



Woolwich Polytechnic
Sixth Form

Politics A Level

Politics A level allows you to study the relationship between political ideas, institutions and processes. It gives you the opportunity to debate and discuss your perspective and be exposed to new ways of thinking, at any time this would be an interesting subject however in today's highly volatile political climate it is nothing short of fascinating – Leo, Year 13 Politics Student

Course Content

Paper 1: Government and Politics of the UK

Key concepts: How is the country run? How can we participate in politics? What are the core beliefs of our political parties? What impact do pressure groups have on democracy in the UK? What is our relationship with the EU?

Paper 2: Government and Politics of the USA

Key concepts: How is the country run? How do Americans participate in politics? What are the core beliefs of the different political parties? What impact do pressure groups have on democracy in the USA? How powerful is the President? How significant is the Supreme Court?

Students will also study comparative political theories as part of this paper.

Paper 3: Political Ideas

Key concepts: Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Feminism

How will I learn?

Lessons are a mixture of taught components, seminar-style discussions, class debates and independent work. Outside of lessons, students will be set reading and essays, and will be expected to keep up-to-date with the latest political news.

How will I be assessed?

Students are regularly assessed on both their knowledge and their ability to respond to the 3 different question formats of the A-Level exam, which includes extended writing and the analysis of political texts.

There are 3 final A-Level exams, each 2 hours in length. Students will not sit an external AS exam.

Which awarding body is the course validated by?

AQA

What qualification will I receive?

A-Level Politics

Entry Requirements

GCSE Humanities (any) Grade 6 is required

What can I do with this qualification?

A-level is a good stepping stone to politics and politics-related degrees (international relations, law, etc). It is also a 'facilitating' subject – regarded by Russell Group university as a good supporting subject to those required for any degree. Its breadth and focus on research, analysis and thoughtful argument means politics students are highly sought-after by both universities and employers.

