



## Why choose A Level Politics?

2016 has been one of the most dramatic years when it comes to politics. At the start of the year David Cameron announced that the country would **vote on the issue of membership of the European Union**. Since then the Leave side of the debate **won by 52%** and the leadership of the Conservative party was thrown into disarray. David Cameron then resigned and after a turbulent Conservative party leadership race **Theresa May was crowned leader without having to go to a final membership vote**. Theresa May now has the difficult task of negotiating the country out of the European Union and now has to ask Parliament permission before she does this. **Meanwhile, the other members of the European Union looked on in disbelief.**



2016 was also the year of **leadership contests for other parties too**. Jeremy Corbyn managed to **win the Labour leadership once more** and faces a challenging task in uniting his party. The Green party also elected a new leadership team. They became the only country to have elected two joint leaders in recent times. **Meanwhile, UKIP entered an uncertain time**. Diane James was elected leader. She resigned after 18 days in the role. Since then Nigel Farage took over once more and the party searches once more for a leader to fill the Farage void.



**In Scotland the independence dust was almost settled until the Brexit bombshell** that dropped in 2016. This has led to the leader of the SNP, Nicola Sturgeon, call for an independence referendum once more as the majority of people in Scotland called for remaining in the European Union. **Can part of the UK remain while the rest leaves?**



Internationally, there remains a wealth of issues and problems that the world is facing such as the **Migrant crisis, the Syrian War, the threat from IS and Russian aggression**. Finally, 2016 also saw the emergence of Donald Trump versus Hillary Clinton. This has been one of the most talked about, tweeted about and most controversial US presidential elections of all time...

...2016 proves that Politics is a living breathing subject.

### What will I study?

During the two year A Level politics course you will study three components. Each of these components will be assessed at the end of the final year. Each exam is of equal weight. They are:

#### **1. UK Politics and Core Political Ideas**

Students will study:

- Democracy and participation
- Political parties
- Electoral systems
- Voting behaviour and the media

They will also study three political ideas:

- Liberalism
- Conservatism
- Socialism



#### **2. UK Government and Optional Political Ideas**

Students will study:

- The constitution
- Parliament
- Prime Minister and the executive
- Relationships between the branches

They will also explore one of five additional political ideas:

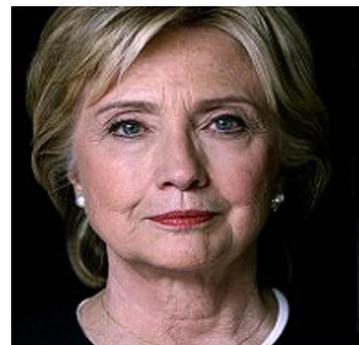
- Anarchism
- Ecologism
- Feminism,
- Multiculturalism
- Nationalism



#### **3. Comparative Politics - US Politics or Global Politics**

##### **US Politics**

- The US constitution
- US Congress
- US Presidency
- US Supreme Court
- US Democracy and participation
- US Civil Rights



or

##### **Global Politics**

- Theories of global politics
- Sovereignty and globalisation
- Global governance: political and economic
- Global governance: human rights and environmental
- Power and developments
- Regionalism and the European Union



### **What skills and opportunities are there with Government and Politics A Level?**

- ✓ Politics impacts on us all every day and studying Politics allows us to be able to see how the world around us is being shaped. Politics combines well with other subjects such as **History, English, Economics and Business Studies**.
- ✓ Politics is viewed by universities and employers alike as an **academically rigorous subject** which shows an interest in and awareness of **current issues**. Past pupils have done a range of degree courses and then moved into areas such as: Law, Accountancy, Administration, Civil Service, Health Service, Police, Teaching, Politics, Media, Journalism and Medicine.
- ✓ To study Politics, it is expected that you will already have an **interest in current affairs** and this will be utilised throughout the course.
- ✓ Students will develop a wide range of skills throughout their course of study, including the ability to **comprehend, synthesise and interpret political information; identify connections and analyse political knowledge**; as well as **construct and communicate arguments** clearly and coherently.

**DID YOU KNOW?** All our students of Politics will visit **the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court** in Westminster. Pupils this term have had the opportunity to question **local councillors, MPs and an MEP** in an Oldham Council **Question Time** event. This year we met the MP of Oldham West Jim McMahon in Parliament.



Hulme students in a Q and A session with MP Jim McMahon