

Government and politics

A level – Edexcel

Course Leader: Mr F Jadayel

What's it all about?

Government and politics at A Level is a study of the systems, institutions and ideas that underpin our political system in the UK which offers a comparative study with the US.

- **Learning about systems-** the way in which democracy operates, how political parties operate and are funded, electoral systems, what drives voters and the effect of the media
- **Learning about institutions** – the (unwritten) constitution, Parliament, the Prime Minister and cabinet
- **Learning about ideas** – what is socialism? Liberalism? Conservatism? How has the evolving nature of feminism shaped our world? Ideas are central to understanding the political world around us and we focus on these big ideas
- **Comparisons with the USA** – Congress, the President, the separation of powers amongst the three parts of government, civil rights and ultimately a comparison with the UK system

Who is it for?

Government and politics is for anyone with an interest in how the world around them is run. From understanding what went on with the prorogation of Parliament, to why lying to the queen is significant or what the Prime Minister even is, Government and politics will help students to understand the world, what is going on and what might happen next. It also for those students who finds how ideas have evolved and how they interact with the world around us interesting.

What are the entry requirements?

9-5 in GCSE history OR 9-5 in GCSE English but a healthy interest in how politics operates and an ability to name an MP other than Boris Johnson and Jeremy Corbyn are a useful start!

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed through three two hour exams, each worth 33% and assessing different elements of the course. Paper 1 focuses on UK politics and the ideas that underpin the major political ideologies, paper 2 on UK government and feminism, and Paper 3 on US politics.

Is there anything else I need to know?

Government and Politics is an exceptionally broad based subject which opens up many pathways into fields such as the civil and public service, journalism, broadcasting and a wealth of other areas.

Who can I contact for further information?

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