Curriculum Overview Politics Year 12

What are we learning?	What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?	What does mastery look like?	How does this build on prior learning?	What additional resources are available?
The history of the Constitution The key elements of the Constitution	Knowledge- The framework of the Constitution; historical context; separation of powers; checks and balances and federalism. Understanding- The significance of the historical context and how it framed a unique constitution. The impact that the Constitution has on the framework and day to day practices of the US government. The Political culture that stems from the Constitution. Skills- Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.		Chapter 1: 'The Constitution' in A2 US Government and Politics by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 26, Number 1, September 2016 (extra resources archive): US politics: A beginner's guide to studying US politics. Jeremy Taylor Politics Review Volume 24, Number 4, April 2015 (extra resources archive): US politics: Ten things you need to know. Simon Lemieux. Politics Review Volume 23, Number 4, April 2014 (extra resources archive): Revision: The US Constitution. Rowena Hamma

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The Supreme Court Judges The role of the Supreme Court	Knowledge- Selection and appointment; current composition; judicial review; constitutional role; landmark rulings Understanding- Students will be able to evaluate the strengths and weakness of SCOTUS; the political significance of landmark rulings and appointments; analyse the power of SCOTUS in relation to the other branches and the extent to which they support the rights of US citizens. Skills- Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on their knowledge of the constitution and the role of the branch in it to evaluate political examples	Supreme Court, and the protection of rights and liberties' in A2 US
				Prechewed Politics

Politics - Year 12 Unit 3. The Legislative of the USA. January to March				
What are we learning?	What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?	What does mastery look like?	How does this build on prior learning?	What additional resources are available?
The Role of Congress The Composition of Congress	Knowledge- Structure; role; powers; current composition; party influence and relations to other branches Understanding- Students can understand the role played by different members of Congress and the relationship between Congress and the other branches; evaluate the legislative process and the effectiveness of Congress; analyse the extent that Congress is representative. Skills- Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on their knowledge of the constitution and the role of the branch in it to evaluate political examples. Students will draw on their knowledge of the first branch to make a comparison	Chapter 5: 'Congress' in A2 US Government and Politics by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 23, Number 4, April 2014 (extra resources archive): US politics: Filibuster or filibluster? Rowena Hammal Politics Review Volume 26, Number 1, September 2016: Is Congress overly dysfunctional and partisan? Anthony Bennett

Politics - Year 12 Unit 4. The Executive of the USA. April to July					
What are we learning?	What knowledge, understanding and skills will we gain?	What does mastery look like?	How does this build on prior learning?	What additional resources are available?	
The Role of the President The changing power of the President	Knowledge- The selection; formal and informal powers; relations with the other branches; constraints on power and notable Presidents. Understanding- Students should understand the implications of the constitution and the checks and balances from the other branches; analyse the power of the President and how that has changed over time; evaluate the influence of the President on domestic and foreign policy. Skills- Define key terms; explain the short term and long term implications of political decisions; Analyse political decisions; evaluate key issues.	Independent study using a variety of sources to add to the Knowledge. An awareness of the political context. The ability to make links between concepts and up to date examples. Critical reflection of current events. Evaluation of own assessed work.	Students will draw on their knowledge of the constitution and the role of the branch in it to evaluate political examples. Students will draw on their knowledge of the first two branches to make a comparison	Chapter 6: 'The Presidency' in A2 US Government and Politics by Anthony J Bennett Politics Review Volume 26, Number 1, September 2016: Recess appointments. Mark Rathbone Politics Review Volume 23, Number 4, April 2014: The modern President: transformational leader or facilitator? Neil Whiskerd	