



Year 12 UK Politics	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Unit(s) – As	3.1.1. The UK Government	3.1.1.2 Structure and role of Parliament	3.1.1.3 The PM and the Cabinet
outlined in 39 week plans	3.1.1.1 The nature and sources of the British Constitution 3.1.1.2 Structure and role of Parliament	3.1.1.3 The PM and the Cabinet	3.1.1.5 Devolution 3.1.2.5 The European Union
Key Retainable Knowledge & Skills	UK Constitution Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:	Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:	PM and Cabinet Students should have solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:  Core executive Prime Minister and concept of 'Primus inter Pares' Cabinet and concept of 'inner Cabinet' Cabinet Committee Individual and Cabinet responsibility; Ministerial responsibility Accountability Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: The difference between individual and collective responsibility, including specific examples e.g. the resignation of Sir Thomas Dugdale – Crichel Down 1954; resignation of Iain Duncan Smith - Welfare reform, 2016. Students should also understand the different reasons why Cabinet members might resign. Power of the PM to determine events e.g. Poll Tax and Iraq War The means and methods used by Parliament to hold the Government to account, including the importance of size of majority. The relationship between the government and parliament Devolution Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts: Devolution Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts: Devolution Northern Ireland Assembly and Government Welsh Assembly and Government Northern Ireland Assembly, and Government Northern Ireland Sesembly and Government Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: The roles, powers and responsibilities of the different devolved bodies in the UK including difference between Parliament and Assembly. Debate around devolution in England Existing devolution in England Existing devolution on Government in the UK The EU Students should have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts: EU institutions, including EU Parliament, Council of Ministers, European Commission, Court of Justice of the European Community  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: The aims of the EU and the extent to which they have been achieved The impact of the EU on UK politics and policy making





Key Technical Vocabulary	Codified/uncodified constitution Royal Prerogative Parliamentary Sovereignty Devolution Parliament v Assembly Referendum Representation	Primus inter pares Cabinet/Individual/Ministerial Responsibility Whips	Accountability Scrutiny
Opportunities for Reading	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al My Revision Notes UK Politics Politics Review (various) UK Politics Annual update Constitutional change in the UK, Routledge, 2002	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al My Revision Notes UK Politics Politics Review (various) UK Politics Annual update Constitutional change in the UK, Routledge, 2002 www.parliament.uk	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al My Revision Notes UK Politics The PM: Its office and its holders since 1945, Hennesey Cabinet Office website Collective Cabinet responsibility in the EU Referendum by Dr Catherine Haddon Ministerial Responsibility after Huhne Developments in British Politics 7 & 8, Palgrave, 2003 Local Government website BBC's Q&A: The West Lothian Question
Developing Cultural Capital	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Students need to understand how the main centres of British politics work and the importance of the different institutions. This term should allow them to understand the power of parliament and how it is limited due to the nature and location of the executive. They should also understand the power of the Prime Minister and the dangers of an increasingly Presidential system.	Students should develop an understanding of how Government ministers are held to account by both the PM and the legislature and the notion Responsibility within British policits. They should also develop an understanding through modern examples of the power of Special Advisors and the conflict between the SpAd's and the civil service.
Cross Curricular Links (Authentic Connections)	Literacy: Extended writing	Literacy: Extended writing History: Britain 1951-2007	Literacy: Extended writing History: Britain 1951-2007
Key Assessment	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities Short answer/essays Y12 Trials	End of topic tests Home learning activities Short answer/essays Y12 Trials





