

# Edexcel AS and A level **Politics** 2017

Understanding power, people  
and ideas



Our new qualification

# Edexcel AS and A level Politics 2017

## Understanding power, people and ideas

We've listened to feedback from all parts of the Politics subject community, including teachers, subject associations, professional bodies and higher education. We've taken the recent curriculum changes as an opportunity to enhance our current qualification, to reflect the ever-changing world we live in, and inspire lively and informed debate.

Our new qualification continues to offer a comprehensive and thorough study of Politics, retaining the most popular content from our current specification, with the exciting addition of a choice of contemporary and globally-relevant topics.

### What's changing?

The new specification for AS and A level Politics 2017 affects the content within the qualification – these changes will affect all awarding bodies.

### Content changes:

- Increased content, including voter behaviour, constitutional history and the role of the media.
- Reduced content on the role of, and key issues, affecting the European Union.
- New content including key ideas and thinkers of the political ideas of Conservatism, Liberalism and Socialism.
- A choice of content routes at A level.

## Familiar specification within a clear and coherent structure

Our new specification will be familiar and manageable, with new components introduced within a straightforward structure.

## A wide range of engaging and contemporary issues

Our qualification includes a broad range of relevant and contemporary ideas, institutions, processes and issues to support students' learning about Politics.

## Clear assessments for students of all abilities

Assessments will develop students' skills in critical thinking and analysis, using a variety of question types, sources and materials.

## Free topic-specific resources

We will provide teacher and student guides for all the content, especially new content on political thinkers, their ideas and approaches to comparative politics.

There will also be **published resources\***, written specifically for Edexcel AS and A level Politics 2017. Go to page 6 of this booklet for all the information on our support resources.

\*It is not necessary to purchase any resources published by Edexcel or any other publisher to teach this qualification.

## Content and assessment overview

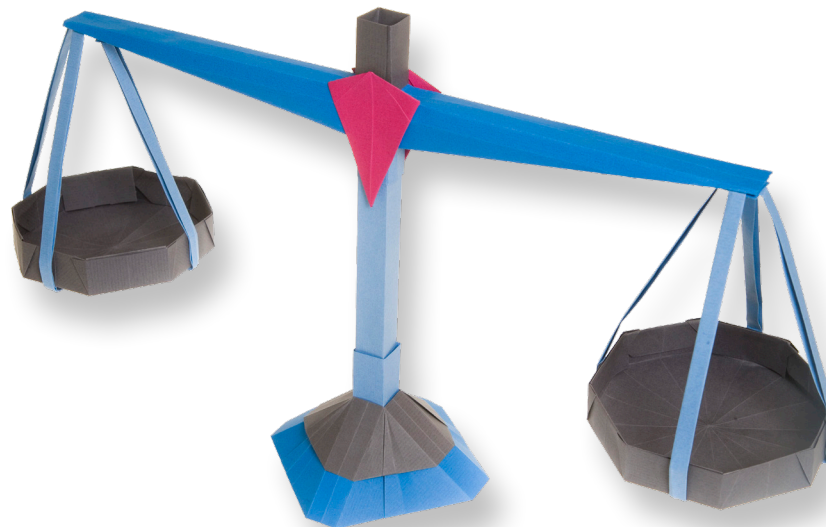
A level Politics 2017

Overview	Content	Assessment
Component 1 <b>UK Politics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Political Participation</li> <li>Core ideas (Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism).</li> </ul>	A range of short and long answer questions.
Component 2 <b>UK Government</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UK Government</li> <li>Optional ideas (choose one from anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism and nationalism).</li> </ul>	A range of short and long answer questions.
Component 3 <b>Comparative Politics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Either US Government and Politics or</li> <li>Global Politics.</li> </ul>	A range of short and long answer questions.

AS Politics 2017

Overview	Content	Assessment
Component 1 <b>UK Politics</b>	Political Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Democracy and Participation</li> <li>Political parties</li> <li>Electoral systems</li> <li>Voting behaviour and the media.</li> </ul>	A range of short and long answer questions.
Component 2 <b>UK Government</b>	UK Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Constitution</li> <li>Parliament</li> <li>The PM and Government</li> <li>Relations between the branches.</li> </ul>	A range of short and long answer questions.

This model is based on current thinking and is subject to change ahead of our submission to Ofqual in August; our finalised draft model will be available on our website mid-August.



## How we're supporting you

You've told us how valuable our support is for teaching **Edexcel AS and A level Politics** so we have even more free support available to help you get started teaching the qualification, including **course planners, schemes of work** and **mapping documents**.

To help you teach the new content, and manage the depth and breadth, we will also provide:

- a new more detailed **Getting Started guide** including topic-specific guides with:
  - information on each of the political ideas and their thinkers
  - support and literature to help teaching and learning on the comparative theories for the A level options
- additional **specimen papers, exemplars of student answers** and examiner guidance on how best to approach the exams to help prepare students
- a **free bridging unit** to provide students with 'An Introduction to Politics' on their move from GCSE to AS/A level
- our free online service, **ResultsPlus**, to provide detailed analysis on student's performance in exams.

Pearson will also be publishing **paid-for resources\*** specifically written for the **Edexcel AS and A level Politics** specification.

Sign up to get updates and free support materials plus information on our published resources:

[www.edexcel.com/polreg](http://www.edexcel.com/polreg)

## Timings



\*Pearson's paid for resources, as well as other endorsed resources, are not a prerequisite for the delivery of our Edexcel specification.

## Next steps

### Register your interest

Sign up to get updates and free support materials, plus information on our published resources:

[www.edexcel.com/polreg](http://www.edexcel.com/polreg)

### Book your place at a launch event

Go to [www.edexcel.com/pollaunch](http://www.edexcel.com/pollaunch) to find an event near you or book an online event.

### Find out more

Go to our website to read the draft specification (from August 2016) and find out more about our new qualification: [www.edexcel.com/polalevel](http://www.edexcel.com/polalevel)

## Get in touch

If you have any questions you can contact our Politics subject team:

Call on: **020 7010 2165**

Email: [TeachingGovernmentandPolitics@pearson.com](mailto:TeachingGovernmentandPolitics@pearson.com)

