

Subject: Politics

Teachers: Kate Griffin

Exam Board: Edexcel

NEWPORT GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

KS5 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Curriculum Intent & Organisation		
This course was chosen as it develops a thorough understanding of the society in which we live. The Edexcel course covers both political ideology and its application to real life. The USA unit was chosen as this would be most appealing and relevant to the student. Feminism has also been chosen as the non – core ideology		
Examination Information		Facilitating Subject?
Politics is examined at the end of Year 13 by three examination papers with no coursework		No
Impact of Prior Learning from KS4		
None of the students have studied politics at GCSE level. However, their development of sources skills in history is invaluable, as is the essay writing skills they have developed previously. A wide general knowledge of current affairs is important, which is gained from a variety of subjects, PSHE & assemblies.		
Equipment Required for this course		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Edexcel A level Politics text book• Standard classroom stationery (optional) subscription to Politics Review magazine		
Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 12		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
UK Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Democracy and participation• Electoral systems• UK Political Parties• Voting behaviour and the media	UK Government <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The constitution• Prime Minister and Cabinet• Parliament• Relations between institutions, including devolution and Parliament checking the executive	Political ideology <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ideas - Liberalism• Ideas – Conservatism• Ideas – Socialism• Non- core ideology: Feminism
Curriculum Implementation – Areas of Focus Year 13		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The US Constitution and federalism• US presidency• US democracy and participation• US Supreme Court and civil rights• US Congress• US Federalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative politics• The constitution• The Legislature• The Executive• The Supreme Court• Democracy & participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision• Examination

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Impact / Outcomes

Learning will be assessed throughout the course by:

- Exam questions: these will be conducted in various ways, unseen and seen, timed and untimed.
- Verbal questioning
- Application of learning to a variety of tasks

Homework / Self Study

Homework will be regularly set, especially with regards to content and the application of knowledge to exam questions. Students are expected to follow the news and read a reputable newspaper. Students will be asked to report back on the news weekly, especially with regards to the UK and USA. Political journals are available and should be studied.

Ways to support learning

- Read a reputable newspaper
- Watch the news on TV/ listen to radio 4/ watch Question Time & PMQ's
- Buy the Edexcel revision guide
- Subscribe to Politics Review
- Background reading – political biographies, political theorists,

Field Work / Extension / Enrichment Opportunities

- Trip to Washington
- Trip to Parliament & the Supreme Court in London

Next Steps

The study of Politics helps to develop the type of analytical mind, ability to synthesise information and excellent communication skills that are a prerequisite for a wide range of career paths. Politics can be studied at degree level, or is often combined with International Studies or History. Students in this subject have gone on to careers in Law, Finance, General Management including in the Fashion sector, Journalism, Teaching or other areas of the Public Sector

For more information, contact Mrs K Griffin.