

## KS5 Long Term Curriculum Plan: Year 13 A Level Politics (Edexcel Specification)

### **Curriculum Aim:**

The Edexcel A Level in Politics will enable learners to:

- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context globally.
- develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, institutions and processes.
- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the influences and interests which have an impact on decisions in government and politics.
- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals and groups.
- develop the ability to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form arguments and make judgements.
- develop an interest in, and engagement with, contemporary politics.

*\*Students will also be confident in applying the 3 assessment skills needed to succeed in the course, namely AO1 (to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues), AO2 (Analysis of aspects of politics, including in relation to parallels, connections, similarities and differences) and AO3 (Evaluation of aspects of politics, including to construct arguments and make substantiated judgements).*

**Link to prior learning:** The Edexcel A Level in Politics will build on the knowledge, understanding and skills established in a range of Humanities subjects studied at KS4, particularly History with the historical background of the UK political system (see Year 12 Long term plan), Sociology with Voting Behaviour (see Year 12 long term plan) and Geography with the global politics component.

### **Rationale of sequencing:**

Having studied Component 1 (UK Political issues) and Component 2 (UK Government) students are expected in Year 13 to develop a more complex, global understanding in their studies as they complete Component 3 (Global issues) making synoptic links with the UK-focused components they completed in Year 12.

	Focus / Topic	Knowledge & Skills (from NC/Programme of Study)	Assessment*
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Autumn 1	Conservatism and Nationalism	Students will learn about the core ideas and principles and how they apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy, the divisions within each idea and their key thinkers.	<p>24-mark essay 'To what Extent' style questions, continuing to assess AO1, AO2 and AO3 skills. Regular past paper exam questions developing theory-based essay skills.</p> <p>30-mark source questions and 30-mark essay questions on the legislature, executive, and judiciary. All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3. Regular past paper exam questions developing source and essay skills.</p> <p>12 mark short answer comparative questions assessing AO1 and AO2 only.</p> <p>30 mark essay questions assessing AO1, 2 and 3.</p>
	Comparative Theories	Students will need to construct theoretically led arguments regarding the differing stands of each Ideology, using 5 key thinkers to build their arguments.	
	Power and Developments	Introduces the key mainstream perspectives on global politics: liberalism and realism.	
		<p>Different types of power, polarity and different systems of government around the world.</p> <p><i>Students must comprehend and interpret political information relating to liberalism, realism and different types of power existing in global politics today, critically analysing and evaluating these areas. Students must identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between content studied. Students must construct and communicate arguments with clarity and coherence using appropriate political vocabulary. With comparative theories, students must make synoptic links with the Component 1 Ideologies topic.</i></p>	

Autumn 2	The State & Globalisation	Characteristics of a nation state and of national sovereignty and the impact of globalisation.	<p>12 mark short answer comparative questions assessing AO1 and AO2 only.</p> <p>30 mark essay questions assessing AO1, 2 and 3. <b>Assessment week October</b></p>
	Regionalism and the EU	<p>Growth of regionalism and regionalism in different forms. Development of regional organisations and significance of the EU as an international body.</p> <p><i>Students must comprehend and interpret political information relating to sovereignty and the nation state and the impact of globalisation, critically analysing and evaluating these areas. Students must identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between content studied. Students must construct and communicate arguments with clarity and coherence using appropriate political vocabulary.</i></p>	
Spring 1	Global Governance – Human Rights	Origins and development of international law and institutions and the key issues of these institutions in dealing with human rights.	<p>12 mark short answer comparative questions assessing AO1 and AO2 only.</p> <p>30 mark essay questions assessing AO1, 2 and 3. <b>Mock exams January including papers from all 3 Components</b></p>
	Global Governance – Political	<p>Origins, development and significance of the UN. Role and significance of NATO.</p> <p><i>Students must comprehend and interpret political information relating to international law and institutions including the UN, critically analysing and evaluating these areas. Students must identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between content studied. Students must construct and communicate arguments with clarity and coherence using appropriate political vocabulary.</i></p>	

Spring 2	Global Governance - Environmental  Global Governance – Economic	Shallow-green ecology versus deep-green ecology, sustainable development and tragedy of the commons, Strengths and weaknesses of international agreements, Obstacles to international co-operation and agreement.  Role and significance of International Financial Institutions. Significance of how global economic governance deals with the issue of poverty.  <i>Students must comprehend and interpret political information relating to global environmental issues and International Financial Institutions, critically analysing and evaluating these areas. Students must identify parallels, connections, similarities and differences between content studied. Students must construct and communicate arguments with clarity and coherence using appropriate political vocabulary.</i>	12 mark short answer comparative questions assessing AO1 and AO2 only.  30 mark essay questions assessing AO1, 2 and 3.
Summer 1 & 2	Revision begins but contingency built in to complete the taught course if needed.	Complete Spring 2 course topics if necessary followed by re-cap revision of all 6 key areas of study for Year 13 and Year 12 Components 1 & 2.	Students tested on all content from the 2 years and all essay styles (30 mark source, 30 mark essay, 24 mark essay and 12 mark comparative questions). <b>Summer exams – 3 papers:</b>
Summer 2	Ongoing revision during exam period		<b>-Component 1 UK political issues and core ideologies (Socialism, Liberalism &amp; Conservatism)</b> <b>-Component 2 UK Government and non-core Ideologies (Nationalism)</b> <b>-Component 3 Comparative Politics: Global Issues</b>
Further Information: A Level Politics specification: <a href="#">A-level-Politics-Specification accredited.pdf</a>			