

| Subject                  | A Level Politics – UK Politics  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
|--------------------------|---|-------|---|-----------|---|------------|--|------------------|--|--------------------------|---|------------|---|-------------|-----------------------------|------------|---|-----------|--|---------|--|---------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Context / relevance      | <p>When you start this course, we will study modules on Participation and Elections. You need to be aware of the methods in which people vote, the policies that parties stand for and why people are becoming disengaged with the voting process. The specification also has an emphasis on the changing nature of democracy, as well as the way in which the UK is governed.</p>  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Securing                 | <p><b>Key vocabulary</b><br/> Learn the following key vocabulary and definitions. You will refer to all of these terms regularly throughout the course, and it is really important that you have a good understanding of them from the outset.</p> <p>We recommend that you make a set of flash cards and test yourself several times to aid familiarity.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 797 1382 1794"> <tr> <td>Power</td><td>The capacity or ability to direct or influence the behaviour of others; the capacity or ability to do something or act in a particular way.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Authority</td><td>The moral or legal right or ability to control.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Legitimacy</td><td>The belief that a rule, institution, or leader has the right to govern</td></tr> <tr> <td>Direct democracy</td><td>A form of democracy in which the electorate directly decides on policy initiatives, without elected representative</td></tr> <tr> <td>Representative democracy</td><td>A political system in which citizens of a country vote for representatives to handle legislation and otherwise rule on their behalf. The elected representatives are in turn accountable to the electorate for their actions.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Incumbency</td><td>The holding of a political position or office or the period during which one is held.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Sovereignty</td><td>Supreme power or authority.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Referendum</td><td>A vote on a public issue or a law, usually by the people of a country or a group. An example of direct democracy.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Manifesto</td><td>A public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Mandate</td><td>The authority given to an elected group of people, such as a government, to perform an action or govern a country.</td></tr> <tr> <td>First past the post</td><td>An electoral system in which a candidate or party is selected by achievement of a simple majority.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Party system</td><td>The number and nature of political parties that compete for power within a given political system.</td></tr> </table> | Power | The capacity or ability to direct or influence the behaviour of others; the capacity or ability to do something or act in a particular way. | Authority | The moral or legal right or ability to control. | Legitimacy | The belief that a rule, institution, or leader has the right to govern | Direct democracy | A form of democracy in which the electorate directly decides on policy initiatives, without elected representative | Representative democracy | A political system in which citizens of a country vote for representatives to handle legislation and otherwise rule on their behalf. The elected representatives are in turn accountable to the electorate for their actions. | Incumbency | The holding of a political position or office or the period during which one is held. | Sovereignty | Supreme power or authority. | Referendum | A vote on a public issue or a law, usually by the people of a country or a group. An example of direct democracy. | Manifesto | A public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate. | Mandate | The authority given to an elected group of people, such as a government, to perform an action or govern a country. | First past the post | An electoral system in which a candidate or party is selected by achievement of a simple majority. | Party system | The number and nature of political parties that compete for power within a given political system. |
| Power                    | The capacity or ability to direct or influence the behaviour of others; the capacity or ability to do something or act in a particular way.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Authority                | The moral or legal right or ability to control.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Legitimacy               | The belief that a rule, institution, or leader has the right to govern  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Direct democracy         | A form of democracy in which the electorate directly decides on policy initiatives, without elected representative  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Representative democracy | A political system in which citizens of a country vote for representatives to handle legislation and otherwise rule on their behalf. The elected representatives are in turn accountable to the electorate for their actions.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Incumbency               | The holding of a political position or office or the period during which one is held.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Sovereignty              | Supreme power or authority.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Referendum               | A vote on a public issue or a law, usually by the people of a country or a group. An example of direct democracy.   |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Manifesto                | A public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate.  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Mandate                  | The authority given to an elected group of people, such as a government, to perform an action or govern a country.  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| First past the post      | An electoral system in which a candidate or party is selected by achievement of a simple majority.  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Party system             | The number and nature of political parties that compete for power within a given political system.  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |
