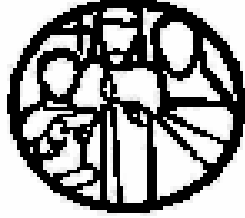


# Holy Family Technology College Sixth Form



## Politics Course Induction booklet



# PERSONAL DETAILS SHEET

*Please complete and hand to your History Teacher (Mr Shah or Ms Parker)*

<b>NAME</b>	
<b>FORM and FORM TUTOR</b>	
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>	
<b>WHY DID YOU CHOOSE POLITICS?</b>	

# **A-LEVEL POLITICS LEARNING** **AGREEMENT**

## **Requirements**

All students will be expected to get to all lessons on time. In addition to this, you will be expected to complete other work/reading in your own time. You will be required to hand in essays, source answers or reading notes on the specific date given. You are expected to fully engage with all the lessons and be willing to participate in discussions.

## **Class work**

Lesson time will focus on reading that is done before the lesson. You will be instructed what to read for the next lesson so that you are informed prior the lesson and to aid discussion. You will also practice your assessment skills in class using knowledge and sources.

## **Homework**

You will be given reading, essays, source work and research to complete in individual learning time, as well as revision tasks. These will be expected to be completed on time and assessed formally to enable effect revision and learning to take place. These should be completed to the best of your ability

## **Monitoring**

You will be regularly assessed in the form of learning conversations, assessment questions, debates, research, presentations, groups work. Students will be assessed in accordance with Edexcel's marking criteria and assessment objectives which are detailed below.

## **Your target**

We want you to achieve the highest possible grade and we will target you a grade that you can achieve, providing you follow the course requirements. This target grade will be based on your GCSE grade and our experience. We will discuss this grade with you and alter it over time if necessary.

## **Questions**

If you have any questions or problems please contact;

*Mr Shah* – [eshah@hfcsw.uk](mailto:eshah@hfcsw.uk)

Or the Sixth Form Team

# **A-LEVEL POLITICS** **CODE OF CONDUCT**

## **Attendance**

Attendance is compulsory to all lessons. If you are absent, you must contact 020 509 4268 before 8.40 on the day of absence. If attendance becomes a concern your parents will be contacted and further action taken if necessary.

## **Punctuality**

You are expected to be on time to all lessons. You will not be allowed into the lesson if you are more than 5 minutes late for period 1,3 and 5 and more than 10 minutes late for period 2 and 4. If you know you will be late and have a valid reason, it must be written in your journal and presented to the teacher on arrival to the lesson.

## **Meeting Deadlines**

Meeting deadlines for homework/tasks are expected for all lessons. You will be withdrawn from lessons if this fails to be the case.

## **Behaviour**

The highest expectations of behaviour are set for all students. Students must be respectful of all staff and students. Students should be focused and on task throughout lessons. Poor behaviour is taken very seriously and will be addressed straight away with one-to-one meetings, consultation with the sixth form team and dialogue with parents/carers. If poor behaviour persists it will lead to withdrawal from the course.

## **Mobile phones**

Mobile phones must not be seen in lessons. If you are caught with a mobile phone it will be confiscated by the teacher and returned at the end of lesson. If you refuse to hand the phone over you will be withdrawn from the lesson and further action will be taken.

## What is politics?

### Government

Noun

1. The governing body of a nation, state, or community.
2. The system by which a nation, state, or community is governed.

### Politics

Noun

1. The activities associated with the governance of a country or area.
2. The activities of governments concerning the political relations between countries.

## Why is politics important?

We don't always like politicians and the things that governments do... but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives.

And whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. Society just wouldn't function without an elected body to decide, say, what taxes will be levied, how those taxes will be spent on things like health and education or how the country will be defended.

But no matter whether government makes you feel angry or reassured, it's worth having a knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works.

Knowledge is power. And this popular A Level gives you the knowledge to understand how government works, particularly in the UK and US, but also in other countries. If you want to work in local or national government and make a difference to society, this course is a valuable first step.

## What jobs can government and politics lead to?



Many students who have taken the A Level in Government and Politics go on to study Politics at university. From there you might become a researcher, join local or national government or even start on the path to become a future Prime Minister! But there are other job options too. If you fancy a career in journalism or the media, this course is very useful. Students also go on to become teachers or work in the legal profession.

