

Government and Politics Department: Curriculum Overview 2023-24

Curriculum Intent:

In Social Sciences, our aims are for all students

- To develop an understanding of the complexities of the society that we live in with a particular focus on understanding why and how we act and the consequences of this.
- To show tolerance and respect for others.
- To provide qualifications and skills that will prepare students for life after Fullbrook and equip them with knowledge that they will use for the rest of their life.

In politics the curriculum intent for all students is

- to gain an understanding of different ideologies and the implications of these for society, economy, human nature and state
- to be well versed in political systems in the UK and US
- to be able to consider and understand competing viewpoints and the concepts underpinning these
- to be able to articulate their political knowledge and viewpoints in an articulate manner
- to decipher political information and use this to support their arguments
- to develop their own political viewpoint

Year 12	Term 1		Term 2			Term 3		
	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6		

	[? lessons]	[? lessons]	[? lessons]	[? lessons]	[? lessons]	[? lessons]	
Topic	Paper 1: UK Politics	Paper 1: UK Politics	Paper 1: UK Politics and Political ideas	Paper 1: Political Ideas	Paper 2: UK Government	Paper 2: UK Government	End Points
Skill	AO1- Knowledge, AO2- Analysis, AO3- Evaluation Non exam skills: debate	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: oracy	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: presentations	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: Research	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: debate	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: oracy	
Content	Course intro and key skills Democracy and Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of democracy Political participation Suffrage Group activity Rights in context Political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of political parties Conservative party Labour party Liberal Democrats 	Political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emerging and minor parties Parties in context Electoral systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functions of elections FPTP AMS STV SV Referendums 	Voting behaviour and the media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social and demographic factors Turnout Voting theories The influence of the media: broadcasting, press, opinion polls, social media Case studies of general elections Political Ideas: Liberalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core ideas Tensions Key thinkers 	Political Ideas: Conservatism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core ideas Tensions Key thinkers Political Ideas: Socialism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core ideas Tensions Key thinkers 	Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature and sources of the UK constitution Constitutional reform since 1997 Devolution and its impact Debates on codification Parliament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure of UK parliament The functions of both houses Comparing powers Legislation Parliament and the executive Opposition parties 	Prime Minister and the executive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure, role and powers of the executive The cabinet Ministerial responsibility Prime ministerial case studies Relationships between institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Supreme Court Judicial independence and neutrality Relationship between judiciary, executive, and legislative UK and European Union 	Students will be able to analyse sources to good effect. Students will be able to use an effective essay structure for the three types of questions in paper 1 and 2. Students will have an excellent knowledge of the fundamentals of UK government and politics.
Prior Knowledge Required	None	Forms of democracy, participation, sovereignty	Participation, electoral systems	State, economy, human nature, society. One nation conservatism and new right New labour and old labour	Democracy and participation, parties, electoral system	Rights in context, parliament, executive	
Feedback Points	October- Source based question on either political participation or democracy. 30 marks. Skills based: AO1, AO2 and AO3. Individual teacher feedback: WWW/EBI.	December- essay question based on political parties. 30 marker. Content based focus- knowledge focused on policies and change over time. Whole class feedback given.	January mock (1 x 30 mark question). February- essay question on voting behaviour topic. 30 marks. Skills based- AO1, AO2 and AO3. Particular emphasis on AO3. Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI	March- political ideologies question on Liberalism. 24 marks. Content focus- use of core theories, key thinkers and recognition of areas of division. Whole class feedback	May- political ideologies question on Conservatism. 24 marks Skills focus- how effectively are students meeting AO1, AO2 and AO3 marks. Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI.	July- paper 2 question on parliament or the executive depending on which area has proven more challenging for students. Content focus. Whole class feedback given June Mock exam. 1 x full paper (source, essay, ideologies essay)- 84 marks.	Students will be able to use material synoptically
Key Questions (1 per topic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the different forms of democracy in the UK and how effective are these? In what ways do citizens participate in politics? What are the remaining 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much influence do smaller parties have in the UK? How does the political system affect party success? What are the main functions and features of an election? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do different demographics and social groups vote and how has this changed over time? What are the key trends in turnout? What theories have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does Conservatism state about pragmatism, tradition, human imperfection, organic society, paternalism and libertarianis? To what degree is there consensus between tradition, one nation and new right conservatives? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the key features of the UK constitution? In what ways has the constitution been amended since 1997 and how effective have these changes been? What does devolution across the regions look 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What roles are played by the PM? How does the cabinet system work? What is individual and collective ministerial responsibility? What factors have affected 	

