

**AUTUMN 2023**

# **POLITICS**



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# NEW: OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP OF A POLITICS DEPARTMENT

CODE **9609**

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

Leading in Politics can be both exciting and challenging. However, it's no secret that leading a Politics department comes with unique complexities. In this new course, we'll consider what it takes to achieve excellence in a Politics department and the pivotal role of the Head of Politics in maintaining this excellence.

Delegates will take away practical and actionable strategies on how to tackle day-to-day challenges, develop the team and work towards a shared strategic vision. Whether you are currently a Head of Politics or aspire to hold such a position, this course is designed to cater to your interests and needs, unlocking the tools and insights to lead with confidence and success.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### Leadership and Vision: The Qualities and Skills of an Outstanding Head of Politics

10.00 – 10.30am

- Exploring the different skills needed to be personally excellent as a teacher, effective as a manager and inspirational as a leader
- Exploring different styles of leadership and understanding when each style is effective and what the pitfalls might be
- Why vision comes before strategy. What do you do well? Where are the gaps?

### Effective Techniques to Drive Department Improvement

10.30 – 11.20am

- What is an outstanding Politics department? Who says so?
- Planning for accurate department self-evaluation
- Evaluating your department and acting upon this effectively
- Preparing your department for Inspections – how can you make sure you are ready?

Discussion: coffee break

11.20 – 11.40am

### Outstanding Leadership in Teaching and Learning: High Expectations, High Challenge, High Reward

11.40 – 12.40pm

- Implementing effective strategies to ensure a consistent and effective experience for all learners
- Modelling outstanding teaching and learning
- Developing curricula and schemes of work
- Making effective use of assessment and assessment data
- Understanding when to be restrictive and when to allow creative autonomy
- Track performance, recognise underachievement and motivate learners
- Selecting appropriate pathways for learners: recognising exceptional circumstances and balancing the needs of the student and school/college

Lunch and informal discussion

12.40 – 1.40pm

### Staff Development: Supporting the Development of your Staff

1.40 – 2.30pm

- Strategies for managing your staff, from experienced to inexperienced teachers and NQTs
- Making observation and appraisal processes as effective as possible
- Involving others in decision-making, planning and delivery
- Making the most of departmental meetings
- How to introduce change: reducing resistance and addressing concerns
- Developing curriculum expertise in your department
- Strategies for maintaining the highest quality of teaching and student performances over time
- Making the right appointments and coaching for successful performance
- Professional development: what type, how and who?
- Implementing and managing departmental systems and paperwork

Discussion: afternoon tea

3.00 – 3.05pm

### How it works: the Head of Politics

3.05 – 3.45pm

- Managing one's time and workload: variables and the work-life balance
- The pros and cons of delegation
- Planning ahead and finding time to do so
- Preparing for Inspections
- Before and after: staying abreast of developments in higher education
- The life cycle of the Head of Department
- Maintaining freshness and enthusiasm: professional and intellectual development
- Peaks, troughs and the long run: responding to success and failure

LOCATION/DATE

**London**

**Wednesday 28 February 2024**

## COURSE LEADER

**John Jefferies** has been head of Politics at Warwick School since 1998. He was Head of Sixth Form for 13 years and is currently Senior Tutor. He has examined A-Level Politics and written and co-written 5 texts books on domestic and global politics. He contributes to Politics Review and regularly appears on the Heaton podcast with Warwick School Head of History, Oliver O'Brien.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Current and newly appointed Heads of Politics
- Aspiring Heads of Politics
- Leaders with responsibility for managing Politics

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Consider what makes a Politics department excellent, and the role of the Head of Politics in achieving excellence
- Look at ways in which a Head of Politics can develop and improve teaching and learning within the department
- Look at a range of strategies for improving and maintaining progression of students into A-Levels
- Enhance your ability to lead, support and nurture teachers in the department
- Examine the yearly workload of a Head of Politics and the life cycle of the role
- Reflect on strategies for dealing with the challenges and making the most of the opportunities presented by a Head of Politics position
- Understand the importance of key documents and processes including inspections, appraisals and observations

# NEW: AIMING FOR A/A\* IN AQA A-LEVEL POLITICS

CODE **9610**

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

This new course will demonstrate how to guide your best students to achieve Grades A & A\* in future AQA A-level Politics examinations. The course will explore the characteristics of A/A\* students identified in research and why and how we must challenge our most able Politics students.

