


A-LEVEL POLITICS (POLITICS) @ WBS YEAR 12 ROADMAP

AIM

First year of the A-level focusses entirely on UK Government and Politics. Through the year, students will study various aspects of political and democratic life within the UK, they will apply this knowledge in an analytic and evaluative manner through a series of questions and debates aimed at exploring the depths of their understanding. Throughout the year, they will be expected to use relevant and up to date examples which give a broader understanding to that which they gain from the information laid out in the AQA specification. As the UK political system is in a state of flux, students will be expected to have some understanding of current affairs and be able to apply these in the correct manner.

		ASSESSMENT
AUTUMN TERM	TOPIC 1: DEMOCRACY & PARTICIPATION - Different forms of democracy. - The effectiveness of democracy in the UK. - Extension of the franchise. - Is there a participation crisis in the UK? - Rights: a help or a hindrance? - What could be done to improve democracy in the UK?	Lesson time is specifically used to teach the examination style and technique, and includes opportunities to write responses outside of the formal key assessments. You will sit 5 key assessments across the year and these will alternate between the two sides of your taught content (Government and Politics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KA ONE: 2nd October • KA TWO: 30th November • KA THREE: 30th January • KA FOUR: 24th April • MOCK WEEK: 1st July 
	TOPIC 2: ELECTORAL SYSTEMS - How do elections and the electoral systems contribute to democracy? - How does FPTP work? - Advantages and disadvantages of FPTP - Strengths and weaknesses of other electoral systems used in the UK. - The impact of FPTP on government, democracy, representation and voter choice. - Referendums	
TOPIC 3: POLITICAL PARTIES AND PRESSURE GROUPS - What are parties and what role do they play in the UK? - is there a two-party system in the UK? - Origins of the three main parties, development and current stances. - Organisation and funding of parties. - How do pressure groups promote democracy and participation?		
TOPIC 4: ELECTIONS AND VOTING BEHAVIOUR - Social Factors affecting how people vote. - Theories behind voter choice. - The role of the party leader in voter choice. - Voting trends across elections, why might this be the case? - The role of the media within politics.		
SPRING TERM		HOMEWORK AND REVISION Revision sessions will run weekly on a Thursday afterschool in B6– the agenda for these sessions will be published on BS in advance so you can schedule your week and decide which is most beneficial for you. Homework will be set periodically and will be a mixture of discussion, reading and preparation for upcoming sessions
SUMMER TERM		ENRICHMENT THEMES Variety of debates throughout the course to allow students to build up ability to formulate and deliver developed arguments to ‘big issue’ questions. Students to create and manage a system which builds up a bank of relevant examples for use within the exams themselves and beyond! Opportunity to visit Parliament in Y13


WHERE NEXT?

In Year 13, students will go on to explore US Government and Politics, they will be asked to make comparisons between the two systems. Students will also explore a separate branch of Politics which is the basis all thought, policy and process: Political ideologies. Application of knowledge and technique learnt in Y12 is crucial for student’s understanding moving forward, this will be built on and developed further throughout their second year of study.

A-LEVEL POLITICS (GOVERNMENT) @ WBS YEAR 12 ROADMAP

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		ASSESSMENT
AUTUMN TERM	TOPIC 1: THE CONSTITUTION - What is a constitution? - Sources of the constitution - Strengths and weakness of the UK constitution - Constitutional reform since 1997. - Should the UK adopt a codified constitution?	Lesson time is specifically used to teach the examination style and technique, and includes opportunities to write responses outside of the formal key assessments. You will sit 5 key assessments across the year and these will alternate between the two sides of your taught content (Government and Politics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KA ONE: 2nd October • KA TWO: 30th November • KA THREE: 30th January • KA FOUR: 24th April • MOCK WEEK: 1st July 
	TOPIC 2 & 3: DEVOLUTION AND THE EU - What is devolution? - Devolution in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. - Devolution for England? - Implications of devolution on UK Politics. - The relationship between the UK and the EU. - Brexit and the future of the EU.	
	TOPIC 4: PARLIAMENT - Structure of the HOC & HOL. - The powers of the HOC & HOL. - What are the main functions of parliament? - How effective is parliament in performing its functions? - How does it interact with the executive?	
TOPIC 5: PM AND EXECUTIVE - The structure, role and powers of the executive. - Different functions and powers of the PM and cabinet. - Case studies of a variety of PMs, addressing their strengths, weaknesses and significance. - Collective ministerial responsibility and its significance.		
TOPIC 6: THE SUPREME COURT - The role and makeup of the SC. - Key doctrines and principles that underpin the SC. - Powers and impact of the SC. - Brexit and the SC.		
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