

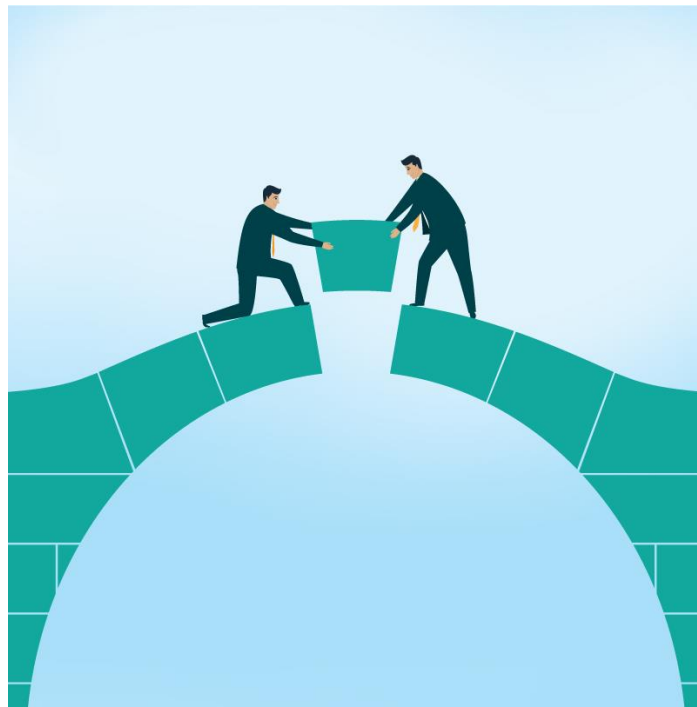


Year 11 - 12 Bridging the Gap

GCSE → A Level

A Level Politics

Summer 2023



Course Breakdown

Year 1 (year 12)

Component 1: UK Politics (*Component code: 9PL0/01) 33.3% of the qualification	
Content overview	Assessment overview
<p>1. Political Participation, students will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media. <p>2. Core Political Ideas, students will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conservatism, liberalism, socialism. 	<p>Written examination: 2 hours, 84 marks.</p> <p>Section A: Political Participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) – students must complete one of these. • One 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these. <p>All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p> <p>Section B: Core Political Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 24-mark question from a choice of two <p>The question assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p>
Component 2: UK Government (*Component code: 9PL0/02) 33.3% of the qualification	
Content overview	Assessment overview
<p>1. UK Government, students will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches. <p>2. Non-core political ideas, students will study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism. 	<p>Written examination: 2 hours, 84 marks.</p> <p>Section A: UK Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) – students must complete one of these. • One 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these. <p>All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p> <p>Section B: Non-core Political Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 24-mark question from a choice of two <p>The question assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p>

Year 2 (Year 13)

Component 3: Comparative Politics USA (*Component code: 9PL0/3A) 33.3% of the qualification	
Content overview	Assessment overview
USA, students will study: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories. 	Written examination: 2 hours, 84 marks. Section A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One 12-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1 and AO2. Section B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One compulsory 12-mark question focused on comparative theories, which assesses AO1 and AO2. Section C <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two 30-mark questions from a choice of three, which assess AO1, AO2 and AO3.

Recommended Reading

Fairclough, Paul (2010) A–Z UK Government and Politics, Philip Allan Updates

Heywood, Andrew (2008) Essentials of UK Politics, Palgrave Macmillan

Scholarly Articles

Is the UK a liberal democracy?, Politics Review, November 2005 (Will provided during the taster session)

The House of Commons, Politics Review, November 2008 (Will provided during the taster session)

House of Lords: reform, past and future, Politics, September 2007 (Will provided during the taster session)

Youtube Clips

UK politics explained: A brief History from 1900 to 2020 [UK Politics Explained: A Brief History \(1900 - 2020\) - YouTube](#)

British politicians: Funny and Awkward moments, [BRITISH POLITICIANS: FUNNY & AWKWARD MOMENTS - YouTube](#)

Podcasts

The Rest is Politics, featuring Alistair Campbell and Rory Stewart, Current domestic and international affairs

A Level

Useful websites

<https://www.parliament.uk/> - all you need to know about parliament

www.local.gov.uk A government website about local government in general

www.Europa.eu The official European Union website

TASK 1

Using the youtube clip above, UK politics explained: A brief History from 1900 to 2020, create a timeline of key developments in UK politics

TASK 2

Create a fact file about the UK Prime Ministers and US Presidents below.

Prime Ministers: Clement Attlee, Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair

Presidents: Ronald Reagan, Barrack Obama, Donald Trump

TASK 3

Read the three scholarly articles above, highlight key points and make notes about them, ready to discuss in September.

TASK 4

Please go to the following website address

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/americas/04/us_election/govt_system/html/introduction.stm

Click on the links for the 3 sections of USA government (Legislative, Executive, Judicial). Answer the following questions.

1. Which sections of the US government come under the control of the legislative branch?
2. What are the responsibilities of these two agencies?
3. In addition to leading the Executive branch of government what other responsibilities does the President have?
4. How many different sections does the President have direct control over?
5. Define and give two examples of external agencies.
6. What is the Supreme Court? How is it organised?
7. Why are there lower courts as well as the Supreme Court?

TASK 5

Listen to at least once episode of *The Rest is Politics* and make some notes about points of discussion.