

Edexcel Politics – Curriculum Map

Year 1

Autumn Term		
	Teacher 1	Teacher 2
1	Democracy and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current systems of representative democracy and direct democracy • A wider franchise and debates over suffrage • Pressure groups and other influences • Rights in context 	Political parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political parties • Established political parties • Emerging and minor UK political parties • UK political parties in context
2	UK Elections and Voting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different electoral systems • Referendums and how they are used • Electoral systems analysis 	Voting Behaviour and Media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class voting and other social factors influencing voting patterns • Case studies of three key general elections • The influence of the media
Spring Term		
1	The Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and sources of the UK constitution • How the constitution has changed since 1997 • The role and powers of devolved bodies in the UK, and the impact of this devolution on the UK • Debates on further reform 	UK Prime Minister and Cabinet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure, role and powers of the Executive • The concept of ministerial responsibility • The Prime Minister and the Cabinet
2	Parliament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure and role of the House of Commons and House of Lords • The comparative powers of the House of Commons and House of Lords • The legislative process • The ways in which Parliament interacts with the Executive 	Relations between Institutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court and its interactions with, and influence over, the legislative and policy-making process • The relationship between the Executive and Parliament • The aims, role and impact of the European Union (EU) on UK government • The location of sovereignty within the UK political system
Summer Term		
1	Liberalism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core ideas and principles, and how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy 	Socialism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core ideas and principles, and how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tensions between classical and modern liberalism • Ideas of key thinkers - Locke, Wollstonecraft, Mill, Rawls, Friedan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tensions between revolutionary, social democracy and the third way • Ideas of key thinkers - Marx, Engels, Webb, Luxemburg, Crosland, Giddens
2	<p>Conservatism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core ideas and principles, and how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy • Tensions between traditional, one nation and new right • Ideas of key thinkers - Hobbes, Burke, Rand, Oakenshott, Nozick 	<p>Feminism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core ideas and principles, and how they relate to human nature, the state, society and economy • Tensions between differing types of this ideology • Ideas of key thinkers

Year 2

Autumn		
	Teacher 1	Teacher 2
1	<p>US Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature of the US Constitution The principles of the US Constitution Interpretations and debates around the US Constitution <p><i>Comparisons to the UK - Similarities and differences between each constitution, their nature, sources, provisions, separation of powers, checks and balances.</i></p>	<p>US Democracy and participation</p> <p>Electoral systems in the USA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidential elections and their significance Campaign finance Debates surrounding elections in the USA including the electoral college and the role of incumbency
2	<p>US Congress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The structure of Congress The functions of Congress Interpretations and debates around Congress <p>Comparisons to the UK – membership of each House in each country, power of each House, relationship between the two houses in each system</p> <p>Federalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main characteristics of US federalism Interpretations and debates around the US Constitution and federalism <p><i>Comparisons to the UK – how far the UK model of devolution parallels the US federal system.</i></p>	<p>US Democracy and participation cont.</p> <p>The key ideas and principles of the Democratic and Republican parties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The distribution of power and changing significance of the parties The current conflicts and tendencies and changing power and influence that exist within the parties Coalition of supporters for each party Debates surrounding party unity, party policy and voting groups <p>Interest groups in the USA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their significance, resources, tactics and debates about their impact on democracy <p><i>Comparisons to the UK – nature of the party system, degree of unity within major parties, policy profiles, debates around campaign finance, methods and extent of influence of pressure groups.</i></p>
Spring		
1	<p>US Congress cont.</p> <p>Federalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main characteristics of US federalism Interpretations and debates around the US Constitution and federalism 	<p>US Supreme Court and civil rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature and role of the Supreme Court The appointment process for the Supreme Court The Supreme Court and public policy The protection of civil liberties and rights in the US today Race and rights in contemporary US politics

	<p><i>Comparisons to the UK – how far the UK model of devolution parallels the US federal system.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretations and debates of the US Supreme Court and civil rights <p><i>Comparisons to the UK – the basis for their power, impact on government and policy, relative independence of each Court, effectiveness of rights protection in each country, impact/effectiveness of interest groups in protecting rights.</i></p>
2	<p>US Presidency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal sources of presidential power as outlined in the US Constitution and their use. • Informal sources of presidential power and their use: • The presidency. • Interpretations and debates of the US presidency. <p><i>Comparisons to the UK – role and power and limitations of the President and Prime Minister, extent of accountability to legislature.</i></p>	<p>Comparative theories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical approaches – understanding of these three approaches and the different ways they explain similarities and differences between the government and politics of different countries: • Rational - this approach focuses on individuals within a political system. • Cultural - this approach focuses on groups within a political system – this could be voters, parties, pressure groups and so on. • Structural - this approach focuses on the institutions in a political system and the processes within them.
Summer		
1	Revision	Revision
2	Exams	Exams