

Curriculum Area: POLITICS



The Government and Politics of the UK, USA and Comparative Politics – Year 12

		Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 12	The Government and Politics of the UK, USA and Comparative Politics	<p>The Nature and Sources of the British Constitution/Devolution</p> <p>Wk 1: Course Introduction / What is a Constitution? / Codified and Uncodified Constitutions</p> <p>Wk 2: The Sources of the UK Constitution / The Principles of a Constitution</p> <p>Wk 3: Strengths and Weaknesses of the UK Constitution / Constitutional Reform since 1997</p> <p>Wk 4: Should the UK Adopt a Codified Constitution? / Where Next for Constitutional Reform?</p> <p>Wk 5: What is Devolution? / The Scottish Parliament and Government</p> <p>Wk 6: The Welsh Parliament and Government / The Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive</p> <p>Wk 7: How Should England Be Governed? / The Impact of Devolution on UK Politics</p>	<p>The Structure and Role of Parliament</p> <p>Wk 1: What is Parliament? – Structure/Membership/Role of the House of Commons and House of Lords / Reform of the House of Lords – Parliamentary Reforms of the House of Lords since 1997/ Arguments For/Against an Appointed/Elected Second Chamber</p> <p>Wk 2: Comparative Powers of the House of Commons and House of Lords / Functions of Parliament – Roles/Demands and Pressures on Members of Parliament/ Conflicting Responsibilities of MPs</p> <p>Wk 4: The Legislative Process - Different Types of Bills and Stages</p> <p>Wk 5: Parliamentary Scrutiny / The Work of Select Committees</p> <p>Wk 6: How Representative is Parliament? / How Effective are Backbench MPs?</p> <p>Wk 7: How Effective is Parliament?</p>	<p>The Prime Minister and Cabinet</p> <p>Wk 1: The Core Executive – Structure/Role/ Powers/Relations / The Powers of the Prime Minister – Functions/Role/Powers</p> <p>Wk 2: The Powers of and Constraints on the Prime Minister – Patronage/Authority in the Cabinet System & Agenda Setting/Policy Making Role/Party Leadership/Public Standing/The Prime Minister's Office</p> <p>Wk 3: The Cabinet – Functions/Powers/Importance / The Importance of the Cabinet as a Decision-Making Body</p> <p>Wk 4: Collective and Individual Ministerial Responsibility</p> <p>Wk 5: Cabinet or Prime-Ministerial Government? / Theories of Executive Power</p> <p>Wk 6: Ministers and Civil Servants / Ministers and Civil Servant Relationships / Changes to the Civil Service</p>	<p>Pressure Groups</p> <p>Wk 1: Pressure Groups and Democracy: Pluralism – Features of a Pluralist Democracy / Do Pressure Groups Promote Democracy?</p> <p>Wk 2: Other Influences on Government and Parliament – Think Tanks/Lobbyists/ Corporations/Media / Typologies of Pressure Groups – Aims/ Status/Problems/Criticisms of Classifying Groups</p> <p>Wk 3: Methods Employed by Pressure Groups – Access Points</p> <p>Wk 4: Pressure Groups, the Media and Direct Action</p> <p>Wk 5: Factors Affecting Pressure Group Success</p> <p>Wk 6: Pressure Groups, Political Parties and Social Movements – Similarities/Differences/Links</p>	<p>The Judiciary</p> <p>Wks 1-2: The Composition of the Judiciary and the Appointments Process – Significance of Key Doctrines and Principles</p> <p>Wk 3: The Role of the Supreme Court and its Impact on Government, the Legislature and the Policy Process – Origins/ Functions/Powers/Political Significance</p> <p>Wk 4: The Supreme Court and the Human Rights Act</p> <p>Wk 5: The Overall Impact of the UK Supreme Court</p> <p>Wk 6: The Potential Impact of Brexit on the Jurisdiction, Power and Authority of the UK Supreme Court</p> <p>Wk 7: The UK and US Judiciary: A Comparison – Similarities/ Differences/Jurisdiction/Power/ Authority</p>	<p>The Constitutional Framework of US Government</p> <p>Wk 1: The Birth of the USA – The Nature and Significance of the US Constitution / The Philadelphia Convention and Key Features/Principles of the US Constitution</p> <p>Wk 2: Key Features of, and Powers Delegated by, the Articles of the US Constitution</p> <p>Wk 3: The Bill of Rights / The Amendment Process</p> <p>Wk 4: Key Principles of the Constitution – Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances</p> <p>Wk 5: Federalism – Changing Federal-State Relationship / Consequences of Federalism – Strengths/Limitations</p> <p>Wk 6: Benefits and Drawbacks of the US Constitution / The UK and US Constitutions: A Comparison – Similarities/Differences/ Origins/Features/Provisions/ Theoretical Principles</p>
		<p>Assessments</p> <p>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</p>	<p>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</p>	<p>Trial 1 Examination</p>	<p>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</p>	<p>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</p>	<p>Trial 2 Examination</p>

