



	<h1>Politics</h1>
Exam Board	Edexcel
Course Entry Criteria	6 in a GCSE Humanities subject.
Essential skills	Critical thinking skills allied to the ability to compose extended essays that contain fluent, balanced arguments that evaluate a prominent political issue within a logically structured response. This also requires the ability to illustrate text-book theory using the latest examples from current affairs. The contemporaneous nature of the course is a unique feature of the Politics A Level, enabling students to develop and refine real time analysis and assessment skills beyond the classroom.
Year 12	<p><b>Content overview</b> In Year 12 students will study the following topics in Papers 1 and 2 as well as exploring the political theory in studying the ideas of liberalism, conservatism, socialism and feminism.</p> <p><b>UK Politics (Paper 1)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Democracy and participation</li> <li>2) Political parties</li> <li>3) Electoral systems</li> <li>4) Voting behaviour and the media</li> </ol> <p><b>UK Government (Paper 2)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5) The Constitution</li> <li>6) Parliament</li> <li>7) Prime Minister and Executive</li> <li>8) Relationships between the branches</li> </ol> <p>In Year 13, the focus shifts to studying the political structure and practices of the United States as well as comparing and contrasting the US system with the UK one.</p> <p><b>USA Comparative Politics (Paper 3)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The US Constitution and federalism</li> <li>2) US Congress</li> <li>3) US presidency</li> <li>4) US Supreme Court and US civil rights</li> <li>5) US democracy and participation</li> <li>6) Comparative theories.</li> </ol>
Year 13	<p><b>Content overview</b> The year will begin with a conclusion to the study of political theory including a study of feminism and we will embark on a study related to American politics. The same themes will be considered in relation to America as in year 12 for the UK e.g. Congress, the President, the constitution. There will be comparison between the 2 systems of government and their workings.</p>
University requirements	Typical grade requirements to study a Politics or a PPE (Politics, Philosophy & Economics) degree are: Oxbridge: A* A A Russell Group: A* A A to A B B Non Russell Group: A B B to B B B
Related courses and careers	Politics complements a wide variety of other subjects and teaches a range of writing and critical thinking skills. Students often study Politics alongside other Humanities, including Economics, English Lit, History, Modern Languages and many others. Politics and PPE are highly respected subject by all, including the top, universities. The transferable skills taught prepare students for a wide variety of careers including the civil service, public policy development, marketing and communication roles, the legal profession and journalism. It is ideal if you are considering studying humanities, social science or journalism at university and is highly regarded by employers in industries including public affairs, advocacy groups, the media, government and the civil service.
Other Details	The most important requirement is your interest in the subject, including contemporary political events in Britain and the USA, and being prepared to work hard. This will be a new subject for all students in Year 12 so we do not assume any prior specialist knowledge - but a desire to understand and engage with the topics and then address the reading and writing tasks is essential. You will need to read a good quality newspaper and watch the news - if you already do this then this is the course for you!