| Processing               | <p>Go to these links here for information about the UK's three major parties and what they campaigned on in last year's General Election.</p> <p><a href="#">Change Labour Party Manifesto 2024</a><br/> <a href="#">Conservative Manifesto 2024 (conservatives.com)</a></p>  |       |   |           |   |            |  |                  |  |                          |   |            |   |             |                             |            |   |           |  |         |  |                     |  |              |  |

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|           | <p><a href="#">For a Fair Deal - Liberal Democrats Manifesto 2024 - Liberal Democrats (libdems.org.uk)</a></p> <p>These links take you to the <b>manifesto</b> policies for the 3 main parties.</p> <p>Summarise each party's policies from each manifesto in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic policies</li> <li>• Social policies (e.g. education, the NHS, welfare)</li> <li>• Law and order</li> <li>• Foreign policy</li> </ul> <p>e.g. <i>The Labour Party's economic policies include...</i></p> <p>Now, choose <b>1 policy from each party</b> and explain why you support OR do not support that policy.</p> <p>Success criteria: You must write <b>200 - 300 words for each policy</b>, writing in full sentences to <b>explain</b> your view.</p>  |
| Exploring | <p>Watch / read the following documentaries and articles.</p> <p>In <b>full sentences</b>, answer the questions below, using the documentary and articles to help you.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>State of Chaos – Episode 3 – Johnson / Truss.</u></b><br/> Watch the documentary here: <a href="#">Laura Kuenssberg: State of Chaos   Episode 3   Johnson/Truss</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) How did the premierships of Johnson and Truss damage public trust in politicians?</li> <li>b) What was the impact of Johnson and Truss on the Conservative Party?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Read the article on the SNP: <a href="#">‘The SNP are in trouble’: Scottish voters on the drama at Holyrood   Scottish politics   The Guardian</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Why have the SNP had three leaders in the past two years?</li> <li>b. What does the article suggest about why Scottish voters are losing faith in the SNP?</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Read the article on Reform: <a href="#">Why Farage is outperforming Starmer in the battle for working-class voters   Politics   The Guardian</a> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Why are voters turning to support Reform?</li> <li>b. Do you think class is important in deciding how a person will vote?</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |
| Reviewing | <p>Reflect on what you have learned through this work by doing the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note down 5 new things that you found most interesting</li> <li>2. Write down 3 questions that you would like to ask your teacher about the topic area(s) that you have been introduced to.</li> </ol>   |

| Subject                   | A Level Politics – UK Government  |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|---|----------|--|------------|--|---------------------------|---|----------------------|---|------------|---|---------|---|---------------------------|---|------------|--|--------------------|---|
| Context / relevance       | When you start the course, we will be studying the UK Constitution. You need to be aware of how the constitution has developed over time and, more specifically, how it has been reformed in the last 25 years or so. The specification also looks at whether further reform is needed.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Securing                  | <p><b>Key vocabulary</b></p> <p>Learn the following key vocabulary and definitions. You will refer to all of these terms regularly throughout the course, and it is really important that you have a good understanding of them from the outset.</p> <p>We recommend that you make a set of flash cards and test yourself several times to aid familiarity.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 672 1386 1691"> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 672 667 817">Constitution</td><td data-bbox="667 672 1386 817">A constitution is a set of rules and principles that specify how a country is governed, how power is distributed and controlled, and what rights citizens have.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 817 667 887">Codified</td><td data-bbox="667 817 1386 887">Codified means compiled into an orderly, formal code or arranged in a systematic collection.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 887 667 956">Entrenched</td><td data-bbox="667 887 1386 956">Firmly established and difficult or unlikely to change</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 956 667 1070">Parliamentary sovereignty</td><td data-bbox="667 956 1386 1070">Parliamentary sovereignty means that Parliament is the supreme legal authority in the UK.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1070 667 1184">Unitary constitution</td><td data-bbox="667 1070 1386 1184">A constitution in which the power is concentrated in the form of a central government which has ultimate power and authority over its jurisdiction.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1184 667 1276">Federalism</td><td data-bbox="667 1184 1386 1276">Federalism is the theory by which political power is divided between a national and state government, each having their own clear jurisdiction.