The Government and Politics of the USA, Comparative Politics and Political Ideas

		Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 13	The Government and Politics of the UK, USA and Comparative Politics	The Legislative Branch of Government: Congress	US Pressure Groups	The Judicial Branch of Government and Civil Rights	Comparative Politics: Political Theories Conservatism	Feminism	Study Leave / Students Sit A-Level Examinations
		<p>Wk 1: The Structure and Composition of Congress – Theoretical Models of Representation / The Powers of Congress/</p> <p>Wk 2: How Important are Congressional Committees? – Structure/Role/Powers/Significance/Criticisms</p> <p>Wk 3: The Legislative Process – Criticisms/Effectiveness / Scrutiny of the Executive</p> <p>Wk 4: Congress and Representation</p> <p>Wk 5: How Effective is Congress? – Law Making/Representation/Scrutiny</p> <p>Wk 6: Voting in Congress / Parties in Congress – Roles/Powers/Importance</p> <p>Wk 7: The UK and US Legislatures: A Comparison – Similarities/Differences/Role/Pre-estige/Functions</p>	<p>Wk 1: The Theoretical Basis of Pressure Group Activity / Typologies of US Pressure Groups – Membership/Aims/Status</p> <p>Wk 2: Functions and Importance of US Pressure Groups / Electioneering and Endorsement – Political Action Committees</p> <p>Wk 3: Methods used by Pressure Groups to influence Congress</p> <p>Wk 4: The Impact of Pressure Groups on US Policy</p> <p>Wk 5: Methods used by Pressure Groups to influence US Government</p> <p>Wk 6: The Regulation of US Pressure Groups / Advantages and Disadvantages of US Pressure Groups</p> <p>Wk 7: UK and US Pressure Groups: A Comparison – Similarities/Differences/Methods/Power/Success</p>	<p>Wk 1: The Constitutional Role, Judicial Power and Composition of the US Supreme Court / Factors affecting the Appointment and Confirmation Process – Philosophy/Criticisms /Politicisation</p> <p>Wk 2: The Power and Importance of the Supreme Court / The Power of Judicial Review</p> <p>Wk 3: Judicial Activism and Judicial Restraint</p> <p>Wk 4: Landmark Rulings of the Supreme Court – Political and Constitutional Significance of Decisions</p> <p>Wk 5: The Supreme Court and Presidential Power / Checks on the Supreme Court</p> <p>Wk 6: The UK and US Judiciary: A Comparison – Similarities/Differences/Jurisdiction/Power/Authority</p>	<p>Wks 1-2: Structural, Rational and Cultural Theories – Challenges/Views of Key Thinkers and Application to Examination Questions.</p> <p>Wk 3: The Origins and Core Ideas of Conservatism / Conservatism and Society</p> <p>Wk 4: Conservatism, the State and the Economy / Different Types of Conservatism – Factors Shaping Ideologies/</p> <p>Wk 5: Different Types of Conservatism: 20th Century Developments / New Right Conservatism – Origins/Nature/Successes/Criticisms</p> <p>Wk 6: Conservatism Today – Summary of Key Themes and Thinkers/Impact of Recent Developments on the Nature of Conservatism in the Modern-Day</p>	<p>Wk 1: The Origins and Core Values of Feminism</p> <p>Wk 2: The Core Ideas of Feminism – Views of Feminist Thinkers on the Key Concepts of Sex, Gender and Patriarchy</p> <p>Wk 3: Radical Feminism – Feminist Thinkers' Perspectives on the Nature of a Patriarchal Society/The Public/Private Sphere</p> <p>Wk 4: The State, The Economy and Socialist Feminism</p> <p>Wk 5: Different Types of Feminism – Development/Perspectives/Successes/Criticisms/Views of Feminist Thinkers in Relation to Equality/Difference/Cultural /Second and Third Wave Feminism</p> <p>Wk 6: Post-Modern Feminism and Post-Feminism / Feminism Today</p>	<p>Examination Preparation and Revision of Course Content</p>
Assessments		<i>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</i>	<i>Trial 1 Examination</i>	<i>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</i>	<i>Trial 2 Examination</i>	<i>Focus on 'Extract'-Based and Essay-Style Questions</i>	<i>Summer Examinations</i>