Year 12 US Politics/ Comparative	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Unit(s) – As outlined in 39 week plans Key Retainable	3.2.1.1 Constitutional framework 3.2.2.1 Comparative – Constitutional framework 3.2.1.6 Political Parties 3.2.2.4 Comparative = Electoral and Party systems  US Constitutional framework	3.2.1.5 Electoral process and direct democracy 3.2.2.4 Comparative = Electoral and Party systems 3.2.1.2 Legislative Branch: Congress 3.2.2.1 Comparative – Constitutional framework Legislative branch: Congress	3.2.1.3 Executive Branch: the President 3.2.2.2 Comparative: The Executive  Executive Branch: The President
Knowledge & Skills	Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:  US Constitution  Bill of Rights  Separation of powers  Checks and balances  Federalism  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Nature and significance of the US Constitution Significance of constitutional principles  Framework of government as set out in constitution Federal system of government Federal state relations  Amendment process, including challenge of amending constitution Debates around importance of constitution to working of contemporary US government How the Constitution, Bill of Rights and Supreme Court protects civil rights and liberties  Comparative: Constitutional framework Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Key similarities and differences between the UK/US Constitutions, and the impact they have on politics and government Nature of constitutions, their sources, provisions, and key statements surrounding principles of separation of powers, checks and balances  Political Parties  Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts: Ideology Factionalism Party renewal Party renewal Party organisation Third parties Independent candidates  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: Ideology, values, policies, traditions and organisation of the Democrat and Republican parties Ideology, values, policies, traditions and organisation of phe Democrat and Republican parties Ideological changes over time of Democrat and Republican parties leading to polarisation of US politics e.g. attitudes to gun control, healthcare, abortion Factionalised nature of parties and internal division  Weakness of US Parties  Dominance of two party system and significance of third parties and independent candidates.	Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:  Congress  House of Representatives  Senate  Oversight  Committee system  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  The structure, role and powers of the US Congress  Composition of Congress, including terms of office and allegiance  Debates about function, power and effectiveness of Congress in legislation, oversight and power of the purse  Party system and committee system and their significance within Congress  Representative role of Senators and Representatives  Relative strength of the House of Representatives and Senate  Relationship between Congress, executive branch and Supreme Court  Comparative: Constitutional framework  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Relative strength and weaknesses of legislatures in UK and US  Similarities and differences between role and power of legislatures in UK and US.	Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:  The Executive The President Formal powers Informal powers Checks and balances Imperial presidency Imperilled presidency Imperilled presidency Imperilled presidency Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: Sources of presidential power Difference between formal powers (enumerated and inherent powers outlined in the constitution) and informal powers (party leader, agenda setting, world leader, EXOP Constraints on the presidency e.g. checks and balances, variables such as Party support in Congress, orientation of Supreme Court, media and public opinion Relationship between President and other institutions e.g. EXOP, Cabinet, federal bureaucracy, federal agencies Waxing and waning of presidential power e.g. FDR, JFK, Clinton, Reagan Imperial vimperilled presidency Comparative: the Executive Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: Role and powers of the PM and the President Accountability to the legislature Relationship of President and PM to other institutions of government  Judicial branch of Government Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology Supreme Court Judicial activism/restraint/review Strict and loose constructionism  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: Selection and appointment process to Supreme Court Composition of Supreme court Significance of Judicial Review, inc Marbury v Madison1803  Comparative: Judiciary Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: Similarities and differences of Supreme Court Impact on government and politics Similarities and differences of Supreme Court Impact on government and politics Extent of powers and base of powers within UK/US Relative independence of judiciary in UK/US
Key Technical Vocabulary	US Constitution; Bill of Rights; Separation of powers; Checks and balances; Federalism; Ideology; Factionalism; Party decline; Party renewal; Party organisation; Third parties; Independent candidates	Electoral college system; Primaries and caucuses; National nominating conventions; Direct democracy; Voting behaviour; Popular vote; Split ticket voting; Abstention; Incumbency; Congress; House of Representatives; Senate; Oversight; Committee system	The Executive; The President; Formal powers; Informal powers; Checks and balances; Imperial presidency; Imperilled presidency





Opportunities for Reading	My Revision Notes: US and Comparative Politics US Govt and Politics Bennett Politics Review (various)	US Govt and Politics Bennett	My Revision Notes: US and Comparative Politics US Govt and Politics Bennett Politics Review (various)
, ,	Students should develop an understanding of how the American political system works and operates, including the constitution. This should allow students to understand key differences between the two systems and highlight strengths and weaknesses of both.	Students should be able to explain the American electoral process and how that impacts the style of American politics in comparison to British. By developing an understanding of Congress, they should also understand the British parliamentary system more and the cooperative versus combative nature of the two systems	The President of the USA is the most powerful person in the world, and so it is important that British students understand what powers they do and do not have. This includes an awareness of how the individual in the White House affects the how the political system works.
Cross Curricular Links (Authentic Connections)	Literacy: Extended writing History: Making of a superpower	, ,	Literacy: Extended writing History: Making of a superpower
Key Assessment	End of topic tests Home learning activities	Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities Short answer/essays Y12 Trials





