

# Politics A level



Hertswood

## Why take this subject?

Politics is about power. Who has it, how they got it and who wants to take it off them. Politics allows you to develop an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context, both within the UK and the USA. By studying A-level Politics it improves your literacy, research and communication skills, all of which are vital in the work place or in further education.

## What do I need to have studied in year 11?

- You must have at least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5 including English and Maths
- At least a Grade 6 in GCSE History,
- Students who have not taken History will be considered depending on their English or other Humanities result

## What will we study?

We will be following the Politics Edexcel specification. This specification offers a broad and varied course, allowing students to think about the workings of Government in the UK and USA, and about key political ideologies.

In Paper 1 you will investigate The UK democratic system and the various ways people participate in politics as well as the different voting systems that are used in the UK, and the key beliefs of the main political parties. We will also look at the role of the media in influencing politics. In addition to this we will also study the core ideologies of liberalism, conservatism and socialism.

Paper 2 will look at the workings of Government in the UK, from the relationship between Parliament and the Prime Minister and the role of the Courts. You will also study feminism in depths.

The USA is the focus of Paper 3, looking at the structure of the United States Government and the workings of their various systems. You will also compare the similarities and differences between the UK and US systems of Government.

## How will I be examined?

Unit	Assessment	Weighting
UK Politics	Examination	33.3%
UK Government	Examination	33.3%
Comparative Politics	Examination	33.3%

## What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

A-level Politics students will visit the Houses of Parliament and Portcullis House, and have been given the opportunity to go to Washington.

## What can this subject lead to?

The course will develop students' skills in investigation, analysis and communication giving them a good understanding of economic, social and political change. Our aim is to prepare you for a wide range of university courses from Law through to History, Politics, International Relations, English, Economics and Business.

Students will receive a firm grounding for many University courses and professional careers and by the end of the course you should be well equipped to understand and make judgements on the world around you.

## Subject Specification

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Politics/2017/Specification%20and%20sample%20assessments/A-level-Politics-Specification.pdf>