# Politics A-Level course structure

We will be following the linear Edexcel specification. All units are examined at the end of Year 13.

## Component 1: UK POLITICS

- 2hr Exam
- 33% - 84 marks
- Content:
  - Political Participation (democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.
  - Core Political Ideas (conservatism, liberalism, socialism)
- Assessment:
  - Section A: 1x 30-Mark source question; 1x 3-Mark question – AO1,2,3
  - Section B: 1x 24-mark question – AO1,2,3



## Component 2: UK GOVERNMENT

- 2hr Exam
- 33% - 84 marks
- Content:
  - Section A: UK Government (Constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.
  - Section B: **Optional** Political Ideas (anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism)
- Assessment:
  - Section A: 1x 30-Mark source question; 1x 3-Mark question – AO1,2,3
  - Section B: 1x 24-mark question – AO1,2,3



## Component 3: COMPARATIVE POLITICS

- 2hr Exam
- 33% - 84 Marks
- Content:
  - USA: US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.
- Assessment:
  - Section A: 1x 12-mark question – AO1,2
  - Section B: 1x 12-mark question – comparative – AO1,2
  - Section C: 2x 30-mark questions – AO1,2,3



# Holy Family Catholic School Curriculum Overview Year 12 – Politics (A Level) - Exam Board: Edexcel



	Curriculum Content	Suggested Reading or Extension Activities
<b>Half Term 1 (Sept-Oct)</b>	Mr Shah: Core political ideas: liberalism (Paper 1) Mr Sayer: UK Politics covering democracy and participation (Paper 1)	Engage with current affairs and politics by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following BBC News and BBC Politics on social media</li> <li>• Subscribe to a news podcast e.g. Guardian Politics Weekly</li> <li>• Subscribe to TLDR UK and Channel 4 News on Youtube</li> <li>• Listen to the Today Programme on Radio 4</li> </ul> Use the Enrichment Grid: <a href="#">Enrichment Grid and Map.docx</a>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxmZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxmZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a>
<b>Half Term 2 (Nov-Dec)</b>	Mr Shah: Core political ideas: conservatism (Paper 1) Mr Sayer: UK Politics covering human rights in context and political parties (Paper 1)	
<b>Half Term 3 (Jan-Feb)</b>	Mr Shah: UK Government covering the UK constitution (Paper 2) Mr Sayer: UK Politics covering electoral systems (Paper 1)	
<b>Half Term 4 (Feb-Mar)</b>	Mr Shah: UK Government covering the UK Executive (Paper 2) Mr Sayer: UK Politics covering voting behaviour and the media (Paper 1)	
<b>Half Term 5 (Apr-May)</b>	Mr Shah: UK Government covering the UK Parliament (Paper 2) Mr Sayer: Core political ideas: socialism (Paper 1)	
<b>Half Term 6 (Jun-Jul)</b>	Mr Shah & Mr Sayer: UK Government covering the relationship between institutions (Paper 2)	

<b>Examples of Home Learning Tasks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly pre-reading</li> <li>• Seneca revision tasks</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Tasks, Methods &amp; Frequency</b>	Twice per half-term assessment work modelled on the Edexcel GCSE exam specification
<b>Equipment that Students Need</b>	2x Folders, pen (green and black), pencil, ruler, highlighters and glue stick

<b>Parent / Carers can help their child by:</b>	<p>Regular questioning and discussions of current affairs. Watching/listening to the news with your child.</p> <p>Go with your child to a place on our enrichment grid: <a href="#">Enrichment Grid and Map.docx</a> <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMCnhzxU50ml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMCnhzxU50ml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a></p>
<b>Useful Websites</b>	<p><a href="https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/">https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/</a></p>
<b>Extra-Curricular Activities &amp; Career Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip Westminster including the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court</li> <li>• Enrichment trip to Berlin, Germany</li> <li>• Diversity &amp; Inclusion Club</li> <li>• Links to careers during assessment feedback lessons</li> <li>• BHM and LGBT+ History Month activities</li> </ul>

<b>Who Can I Contact?</b>	Head of Politics	Mr E Shah
	Teachers of Year 12 Politics	Mr Shah, Mr Sayer