Year 12 Political	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Ideas	ICHII I	I CHII Z	Term 5
Unit(s) – As	3.3.1.1 Liberalism	3.3.1.2 Conservatism	3.3.1.3 Socialism
outlined in 39 week	3.3.1.2 Conservatism	3.3.1.3 Socialism	
plans			
Key Retainable Knowledge & Skills	Liberalism: Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology Individual and freedom Human nature, the state, society and the economy Classical liberalism Modern liberalism Modern liberalism  Students should be able to analyse and evaluate the following: debates about the nature of liberalism, including reference to classical, modern, and neo-liberalism core liberal ideas and values concerning the individual and freedom, including the concepts of positive and negative liberty the different ideas, concepts and attitudes that exemplify classical liberalism, modern (new/progressive) liberalism in their study of the following thinkers students should focus on the aspects indicated after each thinker's name and relate this to liberal thinking on human nature, the state, society and the economy:  John Locke – natural rights, liberty and individualism, fiduciary power of government John Stuart Mill – criticism of hedonism, freedom, integrity and self-respect of the individual, self-regarding and other regarding actions John Rawls – concept of justice, principles of justice Thomas Hill Green – self development/role of the State, negative and positive freedom Mary Wollstonecraft – equality and rights, 'revolution controversy', criticisms of aristocracy and republicanism Betty Friedan – equal rights, Civil Rights and feminist movements in the USA.  Conservatism Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology The government, the free market, the individual	Students should be able to analyse and evaluate the following:  debates about the nature of conservatism  core conservative ideas and values concerning government, the free market and the individual  different strands of conservative thinking from traditional Conservatism to the New Right in their study of the following thinkers students should focus on the aspects indicated after each thinker's name and relate this to conservative thinking on human nature, the state, society and the economy:  Thomas Hobbes – concept of human nature/laws of nature, power of the sovereign/the individual and self protection  Edmund Burke – Anti-Jacobinism/Whig principles, Burke's reaction to the American and French Revolutions  Michael Oakeshott – importance of tradition/criticisms of rationalism, 'Politics of Faith' vs 'Politics of Scepticism'  Ayn Rand – opposition to collectivism and statism, rational and ethical egoism/individual rights  Robert Nozick – limited functions of the State, justification of inequalities of wealth resulting from freely exchanged contracts.  Socialism  Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology  Marxism, class analysis, fundamental goals of socialism  Human nature, the state, society and the economy  Revolutionary socialism  Social democracy	Students should be able to analyse and evaluate the following:  debates about the nature of socialism  core socialist views and values concerning Marxism, class analysis and the fundamental goals of socialism  differing views and tensions within and between revolutionary socialism and social democracy  in their study of the following thinkers students should focus on the aspects indicated after each thinker's name and relate this to socialist thinking on human nature, the state, society and the economy:  Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels – class and class struggle, dialectical materialism  Rosa Luxemburg – inevitability of the triumph of revolution/capacity of the masses, spontaneity/party oriented class struggle  Beatrice Webb – co-operative movement, co-operative federalism and co-operative individualism Anthony Crosland – criticism of Marxism/Revisionism, rejection of nationalisation as central goal of party, political values of personal liberty, social welfare and equality  Anthony Giddens – rejection of traditional conception of socialism, the 'Third Way' in politics, combination of right wing economic and left wing social policies.
	<ul> <li>Ine government, the free market, the individual</li> <li>Authority, tradition, private property, human nature, the state, society and the economy</li> <li>Traditional conservatism</li> <li>The New Right</li> </ul>		
Key Technical Vocabulary	Classical liberalism; modern liberalism; neo-liberalism; Mechanistic theory; egotistical individualism; economic liberalism; social contract; foundational equality; legal equality; meritocracy; equality of opportunity; equality of outcome; limited government; positive freedom; negative freedom; laissez-faire capitalism; minimal state; developmental individualism; enabling state; social liberalism  Politics of maintenance; change to conserve; human imperfection	Localism; organicism; empiricism; normative; progressive; hierarchy; paternalism/noblesse oblige; private property; authority; aristocracy; laissez-faire capitalism; Thatcherism; New Right; One Nation; Fascism; Christian Democracy; Supranationalism; pragmatism; atomism; Socialism; equality of opportunity; equality of outcome; class; social justice; common ownership; capitalism	Fundamental socialism; Marxism; communism; dialectic; historical materialism; class consciousness; false consciousness; democratic centralism; democratic socialism; gradualism; revolutionary socialism; evolutionary socialism; Euro-communism; bourgeoisie; Neo-Marxism; Revisionism; social democracy; Keynesianism; The Third Way; embourgeoisement;
Opportunities for Reading	Political Ideas for A Level by Kelly & McNaughton My Revision Notes AQA A Level Politics Political Ideas	Political Ideas for A Level by Kelly & McNaughton My Revision Notes AQA A Level Politics Political Ideas	Political Ideas for A Level by Kelly & McNaughton My Revision Notes AQA A Level Politics Political Ideas