	<p>issues in the franchise?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role and influence do pressure groups have? • To what extent are rights protected in the UK? • What is the role and function of political parties? • How has Conservative party policy changed over time? • What are the different phases of the Labour party? • What are the main aims and policies of the Lib Dems? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does FPTP work? What issues does this create? • How does AMS work and why is it used? • How does STV achieve more proportional representation? • Is SV an effective electoral system? • What are the implications of using more referendums? 	<p>developed to explain voting behaviour?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role does the media play in shaping election outcomes? • How did a range of different elections play out? • What do liberals believe about freedom, equality, the state, individualism, rationalism and liberal democracy? • To what degree do Classical and modern liberals agree on the core concepts? • What contributions did the key thinkers make to the debate? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What contributions did the key thinkers make to the ideology? • What do Socialists believe about collectivism, common humanity, equality, social class and workers control? • How much tension is there between revolutionary socialists, social democrats and third way socialists? 	<p>like and should it be extended?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should the UK have a codified constitution? • How is parliament structured and what is the effect of this? • How effectively does each house carry out its vital functions? • Which house is more powerful? • How is legislation made in parliament? • What affects the relationship between parliament and government? • What is the role and influence of the opposition party in parliament? 	<p>various prime ministers since 1979?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role does the Supreme court play in government? • How are judicial neutrality and independence maintained? • How do the three branches interact? • What is the impact of the EU on the UK post Brexit? 	
Direct Vocab Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideology • Legitimacy • Sovereignty • Suffrage • Pluralism • Elitism • Franchise • Hyperpluralism • Aggregation • Populism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libertarianism • Consensus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class alignment • Class dealignment • Apathy • Abstention • Valence • Salience • Developmental individualism • Laissez-faire capitalism • Meritocracy • Mechanistic theory • Enabling state • Keynesianism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pragmatism • Atomism • Hierarchy • Paternalism • Noblesse-oblige • Anti-permissiveness • Empiricism • Fraternity • Collectivism • Revisionism • Historic materialism • Dialectic • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codification • Entrenchment • Federalism • Unitary • Quasi-federalism • Asymmetric devolution • Bicameral • Cronyism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prerogative powers • Formal equality • Habeas Corpus • Omnicompetence • Ultra Vires 	
Standardised Homework	Homework based on democracy and party content covered in lessons Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students	Homework based on content covered in lessons or previous content learnt. Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students	Homework based on content covered in lessons or previous content learnt. Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students	Homework based on content covered in lessons or previous content learnt. Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students will have some flipped learning	Homework based on content covered in lessons or previous content learnt. Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students will have some	Homework based on content covered in lessons or previous content learnt. Will often be in the form of extended essays. Students	

	will have some flipped learning tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	will have some flipped learning tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	will have some flipped learning tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	flipped learning tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	will have some flipped learning tasks and pre lesson prep. Students may also be set research tasks	
--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Year 13	Term 1		Term 2		Term 3		End Points
	Half Term 1 [? lessons]	Half Term 2 [? lessons]	Half Term 3 [? lessons]	Half Term 4 [? lessons]	Half Term 5 [? lessons]	Half Term 6 [? lessons]	
Topic	Paper 2: Political Ideas Paper 3: US government and politics	Paper 3: US government and politics	Paper 3: US government and politics	Paper 3: US government and politics	Paper 3: US government and politics Revision	Revision	
Skill	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: group presentations	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: debate	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills:Oracy	AO1, AO2, AO3 Non exam skills: Research	AO1, AO2, AO3	AO1, AO2, AO3	
Content	Nationalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core ideas Tensions Key thinkers Comparative politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structural approach Rational approach Cultural approach US Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature of the constitution Features of the constitution Federalism Democracy and the constitution 	US Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of the constitution Comparing the US and UK constitution Congress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure of congress Congressional elections Powers of congress Representative Function of congress Legislative function of congress Oversight function of congress Changing roles and powers of congress Effectiveness of congress Comparing US and UK legislature 	Presidency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal sources of presidential power The Cabinet Executive office of the President Power of Persuasion Direct authority Debates on the presidency Foreign policy Checks on the president Presidential aims Comparing UK PM and US President Supreme Court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature and role of the supreme court Judicial philosophies 	Supreme Court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supreme court and public policy The living constitution/originalism Judicial review Supreme court appointments Rights protection in the US Race and rights in the US Comapring US and UK supreme courts Democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requirements to be president The invisible primary Primaries National Party Conventions Campaign finance Electoral college 	Democracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest groups Parties and factions Voting groups Revision of paper 1 and 2	Revision of paper 2 and 3	Students will have an excellent knowledge of the fundamentals of US government and politics. Students will be able to use comparative theories effectively Students will be able to write high level essays that are underpinned by an effective structure
Prior Knowledge Required	State, society, human nature, economy, liberal democracy Codification, entrenchment, amendment	UK constitution Features of the US constitution UK parliament Comaprative theories	US constitution powers and checks and balances UK executive Comaprative theories	US constitution Comaprative theories	All year 1 content	Year 1 and 2 content	
Feedback Points	October- nationalism essay (24 marks) Content focus- understanding of different core strands, division and key thinkers. Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI	December- federalism essay (30 marks) Skills focus- effective use of AO1,2,3 Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI November mock- full paper 1 and 2	Feb-30 mark essay on presidential power and congress. Content focus- how institutions function and power limits Whole class feedback	March- 30 mark essay on Supreme Court Skills focus- AO1,2,3. Particular focus on analysis and extended evaluation. Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI Feb Mock- full paper 2 and 3	April- 30 mark essay on democracy in the US (topic will be selected based on student areas of need). Content focus- understanding of the electoral and democratic processes in the US Whole class feedback	May (time permitting depending on study leave) 30 marker either source or essay question on any weaker content from across the 2 years depending on student reflection. Individual teacher feedback given as WWW/EBI. Content from this will also be used to help plan revision.	
Key Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the core ideas of nationalism? How do different strands of nationalists interpret nationalism? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How effective is the US constitution? What are the similarities between the UK and US constitutions? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What powers does the constitution grant the president? How do presidents use the cabinet? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What role has the supreme court played in making public policy Should the constitution be protected or updated by the SC? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much influence do interest groups have on American politics? What are the main policies of the two parties, and how unified are they? 	As before	

