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URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL  
& WIMBLEDON COLLEGE  
SIXTH FORM

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# POLITICS

at Ursuline High School and Wimbledon College

LEVEL: A Level

EXAMINATION BOARD: EDEXCEL

SPECIFICATION NUMBERS: 9PLO

September 2021

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL  
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**Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher Key Stage 5:  
Mr Didier Adam & Mr Ben Barton**

### **WHAT WILL I STUDY IN THIS SUBJECT?**

Component 1 - Political Participation: democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

Core Political Ideas: Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2 - UK Government: The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

Optional Political Ideas: One idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Component 3 - USA Politics: The US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.

### **WHAT SKILLS AND INTERESTS DO I NEED FOR THIS SUBJECT?**

Politics will suit students who have an interest in the world and how it is run. A good Politics student will be able to articulate their arguments clearly and will recognise that their viewpoint is not the only one. You also need to have good writing skills; Politics is an essay based subject.

### **HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?**

| Unit | Components   | Assessment  | Weighting |
|------|--|---|-----------|
| 1    | Component 1: <b>Political Participation:</b> democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.<br><b>Core Political Ideas:</b> Conservatism, liberalism, socialism. | Section A: <b>Political Participation</b><br>One 30-mark questions from a choice of two (each question is based on a quote) – students must complete one of these.<br>Plus one 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these.<br><br>Section B: <b>Core Political Ideas</b><br>One 24-mark question from a choice of two. | 33.5%     |

|   |   |  |       |
|---|---|--|-------|
| 2 | <p>Component 2: <b>UK Government:</b> The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.</p> <p><b>Optional Political Ideas:</b> One idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.</p> | <p>Section A: <b>UK Government</b><br/>One 30-mark questions from a choice of two (each question is based on a quote) – students must complete one of these.<br/>Plus one 30-mark question from a choice of two – students must complete one of these.</p> <p>Section B: <b>Optional Political Ideas</b><br/>One 24-mark question from a choice of two</p> | 33.5% |
| 3 | <p>Component 3: <b>USA Politics:</b> The US Constitution and federalism, US congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court, democracy and participation, civil rights.</p>   | <p>Section A<br/>One 12-mark question from a choice of two</p> <p>Section B<br/>One compulsory 12-mark question</p> <p>Section C<br/>Two 30-mark questions from a choice of three</p>  | 33.5% |

## FIELDWORK/TRIPS

Westminster Parliament and London venues such as the Greater London Authority. Outside speakers, such as local MPs, will also hold talks at the Ursuline.

## WHAT OTHER SUBJECTS COMBINE WELL WITH THIS SUBJECT?

Subject title

History

Economics

English

Sociology

## TO WHAT FURTHER OR HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD?

International Relations  
Politics  
History  
English  
Law

### **WHAT CAREERS COULD THIS SUBJECT LEAD TO?**

This subject could lead to a career in the following:

Law  
Lecturing  
Becoming an M.P  
Working in Parliament  
Working for your local council  
Political Journalism  
T.V / Radio  
Finance and Banking  
Management Training  
Teaching  
P.R  
Advertising  
Media  
Local Politics  
Charity organisations such as the UN or NGO's  
Diplomatic Services

### **RECOMMENDED READING:**

Essentials of UK Politics by Andrew Heywood  
The Blair Effect by Anthony Seldon  
Servants of the People by Andrew Rawnsley  
Politics Review published Quarterly by Philip Allan Updates  
A quality newspaper should be read daily

### **USEFUL LINKS:**

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)  
[www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com)  
[www.guardianunlimited.co.uk](http://www.guardianunlimited.co.uk)  
[www.politics.co.uk](http://www.politics.co.uk)

## **ENTRY CRITERIA**

Please refer to the Entry Criteria Insert to understand the Pathway requirements.

The entry criteria for this subject is: Grade 6 in English Language OR English Literature OR History