Capital	Understanding basis for British constitution and governance Understanding basis for US constitution and governance Concepts of freedom and equality Understanding roots of British political parties.	Understanding basis for US constitution and governance	Understanding basis for British constitution and governance Understanding basis for US constitution and governance Concepts of freedom and equality Understanding roots of British political parties.
	Literacy: Extended writing History: Making of a superpower	, ,	Literacy: Extended writing History: Making of a superpower
	Key thinkers and key tensions tests End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home Learning activities	Key thinkers and key tensions tests End of topic tests Home learning activities Y12 Trial to cover Liberalism and Conservatism





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Year 13 UK Politics	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Unit(s) – As	3.1.2.2 Elections and referendums	3.1.1.4 The Judiciary	Revision
	3.1.2.4 Pressure Groups	Revision	
plans			
Key Retainable	Elections and Referendums	The Judiciary	Students will consolidate Y12 and Y13 content in preparation for the external exam. This
Knowledge & Skills	Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and	Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology	will include taught lessons, working through past papers and student presentations on
	terminology	Supreme Court	core content.
	Majoritarian and proportional electoral systems	Judicial independence and impartiality	
	Representative democracy     Suffrage	Separation of powers     Ultra vires	
	Participation	Judicial review	
	Voting behaviour	Judicial review	
	Manifesto	Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:	
	Campaign	Composition of judiciary and appointments process	
	Referendums	Role of Supreme Court and its impact on government/parliament	
		Importance of ultra vires, judicial review and Supreme Court on legislative process	
	Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:		
	Debates around performance of Westminster and Holyrood		
	Advantages and disadvantages of elections/referendums in London and Edinburgh		
	3 key elections i.e. 1945, 1983, 2016 covering the following:		
	Patterns of voting behaviour		
	o Influence of media		
	Reasons for and impact of Party policy/manifesto		
	<ul> <li>Impact of leaders</li> <li>Influence of elections on policy</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Influence of elections on policy</li> <li>Effects of electoral system on party system</li> </ul>		
	o Effects of electoral system on party system		
	Impact of referendums i.e. 1997 Scottish Devolution, 2011 Alternative Voting		
	System, 2014 Scottish independence, 2016 Brexit		
	Pressure Groups		
	Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and		
	terminology		
	Pluralism		
	Political agenda		
	Insider and outsider pressure groups		
	Promotional and interest groups		
	Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:		
	Pluralism, pressure groups and democracy		
	How pressure groups, think tanks, lobbyists, corporations and the media influence		
	government and parliament		
	Types of pressure groups, including a detailed study of BMI/National Trust (Insider)		
	and Amnesty International/Fathers4Justice (Outsider) and the methods used		
	Factors affecting influence of pressure groups e.g. membership, resources, actions		
	taken		
	Links between pressure groups, political parties, government and the media.		
Key Technical	Direct democracy; representative democracy; liberal democracy; suffrage; Chartism;	Insider; outsider; pressure group; think tank; pluralism; ultra vires; judicial review; judicial	
Vocabulary	Partisan dealignment; referendum; pluralist democracy; democratic deficit; West Lothian	independence; judicial neutrality; derogation;	
	Question; franchise;		
Opportunities for	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al	UK Govt and Politics Lynch et al
Reading	My Revision Notes UK Politics	My Revision Notes UK Politics	My Revision Notes UK Politics
	www.referendumanalysis.uk	Politics Review (various)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	BBC Bitesize guide to voting behaviour	UK Politics Annual update	
		Constitutional change in the UK, Routledge, 2002	





		www.supremecourt.uk/about www.theguardian.com/politics/lobbying	
	Students should understand the nature of democracy in Britain and the role played by political parties, helping them to identify their own political beliefs and allegiances.	Students should understand the power of pressure groups in British politics and the importance of being politically involved and how they have the power to shape the actions of government. Understanding the judicial system should also help them understand the importance of judicial independence and evaluate how independent the British judiciary is.	
Cross Curricular Links (Authentic Connections)	Literacy: Extended writing History: Britain 1951-2007	Literacy: Extended writing	Literacy: Extended writing
Key Assessment	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities A Level exam