Focused extensively on evidence-based teaching, learning and assessment practice as well as feedback from the most recent exams, you will leave with a vast range of resources and practical strategies that will enable you to meet the needs of your most able students and ultimately increase A and A\* grade attainment. Finally, we will look beyond the course to focus on preparing these students to continue studying Politics at university.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### Focus on Pedagogy and How it can Unlock the Potential of A/A\* Students

10.00 – 11.15am

- Mental models, metacognition and flipped learning; how can they be practically applied and what benefits will they deliver?
- Review characteristics of A and A\* A-Level students
- How are A/A\* Grades achieved?
- Strategies for stretching A/A\* students in a mixed-ability classroom and challenging complacent high-achievers

Discussion: coffee break

11.15 – 11.30am

### The Exams – Techniques and Tactics

11.30 – 1.00pm

- The key topics A/A\* students find most challenging and how to scaffold techniques for high level explanation, analysis and evaluation
- Dissecting examination questions – vocabulary and command words
- Strategies to improve responses to exam questions
- A look at some of the challenging areas and difficult topics in AQA A-Level Politics
- How to embed the academic rigour required to maximise marks
- Avoiding potential hazards – what can cost a top student their A/A\* grade?

Lunch and informal discussion

1.00 – 2.00pm

### The Key Challenges for A/A\* Students in the Papers

2.00 – 3.00pm

- Developing a deep understanding of Politics concepts
- Strategies to ensure students write top level responses to questions every time
- Developing a personalised approach to note taking to support explanation, analysis and evaluation
- Activating prior knowledge to improve retention and understanding in key topic areas

Discussion: afternoon tea

3.00 – 3.15pm

### Stretching and Challenging the Most Able Students

3.15 – 3.45pm

- What makes a very strong A-Level response? How can we build up to this?
- Using wider reading to prepare for exams
- Using questions over and above recommended reading, preparing for Oxbridge and Russell Group university applications
- Resources and lessons to stretch the most able students in Politics

LOCATION/DATE

**London**

**Friday 15 March 2024**

## COURSE LEADER

**Dr Matthew Kavanagh** has taught A-level Politics for over 15 years. In addition, he is an experienced Politics examiner for AQA, and also writes regularly for Politics Review. He currently teaches Politics and History at a high-achieving sixth form college in Lancashire, where is also in charge of teacher training in the Department of History and Politics.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Teachers of AQA A-Level Politics
- Heads of Politics
- Aspiring Heads of Politics
- Teachers with responsibility for A-Level Politics

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Understand how applying current pedagogy regarding flipped learning and metacognition will transform your teaching of more able students
- Develop the use of mental models to promote student recall, supporting the teaching of the most challenging A-Level topics
- Develop greater understanding of the precision and detail that examiners are looking for in A/A\* students
- Find out more about the barriers to progression and ways to support highly able students to overcome them
- A detailed look at the different demands of questions and how to prepare students to answer them effectively
- Take away a range of innovative teaching ideas and electronic resources to help advance your most able students

# TEACHING AQA A-LEVEL POLITICS FOR THE FIRST TIME

CODE **9245**

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course aims to provide teachers who are new to, or in their first few years of, teaching AQA A-level Politics with everything they need to teach the course well. It will equip delegates with a thorough understanding of the AQA specification and its assessment objectives, and will help develop the classroom ideas, planning and marking skills necessary to become a confident, successful A-Level Politics teacher. The course focuses on the core areas of UK Government and Politics, US Government and Politics and Comparative Politics, as well as Political Ideas. It brings together a wealth of experience from the classroom and exam marking, to provide attendees with tips vital to starting out as a teacher of Politics.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### The 'Big Picture' in AQA Politics

10.00 – 11.00am

- An examiner's eye view of the assessment objectives and the mark scheme
- Ensuring students hit the ground running in September with little or no prior learning
- Suggested models of delivering UK, US, and Comparative Politics, and Political Ideas across the two years
- Topic areas which create the foundation for success – incorporating them into every lesson.
- When and how to set home study tasks and activities in Politics to ensure that students are honing their skills and keeping up with an ever-changing subject
- Recognising and working with students' varying starting points: Ensuring higher achieving students are stretched whilst lower achieving ones are supported

Discussion: coffee break

11.00 – 11.15am

### Teaching Paper 1: UK Government and Politics

11.15 – 12.15pm

- Analysis of the different structures and ways of teaching UK Government and Politics
- Easy wins and pitfalls when teaching an area of Politics that students are likely to be most familiar with
- Ways to tackle the tougher/drier topics, such as the UK Constitution, Elections and Referendums, the Judiciary and Devolution
- Approaches to the 9-mark and 25-mark questions

