



A-level Politics

Board and Specification: **Edexcel 8PLo/01 and 9PLo/01**

Head of Department: **Miss Anne-Marie Kelly (A.kelly@cwlc.email)**

Mr Richard Hall (r.hall@cwlc.email)

Subject specific entry requirements:

- Grade 5 in GCSE English Literature and/or Language.
- Grade 5 in a GCSE humanities subject.

What skills are required of students?

- Discussion
- Essay skills
- Debating
- Wanting to understand the country we live in and the ideology behind our political system in comparison to the American system

Course Outline

Politics is about you! You live in a democracy and, in theory, you have control over the laws of this country.

You elect the people who represent you and make the laws. This course looks at people power: how people participate and how they can influence a set of policies; pressure groups and protest movements; plus the inner workings of our democracy. You will become equipped with knowledge on how elections work and which electoral system is which. Ever wondered what 'First past the Post' truly means?

As this is a truly dynamic course you will understand the political system by studying the changes within the system as they happen. The General Election of 2017, Brexit and election of a left-wing Labour leader will change the political landscape, but how will it affect you? Politics is a real-time event, it is constantly changing and this adds interest and gives a greater sense of importance to the topics studied.

With **the new course** there is a greater focus on the role of the EU, the Media and political ideology. All of which will be dominating our TV screens and social media apps for the foreseeable future.

Modules titles and codes:

Component 1 (*Paper code: 9PL0/01)

Political Participation. Students will study: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

Core Political Ideas. Students will study: conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Modules titles and codes:

Component 2: UK Government (*Paper code: 9PL0/02)

UK Government, students will study: the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

Optional Political Ideas, students will study: anarchism.

Component 3: Comparative Politics (*Paper code: 9PL0/3A or 3B)

For USA (3A), students will study: the US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.

What kinds of work will you do in class and at home?

- Debating key political issues.
- Visit to the Houses of Parliament and Supreme Court.
- Follow the debate on social media.
- Discussion of reforms and current affairs.
- Visiting speakers such as MPs, party members and lecturers.
- Watch the news, download the apps and keep updated.
- Using Padlet to share articles and showcase work - <https://tinyurl.com/ybm4grfg>
- Some podcasts and sites to find out more - https://padlet.com/cwlc_amk/krioq65js15l

What other A-levels does your subject connect well with?

History, Business Studies, Sociology and English Literature.

What types of university course will be helped by this A-level?

Law, journalism, history, languages, American studies, politics, European studies.