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1276 667 1346">Statute</td><td data-bbox="667 1276 1386 1346">A written law passed by a legislative body e.g. a law passed by Parliament.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1346 667 1415">Constitutional convention</td><td data-bbox="667 1346 1386 1415">Constitutional conventions are rules of good political behaviour.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1415 667 1485">Common law</td><td data-bbox="667 1415 1386 1485">The part of English law that is derived from custom and judicial precedent rather than statutes.</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1485 667 1691">Authoritative work</td><td data-bbox="667 1485 1386 1691">Works of authority on the United Kingdom constitution are books written by constitutional theorists that are considered to be authoritative guides to the UK's uncodified constitution. An example is Erskine May which is considered to be the authoritative guide to parliamentary procedure.</td></tr> </table> | Constitution | A constitution is a set of rules and principles that specify how a country is governed, how power is distributed and controlled, and what rights citizens have. | Codified | Codified means compiled into an orderly, formal code or arranged in a systematic collection. | Entrenched | Firmly established and difficult or unlikely to change | Parliamentary sovereignty | Parliamentary sovereignty means that Parliament is the supreme legal authority in the UK. | Unitary constitution | A constitution in which the power is concentrated in the form of a central government which has ultimate power and authority over its jurisdiction. | Federalism | Federalism is the theory by which political power is divided between a national and state government, each having their own clear jurisdiction. | Statute | A written law passed by a legislative body e.g. a law passed by Parliament. | Constitutional convention | Constitutional conventions are rules of good political behaviour. | Common law | The part of English law that is derived from custom and judicial precedent rather than statutes. | Authoritative work | Works of authority on the United Kingdom constitution are books written by constitutional theorists that are considered to be authoritative guides to the UK's uncodified constitution. An example is Erskine May which is considered to be the authoritative guide to parliamentary procedure. |
| Constitution              | A constitution is a set of rules and principles that specify how a country is governed, how power is distributed and controlled, and what rights citizens have.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
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| Parliamentary sovereignty | Parliamentary sovereignty means that Parliament is the supreme legal authority in the UK.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Unitary constitution      | A constitution in which the power is concentrated in the form of a central government which has ultimate power and authority over its jurisdiction.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Federalism                | Federalism is the theory by which political power is divided between a national and state government, each having their own clear jurisdiction.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Statute                   | A written law passed by a legislative body e.g. a law passed by Parliament.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Constitutional convention | Constitutional conventions are rules of good political behaviour.   |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
| Common law                | The part of English law that is derived from custom and judicial precedent rather than statutes.  |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |
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| Processing                | <p>These links summarise the <b>key principles</b> underpinning the UK Constitution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parliamentary Sovereignty</li> <li>• Rule of Law</li> <li>• Constitutional conventions</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://www.lawyersnjurists.com/the-doctrine-of-parliament-sovereignty/">THE DOCTRINE OF PARLIAMENT SOVEREIGNTY   The Lawyers &amp; Jurists (lawyersnjurists.com)</a></p> <p><a href="#">What is the Rule of Law and why is it an important principle of the UK Constitution?   Politics Teaching (Currently being rebuilt for September 2022)</a></p>  |              |   |          |  |            |  |                           |   |                      |   |            |   |         |   |                           |   |            |  |                    |   |

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|           | <p><a href="#">What are constitutional conventions?   The Constitution Unit - UCL – University College London</a></p> <p>I would like you to summarise each principle, in your own words, and be ready to discuss these when we start the course.</p> <p><u>Success criteria:</u> write around half a page for each principle, writing in <b>full sentences</b> to <b>explain</b> your ideas.</p>  |
| Exploring | <p>Watch 'The Brexit Storm – Laura Kuenssberg's Inside Story'</p> <p>Watch the documentary here <a href="#">BBC: The Brexit Storm: Laura Kuenssberg's Inside Story - Bing video</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. How did the aftermath of the Brexit referendum affect the unity of the country?</li> <li>B. How did the aftermath of the Brexit referendum affect the unity of the Conservative Party?</li> <li>C. How has the Brexit referendum affected the nature of UK politics since 2016 generally?</li> </ul> |
| Reviewing | <p>Reflect on what you have learned through this work by doing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Note down 5 new things that you found most interesting</li> </ul> <p>Write down 3 questions that you would like to ask your teacher about the topic area(s) that you have been introduced to.</p>  |