Lunch and informal discussion

12.15 – 1.15pm

### Key Ideas for Paper 2: US and Comparative Government and Politics

1.15 – 2.15pm

- How best to introduce students to the USA's often unfamiliar political system and culture
- The vastness of the USA's Government and Politics and how to make it manageable for students
- Ways to teach the comparative element of the paper confidently and successfully
- Exam questions and exemplar answers including the mastery of comparative theories and comparative essays

Discussion: afternoon tea

2.15 – 2.30pm

### Key Ideas for Teaching Core Political Ideas on Paper 3

2.30 – 3.30pm

- The unique challenges in making political theory and political thinkers accessible
- Practical ideas, methods and approaches to teaching the core ideologies
- Discussing the optional ideologies
- The particular challenge of dealing with extract questions when it comes to Political Ideas

LOCATION/DATE

**London**

**Tuesday 27 February 2024**

## COURSE LEADER

**Dr Matthew Kavanagh** has taught A-level Politics for over 15 years. In addition, he is an experienced Politics examiner for AQA, and also writes regularly for Politics Review. He currently teaches Politics and History at a high-achieving sixth form college in Lancashire, where is also in charge of teacher training in the Department of History and Politics.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- NQTs in Politics
- Politics teachers in their first few years of teaching AQA A-level Politics
- Teachers changing to AQA A-level Politics from other exam boards

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain a thorough understanding of the requirements of AQA A-Level Politics
- Take away strategies on how to plan and manage the content of a two-year course
- Learn what level of depth is appropriate
- Develop a confident understanding of the assessment objectives and mark schemes
- Analyse a range of sample answers to understand the standard and how students can achieve it
- Take away ideas on exam and essay technique in AQA A-level Politics
- Gain teaching ideas and approaches for A-Level Politics across all three papers
- Ensure students keep up with contemporary political developments, and learn how to apply them to their existing understanding

# NEW: AIMING FOR A/A\* IN PEARSON EDEXCEL A-LEVEL POLITICS

CODE 9611

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

This new course will demonstrate how to guide your best students to achieve Grades A & A\* in future Pearson Edexcel A-level Politics examinations. The course will explore the characteristics of A/A\* students identified in research and why and how we must challenge our most able Politics students.

Focused extensively on evidence-based teaching, learning and assessment practice as well as feedback from the most recent exams, you will leave with a vast range of resources and practical strategies that will enable you to meet the needs of your most able students and ultimately increase A and A\* grade attainment. Finally, we will look beyond the course to focus on preparing these students to continue studying Politics at university.

The course is designed for teachers of Pearson Edexcel A-Level Politics, but would be of benefit to teachers of other exam boards as well.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### Focus on the Pedagogy; How can it Unlock the Potential of A/A\* Students?

10.00 – 11.15am

- Mental models, metacognition and flipped learning; how can they be practically applied and what benefits will they deliver
- Review characteristics of A and A\* A-Level students
- How are A/A\* Grades achieved?

Discussion: coffee break

11.15 – 11.30am

### The Exams – Techniques and Tactics

11.30 – 1.00pm

- The key topics A/A\* students find most challenging and how to scaffold Techniques for memory retrieval and recall and application to examination questions
- Dissecting examination questions- vocabulary & command words
- Strategies to improve responses to exam questions and signposting
- A look at some of the challenging areas and difficult topics in A-Level Politics
- Mechanisms; how to embed the academic rigour required to maximise marks
- Avoiding potential hazards – what can cost a top student their A/A\* grade?

Lunch and informal discussion

1.00 – 2.00pm

### The Key Challenges for A/A\* Students in the Papers

2.00 – 3.00pm

- Developing a deep understanding of Politics concepts
- Strategies to ensure students write top level responses to questions every time
- Developing a personalised approach to note taking to support recall
- Activating prior knowledge to improve retention of key topic areas

Discussion: afternoon tea

3.00 – 3.15pm

### Stretching and Challenging the Most Able Students

3.15 – 3.45pm

- What makes a strong A-Level response? How can we build up to this?
- Using wider reading to prepare for exams
- using questions over and above recommended reading, preparing for Oxbridge
- Resources and lessons to stretch the most able students in Politics.
- Strategies for stretching A/A\* students in a mixed-ability classroom and challenging complacent high-achievers

LOCATION/DATE

London

Wednesday 06 March 2024

## COURSE LEADER

**John Jefferies** has been head of Politics at Warwick School since 1998. He was Head of Sixth Form for 13 years and is currently Senior Tutor. He has examined A-Level Politics and written and co-written 5 texts books on domestic and global politics. He contributes to Politics Review and regularly appears on the Heaton podcast with Warwick School Head of History, Oliver O'Brien.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Teachers of Pearson Edexcel A-Level Politics
- Heads of Politics
- Aspiring Heads of Politics
- Teachers with responsibility for A-Level Politics