# Holy Family Catholic School Curriculum Overview Year 13 – Politics (A Level) - Exam Board: Edexcel



	Curriculum Content	Suggested Reading or Extension Activities
<b>Half Term 1 (Sept-Oct)</b>	Ms Warren: US Government covering the constitution and federalism (Paper 3) Mr Sayer: feminism as a political idea (Paper 2)	Engage with current affairs and politics by: Following BBC News and BBC North America on social media Subscribe to a news podcast e.g. Guardian Politics Weekly Subscribe to TLDR US on Youtube Listen to the Today Programme on Radio 4  Use the Enrichment Grid: <a href="#">Enrichment Grid and Map.docx</a>  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMcnhzxU50ml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMcnhzxU50ml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a>
<b>Half Term 2 (Nov-Dec)</b>	Ms Warren: US Government covering the US Congress (Paper 3) Mr Sayer: US Politics covering democracy and participation (Paper 3)	
<b>Half Term 3 (Jan-Feb)</b>	Ms Warren: US Government covering the US Presidency (Paper 3) Mr Sayer: US Politics covering democracy and participation (Paper 3)	
<b>Half Term 4 (Feb-Mar)</b>	Ms Warren: US Government covering the Supreme Court and civil rights (Paper 3) Mr Sayer: US Politics covering democracy and participation (Paper 3)	
<b>Half Term 5 (Apr-May)</b>	Revision	
<b>Half Term 6 (Jun-Jul)</b>	N/A	

<b>Examples of Home Learning Tasks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly pre-reading</li> <li>• Seneca revision tasks</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment Tasks, Methods &amp; Frequency</b>	Twice per half-term assessment work modelled on the Edexcel GCSE exam specification
<b>Equipment that Students Need</b>	2x Folders, pen (green and black), pencil, ruler, highlighters and glue stick

<b>Parent / Carers</b>	Regular questioning and discussions of current affairs. Watching/listening to the news with your child.
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<b>can help their child by:</b>	Go with your child to a place on our enrichment grid: <a href="#">Enrichment Grid and Map.docx</a> <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMCnhzxU5Oml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sk0FxTQMCnhzxU5Oml-mZ6LKWg6L75VW/edit?usp=sharing&amp;oid=104097838839705805535&amp;rtpof=true&amp;sd=true</a>
<b>Useful Websites</b>	<a href="https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/">https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/</a>
<b>Extra-Curricular Activities &amp; Career Opportunities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip Westminster including the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court</li> <li>• Enrichment trip to Berlin, Germany</li> <li>• Diversity &amp; Inclusion Club</li> <li>• Links to careers during assessment feedback lessons</li> <li>• BHM and LGBT+ History Month activities</li> </ul>

<b>Who Can I Contact?</b>	Head of Politics	Mr E Shah
	Teachers of Year 13 Politics	Mr Sayer, Ms Warren

## How does A-level Politics assessment work?

You will be assessed on three Assessment Objectives: AO1, AO2 and AO3.

<b>Students must</b>	
<b>AO1</b>	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of political institutions, processes, concepts, theories and issues
<b>AO2</b>	Analyse aspects of politics and political information, including in relation to parallels, connections, similarities and differences
<b>AO3</b>	Evaluate aspects of politics and political information, including to construct arguments, make substantiated judgements and draw conclusions

<b>Paper</b>	<b>Assessment Objectives</b>			<b>Total for all Assessment Objectives</b>
	<b>AO1</b>	<b>AO2</b>	<b>AO3</b>	
<b>Paper 1: UK Politics</b>	11%	11%	11%	33%
<b>Paper 2: UK Government</b>	11%	11%	11%	33%
<b>Paper 3: Comparative Politics</b>	13%	13%	8%	33%
<b>Total for this qualification</b>	35%	35%	30%	100%

# Assessment Info

**Exam Board: Edexcel Politics 2017 A-level**

## **Paper 1 UK POLITICS**

<b>Paper 1 (*Paper code: 9PL0/01) UK Politics</b>
<b>Written examination: 2 hours</b> <b>33% of the qualification</b> <b>84 marks</b>
<b>Content overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Democracy and participation</li><li>• Political parties</li><li>• Electoral systems</li><li>• Voting behaviour and the media</li><li>• Liberalism</li><li>• Conservatism</li><li>• Socialism</li></ul>
<b>Assessment overview</b> <p><b>Section A: Political Participation</b> One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) – students must complete one of these. Plus one 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these. All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p> <p><b>Section B: Core Political Ideas</b> One 24-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p>

