

A Level in Politics

Location	Altrincham Campus
Course Type	College 16-18
Department	A Levels
Start Date	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Course Code	AFQ-AL3L-1120

Course Overview

Politics is an ideal course for those with a keen interest in the world around them, a desire to engage in informed debate, and an openness about their own and others' views. A Level Politics is one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose. It is lively, relevant, and controversial, covering news and current affairs from the UK and the USA. Through this course, you will gain an education that not only informs but also prepares you for a career in today's fast-paced, ever-changing world.

All students follow the Pearson Edexcel A Level Politics syllabus.

Course Requirements

PLEASE NOTE - YOU MUST APPLY FOR 3 A LEVELS

Standard A Level entry requirements: 5 x GCSE grade 5's or above (must include Maths and English Language).

What You Will Learn

You will study how the country is governed, including the process of elections and how your vote contributes to forming the government. The course explores the roles and functions of key political institutions, such as the UK Parliament, the Prime Minister, and the judiciary. You will learn about political ideologies like liberalism, conservatism, and socialism, and how these ideas influence political parties and policies.

In addition, you will compare the political systems of the UK and the USA, examining their structures, electoral systems, and political cultures. The course will also cover contemporary political issues, including the influence of the media, public opinion, and pressure groups, as well as the impact of global politics on national policies.

Assessment

Students undertake regular key assessment practice. Detailed feedback is provided to enable students to further develop their work.

The final assessment consists of three exam papers taken at the end of 2 years. Each paper is worth 33.33% of your final A Level Politics grade.

Progression

Politics will equip you with highly transferable skills. Students who study Politics will be able to understand and assess ideas and arguments, construct cogent and focused arguments and support their claims with well-selected evidence. Politics teaches you analytical and critical thinking skills. In A Level Politics, you'll regularly be asked to express your own opinions, in both written and oral formats. This will allow you to develop your communications skills which are invaluable for any career path.

A number of students in recent years have gone on to study Politics and Politics-related subjects at universities. Some students have chosen to study a degree in Politics with Law, History, Philosophy, Economics or International Relations.

Careers include, political analyst, government/civil service, journalism, public relations, business, law, charities and a range of management and business areas.

Career Options

Civil Service. Government social research officer. Policy officer.

Mandatory Units

The course is made up of 3 components:

Component 1: UK Politics.

Component 2: UK Government.

Component 3: Comparative Politics: USA.

Contact Details

For further information please contact T: 0161 886 7070 or E: info@trafford.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.