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Understand how applying current pedagogy regarding flipped learning and metacognition will transform your teaching of more able students
- Develop the use of mental models to promote student recall, supporting the teaching of the most challenging A-Level topics
- Develop greater understanding of the precision and detail that examiners are looking for in A/A\* students
- Find out more about the barriers to progression and ways to support highly able students to overcome them
- A detailed look at the different demands of questions and how to prepare students to answer them effectively
- Take away a range of innovative teaching ideas and electronic resources to help advance your most able students

# TEACHING PEARSON A-LEVEL POLITICS FOR THE FIRST TIME

CODE **9487**

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

This course, refreshed for Spring 2024 aims to provide teachers who are new to, or in their first few years of, teaching Pearson A-level Politics with everything they need to teach the course well. The course focuses on the core areas of UK Politics, UK Government, and Comparative Politics and will equip delegates with a thorough understanding of the Pearson specification and its assessment objectives.

It brings together a wealth of experience from the classroom and exam marking, to provide attendees with tips vital to starting out as a teacher of Politics, and will help develop the classroom ideas, planning and marking skills necessary to become a confident and successful A-Level Politics teacher.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### Overview of the Pearson A-Level Politics course including challenges what to expect from pupils

10.00 – 11.00am

- Ensuring students and teachers hit the ground running in September – introducing the scheme of work and baseline assessment
- Recognising which areas will be most challenging for you and how to address these issues
- Identifying your support network and making the most of it – particularly in a small department or single teacher department.
- Ensuring topic areas which create the foundation for success – incorporating them into every lesson.

Discussion: coffee break

11.00 – 11.15am

### Tackling the Challenging Content of Pearson A-Level Politics

11.15 – 12.00pm

- Planning and teaching the more demanding topics – identifying what these are and how to factor them into your teaching
- Making complicated concepts easy
- Teaching ideas, related questions and supporting resources to help improve student understanding
- Teaching for the different types of questions, with examples, so that you can help students access all the available marks
- Designing formative assessment and feedback through focussed starters and plenaries into your teaching

### Teaching Component 1: UK Politics

12.00 – 12.45pm

- Assessment objectives – what do students need to know?
- How to score high marks in Section A: Political Participation
- Essay planning for Question 3 – Core Political Ideas
- What is the examiner looking for? Exploring exemplar answers

Lunch and informal discussion

12.45 – 1.45pm

### Component 2: UK Government and Political Ideas

1.45 – 2.30pm

- Approaches and tips to the UK Government questions on the core ideas
- Successfully navigating the Section B extract question
- How and where to use your own knowledge in Non-Core Political Ideas
- Top essay tips for the optional Political Ideas essay question
- Dos, don'ts and timing
- What can go wrong on the day?

Discussion: afternoon tea

2.30 – 2.45pm

### Key Ideas for Teaching Comparative Politics: Component 3

2.45 – 3.30pm

- AO3 – why does it matter so much?
- How to evaluate in Section B source questions
- Using sentence starters effectively and reaching valid judgements
- Exploring effective paragraphs, analysing what makes them work

LOCATION/DATE

**London**

**Monday 26 February 2024**

## COURSE LEADER

**John Jefferies** has been head of Politics at Warwick School since 1998. He was Head of Sixth Form for 13 years and is currently Senior Tutor. He has examined A-Level Politics and written and co-written 5 texts books on domestic and global politics. He contributes to Politics Review and regularly appears on the Heaton podcast with Warwick School Head of History, Oliver O'Brien.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Those teachers who are in their first few years of teaching Pearson A-Level Politics
- NQTs in Politics
- Teachers looking to change to Pearson A-Level Politics from other exam boards

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain a thorough understanding of the requirements of Pearson A-Level Politics
- Take away strategies on how to plan and manage the content of a two-year course
- Learn what level of depth is appropriate
- Develop a confident understanding of the assessment objectives and mark schemes
- Analyse a range of sample answers to understand the standard and how students can achieve it
- Take away ideas on exam and essay technique in Pearson A-level Politics
- Gain teaching ideas and approaches for A-Level Politics across all three papers
- Ensure students keep up with contemporary political developments, and learn how to apply them to their existing understanding

# THE STATE OF UK POLITICS: NAVIGATING THE LANDSCAPE FOR A-LEVEL POLITICS IN 2024

CODE **9249**

## ABOUT THIS COURSE

One of the major attractions of Politics A-Level for students is that it offers a dynamic and constantly changing field of study. This makes the subject exciting and rewarding, but it also means that Politics teachers need to keep themselves informed about a vast array of significant political changes.

