



Politics

Awarding Body	AQA	Specification Code	7152
Purpose of the course	Studying A-level Politics helps students understand how political systems, governments, and ideologies shape the world. It develops knowledge of political institutions, decision-making, and power both in the UK and globally. The course encourages critical thinking, debate, and analysis of current affairs, helping students form and defend their own political views. It also builds skills in argument, research, and evaluation—useful for careers in law, journalism, public service, and beyond.		
Entry requirements	Grade 5 in English Language at GCSE level		
Type of qualification	A Level		
Course contents	<p>Paper 1: UK Politics and Government: This unit explores how politics works in the UK, including elections, political parties, pressure groups, and the media. It also examines how the UK government operates—covering Parliament, the Prime Minister, and the constitution.</p> <p>Paper 2: US Politics and Government: This unit focuses on the political system of the United States, looking at the Constitution, Congress, the Presidency, the Supreme Court, and the federal system. It also compares key features of the US and UK systems.</p> <p>Paper 3: Political Ideas: This unit examines major political ideologies—liberalism, conservatism, socialism, and feminism—exploring their core principles, thinkers, and how these ideas influence modern politics.</p>		
Assessment method	Three externally assessed exam papers. Each assessment paper is 2 hours long and consists of 84 marks. The papers include short open, open-response and extended writing/ essay questions.		
Further studies	A politics degree opens doors to a broad range of careers and university courses, including political work, social and political research, journalism, HR and marketing. Politics A Level equips students with a number of crucial transferable skills that are highly sought after by universities and employers. Particularly the ability to analyse and develop sustained arguments.		
Subject Lead	Mr D Townsend & Mrs T McKenzie		