

A-level Politics

Curriculum content

Half term	Year 12	Year 13
Autumn 1	UK political parties UK constitution The European Union	Political Theory - Socialism US Congress (plus comparison with the UK)
Autumn 2	UK political parties (continued) UK parliament UK elections and referendums	Political Theory - Conservatism US Presidency (plus comparison with the UK)
Spring 1	UK elections and referendums (continued) UK prime minister and cabinet UK democracy and participation UK devolution	Political Theory - Feminism US Judiciary and civil rights (plus comparison with the UK) US Political parties - (plus comparison with the UK)
Spring 2	UK prime minister and cabinet (continued) UK pressure groups UK judiciary UK democracy and participation (continued)	US Electoral process and direct democracy (plus comparison with the UK) Comparative politics with UK & USA
Summer 1	Revision for mock exam	US Political parties (continued, plus comparison with the UK) US Pressure groups (plus comparison with the UK) Exam preparation and revision
Summer 2	US Constitution (plus comparison with the UK) Political Theory - Liberalism	

Skills

The skills developed throughout the course include:

- recalling detailed information accurately
- drawing together information from different areas of politics
- applying knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues in practical and theoretical contexts
- analysing and evaluating a given statement using their knowledge and understanding of the issue
- comprehending and interpreting argument(s) contained in a piece of political information, using knowledge and understanding of the issue to analyse and evaluate those argument(s)
- maintaining a sustained line of reasoning, leading to a reasoned conclusion
- communicating with relevance, clarity and coherence
- identifying and substantiating parallels, connections, similarities and differences between aspects of politics

Assessment

Internal assessment takes place in each unit of work throughout the course, and in line with the school's assessment policy. For the award of the qualification, this linear A level from AQA is examined entirely by examination at the end of Year 13. There are three papers, each equally weighted:

Paper 1 – Government and politics of the UK

Paper 2 - Government and politics of the USA and comparative politics

Paper 3 – Political ideas

Further details about the course can be found at <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/government-and-politics/as-and-a-level/politics-7152>