This refreshed course will equip teachers with a thorough and stimulating update on the fast-changing nature of UK Politics and show how new developments in UK Politics can be introduced into class in an intellectually exciting and academically rewarding way.

Though this course will focus on several important teaching areas in UK Politics and UK Government for the Pearson specification, this course would benefit all those teaching Government and Politics of the UK for the AQA qualification.

## PROGRAMME

TIME

### The Key Challenges For Students

10.00 – 10.30am

- An examination of the different types of exam questions and their requirements
- Developing a deep understanding of the UK politics
- Strategies to consistently write top level evaluation
- Activating prior knowledge to improve retention of key topic areas
- Exploring strategies to improve student performance on all types of questions [and for students of different levels of capability]

### Parties, Policies, and the Path Ahead

10.30 – 11.00am

- Exploring the importance of UK Politics and the current political climate
- Vibrant and dynamic ways to explore the main political parties of the UK in the classroom
- Techniques to enhance students ability to compare parties' policies and ideologies

Discussion: coffee break

11.00 – 11.15am

### From Brexit to Russia: How Recent Events Have Shaped UK Politics

11.15 – 12.00pm

- Brexit and its impact on UK politics
- The COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on politics
- Exploring the aftermath of the 2019 general election
- The rise of nationalism and populism in the UK
- The effects of the Ukraine – Russia conflict on UK politics

Lunch and informal discussion

12.00 – 1.00pm

### The Global Impact of UK Politics: A Look at the UK's Role in the World

1.00 – 1.45pm

- The UK's relationship with the European Union and the rest of the world
- The UK's role in global affairs, including foreign policy and international aid
- The future of UK Politics

Discussion: afternoon tea

1.45 – 2.00pm

### Overcoming Challenges in UK Politics: Building a Better Future for All

2.00 – 2.45pm

- Identifying the challenges facing UK Politics
- Social inequality and poverty
- Climate change and environmental issues
- Immigration and multiculturalism
- Political polarization and extremism

### Achieving Maximum Success on the Essay Question

2.45 – 3.30pm

- Writing an excellent response in only 30 minutes
- Comparison strategies for success
- Teaching in-depth topics with limited time
- The core thinkers and how to deploy them
- Exploring high achieving responses and identifying why they did so well.

LOCATION/DATE

**London**

**Monday 04 December 2023**

**Wednesday 20 March 2024**

## COURSE LEADER

John Jefferies has been head of Politics at Warwick School since 1998. He was Head of Sixth Form for 13 years and is currently Senior Tutor. He has examined A-Level Politics and written and co-written 5 texts books on domestic and global politics. He contributes to Politics Review and regularly appears on the Heaton podcast with Warwick School Head of History, Oliver O'Brien.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Heads of Politics
- Politics teachers
- Teachers looking for the latest updates

## BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Updates on major developments in UK politics
- How political change and development can be used to invigorate teaching
- Find out more about how this knowledge can best be demonstrated in exam question responses
- Develop strategies to help both highly able and weaker students improve their marks in these questions



# GCSE and A-Level In-School Student Revision Sessions

We know that every school is unique, and we can work with you to create a tailored student revision session that is bespoke to your needs.

We can offer a full range of subject specific, exam board specific GCSE and A-Level student revision sessions, all of which can be tailored and customised by your school's requirements.

## Benefits of bringing Keynote Educational into Your School

- Over 20 years of experience **providing student revision sessions**, regularly running multiple sessions throughout the year at individual schools
- **Dedicated team of specialist examiner experts**; these individual are not only experts in their particular fields but also familiar with delivering to student groups, and understand the need to make the days enriching, stimulating, informative and worthwhile
- **Invaluable, reliable and enriching** source of extra boost for students, and teachers
- Receive **key messages and feedback** from the 2023 June examinations
- Students will take away **first hand guidance** and crucial insight along with great strategies for structuring their answers and techniques to **build strong answers for success in the 2024 examinations**

You may also be interested in bringing into your school our new student sessions that specifically focus on **successful study habits, good retrieval, recall and revision techniques**, how successful students learn differently and so on. These are generic sessions, and can be tailored for specific year groups, for half days or full days, tailored once again to suit.

## Find out more:



[keynoteeducational.co.uk/in-school](https://keynoteeducational.co.uk/in-school)



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