subject is vibrant and fascinating at present.

Course Structure

The course begins with a focus on UK politics. We will explore topics such as the powers and limitations of Parliament, the role of the media in the outcome of elections, and the protection of rights in the UK. Later in the course attention shifts to the US, where we will compare and contrast aspects of US and UK politics. For example, who is more powerful, the Prime Minister or the President? There will also be an opportunity to explore some of the political ideologies which have influenced much of US and UK politics; such as Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism.

Skills & Knowledge

- A Level Politics will develop critical thinking and analytical skills. It will also build expertise in the skills of researching, essay writing, and debating.
- This course will build a knowledge of US and UK political institutions and processes. It will also develop an understanding of four political ideologies.

Assessment

There are three examinations at the end of the second year of study. Each paper is of equal value and will form 100% of your final grade.

Opportunities & Enrichment

You will be encouraged to take advantage of enrichment activities such as the Student Council and Debate Club. There will be opportunities to visit Parliament, the Supreme Court, and also to supplement your knowledge by attending lectures relating to the course.

Future Careers & Pathways

Although many students go on to study politics at university, the skills developed on this course will equip you for a wide range of subject areas; for example, international relations, law, economics, history and philosophy. Studying politics can also lead to a diverse array of careers. These include the law, political work, social and political research, journalism, HR and marketing.