Year 13 US Politics/ Comparative	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Unit(s) – As outlined in 39 week plans	3.2.1.4 Judicial branch of Government 3.2.2.3 Comparative – Judiciary 3.2.1.8 Civil Rights 3.2.2.6 Comparative – Civil Rights	3.2.1.7 Pressure Groups 3.2.2.5 Comparative – Pressure Groups	Revision
Key Retainable Knowledge & Skills	Judicial branch of Government   Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology	Comparative: Civil Rights Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Protection of civil rights in UK/US  Debates around civil rights issues e.g. gender, sexual orientation Methods, influence and effectiveness of civil rights campaigns in UK/US.  Pressure Groups Students should be able to describe and explain the following key concepts and terminology  Political pluralism  Electoral finance Iron triangle Promotional groups Interest groups PACs and Super PACs Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Extent of political pluralism in US Types of pressure groups PACs and super PACs Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Extent of political pluralism in US Types of pressure groups Pressure group funding of elections Role and significance of PACs and Super PACs  Comparative: Pressure Groups Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Influence of pressure groups on government in UK/US Relative power, influence and methods of pressure groups in UK/US Electoral process and direct democracy Students need to have a solid understanding of the following key terms and concepts:  Electoral college system Primaries and caucuses National nominating conventions Direct democracy Voting behaviour Popular vote Split ticket voting Abstention Incumbency  Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following: The electoral system used in the USA The main characteristics of presidential and congressional elections and campaigns Candidate selection and nomination process, including primaries, caucuses and national nominating conventions Debates around the workings of, outcomes of and impacts of the electoral outcomes Campaign finance The role of direct democracy at state level, including referendums, initiatives, propositions, recall elections Issues affecting voter behaviour including issues, candidates Re-alignment elections e.g. 1932, 1968 Split ticket voting and abstention in US election	Students will consolidate Y12 and Y13 content in preparation for the external exam. This will include taught lessons, working through past papers and student presentations on core content.





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		Students should be able to describe, analyse and evaluate the following:  Comparison of electoral systems used in UK and US  Debates around campaign finance	
Key Technical Vocabulary	Supreme Court; Judicial activism/restraint/review; Strict constructionism; loose constructionism; Civil Liberties; Bill of Rights; Supreme Court; Civil Rights movement	Political pluralism; Electoral finance; Iron triangle; Promotional groups; Interest groups; PACs and Super PACs	
Opportunities for Reading	My Revision Notes: US and Comparative Politics US Govt and Politics Bennett Politics Review (various)	My Revision Notes: US and Comparative Politics US Govt and Politics Bennett Politics Review (various)	My Revision Notes: US and Comparative Politics US Govt and Politics Bennett Politics Review (various)
Developing Cultural Capital	Students should develop an understanding through studying the judicial system and the development of civil rights in the USA the impact of societal change as well as the impact a codified constitution can have. This should allow them to compare how easily changed civil rights are in the UK.	Students should develop an understanding of the importance of getting involved in politics and the power of pressure groups in the American political system. Through a study of PAC's and Super PACs they should understand the power of money in American politics and the different nature of British politics.	
Cross Curricular Links (Authentic Connections)	Literacy: Extended writing History: Making of a superpower	Literacy: Extended writing	Literacy: Extended writing
Key Assessment	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities A Level exam





- Table 1			
Year 13 Political Ideas	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Unit(s) – As outlined in 39 week plans	Multiculturalism	Revision	Revision
Key Retainable Knowledge & Skills	Multiculturalism	Students will consolidate Y12 and Y13 content in preparation for the external exam. This will include taught lessons, working through past papers and student presentations on core content.	Students will consolidate Y12 and Y13 content in preparation for the external exam. This will include taught lessons, working through past papers and student presentations on core content.
Key Technical Vocabulary	Culture; assimilation; individualist integration; diversity; multiculturalist integration; tolerance; communitarianism; identity politics; politics of recognition; essentialism; cultural relativism; BAME; segregation; value pluralism; formal equality; positive discrimination; Sharia Law; group differentiated rights; tolerance; pluralism; cosmopolitan integration;		
Opportunities for Reading	Political Ideas for A Level by Kelly & McNaughton My Revision Notes AQA A Level Politics Political Ideas Politics Review (various) Standford Encyclopedia of Philosophy — Multiculturalism		
Developing Cultural Capital	Understanding of current issues and political climate		
Cross Curricular Links (Authentic Connections)	Literacy: Extended writing		
Key Assessment	End of topic tests Home learning activities	End of topic tests Home learning activities	A Level exam