

Politics

Examination Board: Edexcel

Subject Leader: Mr T Hughes, Mr T Warner

Outline of content of course:

- **Component 1 – UK Politics – 9PLO/01:**
This component will allow you to investigate how people and politics interact. You will explore the emergence and development of the UK's democratic system, the role and scope of political parties and the role of the individual in the political process, their relationship with the state and their fellow citizens. A key aspect will be looking at the democratic system, voting behaviour and the influence of the media. In addition three traditional political ideas - conservatism, liberalism and socialism - will be studied looking at the core ideas and principles of these and how they apply in practice to human nature, the state, society and the economy. You will also look at the divisions within each idea and their key thinkers.
- **Component 2 – UK Government – 9PLO/02:**
This component will allow you to study the rules governing politics in the UK, and the specific roles and powers of UK government – the legislative, judiciary and executive. Study will focus on the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and relationships between the different branches of government. This will enable you to assess where sovereignty currently lies within the UK political system. In addition you will consider one of five additional political ideas - nationalism. As with component one you will consider the core ideas, principles, effects of these ideas, divisions and key thinkers.
- **Component 3 – Comparative Politics – the USA – 9PLO/3A:**
Key topics studied in this highly relevant unit include: the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US Presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, and comparative theories. The latter topic will act as a very valuable mechanism to revisit and revise the work covered in Year 12.

Method of Assessment:

- Each component will be assessed through a two hour exam (one for each component).

Reasons for studying the course:

- To develop your interest in and understanding of British politics and the politics of the USA.
- To develop your understanding of critical issues which affect your day to day life as a UK citizen.
- Politics is a highly regarded A Level for university entrance and enables you to go on to study a variety of disciplines, including Human Social and Political Sciences, International Relations and Law.

Entry Requirements:

- GCSE Grade 7 or above in English Literature.