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www.cnn.com

Review recent political news events from one of the following sites:

www.guardian.com

www.telegraph.co.uk

Go to my Youtube page D Lowndes Sanderson and look for the Politics section. There are a number of very useful videos on British politics. Also there are a number of excellent videos on the Politics Sharepoint page.

Read a biography/autobiography of a recent prime minister and US President such as Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair, Barak Obama, Ronald Reagan.

### **Politics Watch List**

<b>US Politics – Stream</b>	<a href="https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/4caa0575-058d-4038-99e7-df69aadf82ed">https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/4caa0575-058d-4038-99e7-df69aadf82ed</a>
<b>UK Politics – Stream</b>	<a href="https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/93c64ae9-618a-484c-8925-49d263128f3f">https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/93c64ae9-618a-484c-8925-49d263128f3f</a>
<b>Crash Course US Politics</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrk4oY7UxpQ&amp;list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeelTrq">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrk4oY7UxpQ&amp;list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeelTrq</a>
<b>Yes PM Series</b>	<a href="https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/01f34c07-1bc7-4d50-ad48-32a647d34d5e">https://web.microsoftstream.com/channel/01f34c07-1bc7-4d50-ad48-32a647d34d5e</a>
<b>West Wing TV Series</b>	<a href="http://www.dailymotion.com/playlist/x5s4aw">www.dailymotion.com/playlist/x5s4aw</a>

### **c) Compulsory task**

**Here are some tasks to complete by the time you start back in September:**

**Task 1.** Find out the following key facts about the UK Parliamentary system

Current number of MPs in the House of Commons (by political party)

Current number of Lords & Bishops in the House of Lords (by political party)

**Task 2.** Find out the following key facts about the US Government

Who are the following (and which political parties do they belong to)?

President of the US

Vice President of the US

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Senate Majority Leader

Senate Minority Leader

Current make-up of the House of Representatives and Senate

Current members of the Supreme Court and whether they are conservative or liberal in their beliefs.

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**Task 3.** Read an article about recent US politics, for example the recent case in the Supreme Court about the President's tax records and discuss what it is about. You will need to research the topic. Perhaps a good one could be the upcoming election or the emoluments clause which the president is being sued for allegedly breaking. Write a short analysis of the story and what it suggests to you about US politics.

**Task 4.** Make a timeline of key political events that have made the UK what it is today. Here are some dates to get you going: 1066, 1215, 1275, 1327, 1534, 1559, 1603, 1642, 1649, 1660, 1688, 1689, 1701, 1707, 1800, 1832, 1867, 1911, 1918, 1928, 1972, 2016, 2017, 2019.

## **d) Stretch!**

Do a timeline of the events and political decisions made the British and US Governments and try assess why these have been made. Use online newspapers to find the events.

## **Part II - Year 12 Head Start! for completion June – September**

### **(a) Course Specification link**

Here's the link to the specification. It gives all the information we need to help build an A Level Politics course. These give an overview of which ideas and concepts you will be studying of the two years. The following pages explore in more detail what these ideas mean and how they are used in the course:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/politics/specifications/AQA-7152-SP-2017.PDF>

### **(b) Departmental Resources Link**

Here's a link to the sharepoint page. On here you find all the resources we'll be using for the next two years plus a lot of additional material. It's a useful start to get used to the level of analysis required at this level. Have a look and familiarise yourself with some of the content we will be studying.

[https://mcauleyorg-my.sharepoint.com/personal/dls\\_mcauley\\_org\\_uk/\\_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FALevelPolitics%2FShared%20Documents&listurl=https%3A%2F%2Fmcauleyorg%2Esharepoint%2Ecom%2Fsites%2FALevelPolitics%2FShared%20Documents](https://mcauleyorg-my.sharepoint.com/personal/dls_mcauley_org_uk/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FALevelPolitics%2FShared%20Documents&listurl=https%3A%2F%2Fmcauleyorg%2Esharepoint%2Ecom%2Fsites%2FALevelPolitics%2FShared%20Documents)

### **(c) Text book link**

Text books will be available for use in class, but you may choose to invest in your own text book in which you can make your own notes. Owning your own is not a course requirement. Below are links to the books we use:

[UK Government and Politics Textbook](#)

[US Government and Politics Textbook](#)

[Political ideologies Textbook](#)

### **(d) Revision Guides**

There are revision guides that are available to purchase. Owning them can offer a way to support your learning.

[UK Politics Revision](#)

[US Politics Revision](#)

[Political Ideologies](#)

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## **(e) Media links**

### Youtube

This is a link to Mr Lownes Sanderson's Youtube page which has links to a number of relevant (and occasionally) amusing documentaries that are related to the course. Feel free to look at them and any others you find that come up!

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5\\_UuWveR5A3qhh1cbHhT4NExbSw10rrD](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5_UuWveR5A3qhh1cbHhT4NExbSw10rrD)

## **UK Politics**

Ted Talks - Here is a selection of Ted Talks on politics to whet your appetite!

[https://www.ted.com/talks/rory\\_stewart\\_why\\_democracy\\_matters?language=sv](https://www.ted.com/talks/rory_stewart_why_democracy_matters?language=sv)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/brexit\\_how\\_when\\_and\\_what](https://www.ted.com/talks/brexit_how_when_and_what)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/roger\\_scully\\_the\\_end\\_of\\_british\\_party\\_politics](https://www.ted.com/talks/roger_scully_the_end_of_british_party_politics)

[https://www.ted.com/talks/eric\\_liu\\_there\\_s\\_no\\_such\\_thing\\_as\\_not\\_voting](https://www.ted.com/talks/eric_liu_there_s_no_such_thing_as_not_voting)

## **US Politics**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NA7krbsdXFA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysJN37F6qqQ>

There are plenty of others so scroll down and watch any that take your fancy.

Mr McDonald has the following videos he suggests you watch:

The video on the US constitution – that is really useful as a documentary on modern America - <https://www.pbssocal.org/programs/constitution-usa-peter-sagal/constitution-usa-peter-sagal-more-perfect-union/?fbclid=IwAR1jRL5GUINtyaoI71vPXRxsMzIsbTLyc7Ijr8ixH9WCCIUeK4bFknrE6h4>

Programme on US History to get an overview - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxaVxz-cmhA&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR34BAkKMwrZmw-sM2GH0IvaNESkFiGTUMRKU02wmJ4KQIz-2yrnB2Uv6A>

Lecture on Trump and Populism - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=6&v=f6aGYU1e6Ds&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=f6aGYU1e6Ds&feature=emb_logo)

**continued....**

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All of this will keep you going for a while!

Lively, relevant, controversial... there are many ways to describe A-level Politics. There's no denying that it's one of the most interesting and engaging qualifications you can choose. Covering news and current affairs from the UK and US, it helps you understand how the UK country is run and develops research, written communication and debate skills. It also helps grow your confidence.

**See you in September!**