## Paper 2: UK GOVERNMENT

Paper 2: (Paper code: 9PL0/02) UK Government
<b>Written examination: 2 hours</b> <b>33% of the qualification</b> <b>84 marks</b>
<b>Content overview</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The constitution</li><li>• Parliament</li><li>• Prime Minister and Executive</li><li>• Relationships between the branches</li><li>• One from the following: Anarchism, Feminism, Ecologism, Multiculturalism, Nationalism</li></ul>
<b>Assessment overview</b> <p><b>Section A: Political Participation</b> One 30-mark questions from a choice of two (each question uses a source) – students must complete one of these. Plus one 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these. All questions assess AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p> <p><b>Section B: Core Political Ideas</b> One 24-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.</p>

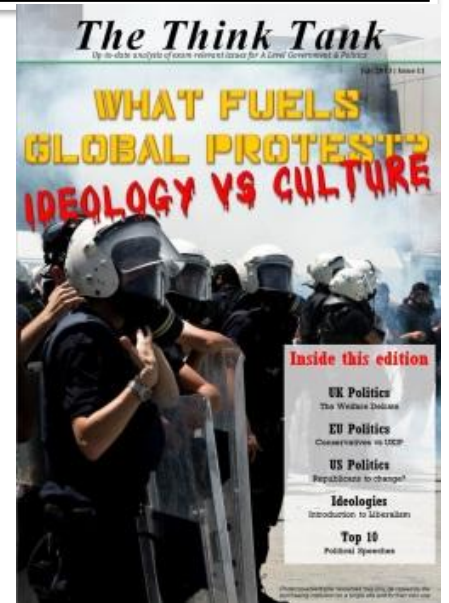
## Paper 3: COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Paper 3: (Paper code: 9PL0/3A or 3B) Comparative politics
<b>Written examination: 2 hours</b> <b>33% of the qualification</b> <b>84 marks</b>
<b>Content overview</b> <p>Students study <b>either</b> the Government and Politics of the USA (3A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The US Constitution and federalism</li><li>• US Congress</li><li>• US presidency</li><li>• US Supreme Court and civil rights</li><li>• Democracy and participation</li><li>• Comparative theories</li></ul>
<b>Section A:</b> One 12-mark question from a choice of two, which assesses AO1 and AO2.
<b>Section B:</b> One compulsory 12-mark question focused on comparative theories, which assesses AO1 and AO2.
<b>Section C:</b> Two 30-mark questions from a choice of three, which assesses AO1, AO2 and AO3.

# How to be a good Politics student



A good Government and Politics student doesn't just read the textbook and write essays. It involves much more...



Pick up a newspaper and read articles about social, political and economic issues

Download some Apps and turn on notifications: e.g. BBC News



Watch the news, question time, social documentaries (e.g. panorama or dispatches or online documentaries).

Follow, read write on social media and blogs about political issues. Share your ideas with the world!



Listen to UK Politics podcast every week



# Useful Websites/Books & Extended Reading

## News websites:

[www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news)

[www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk)

[www.telegraph.co.uk](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)

## Party specific websites:

<http://www.conservatives.com/>

<http://www.labour.org.uk/home>

<http://www.libdems.org.uk/home.aspx>

<http://www.greenparty.org.uk/>

<http://www.ukip.org/>

<http://www.spectator.co.uk/>

<http://www.newstatesman.com/>

<http://www.democrats.org/>

<http://www.gop.com>

## Revision websites:

<http://senecalearning.com>

[http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/wiki/Politics\\_Revision\\_Notes](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/wiki/Politics_Revision_Notes)

<http://www.tutor2u.net/politics.html>

[http://getrevising.co.uk/resources/subjects/government\\_and\\_politics/](http://getrevising.co.uk/resources/subjects/government_and_politics/)

## TV programmes:

Newsnight (BBC2)

Question Time (BBC1)

Panorama (BBC1)

Newsnight (BBC2)

Daily Politics (BBC)

Al Jazeera

Channel 4 News

Dispatches (Channel 4)

## Podcasts

Guardian Weekly Podcast

The Rest is Politics

BBC Newscast

## YouTube

TLDR UK

TLDR US

Channel 4 News

## Social Media

All of the above plus key political figures can be found on social media e.g. Twitter

