

SUBJECT: GLOBAL POLITICS IB STANDARD

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:
MR A SUTHERLAND**

**HEAD OF SUBJECT:
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SYLLABUS NUMBER:

N/A

SYNOPSIS OF CONTENT

People, power and politics

There are four compulsory units:

Power, sovereignty and international relations

You will study the distribution of power amongst states and how different states co-operate with one another. The purpose, role and success of international organisations such as the UN will be evaluated.

Human rights

This aspect will focus on the nature and evolution of human rights, as well as assessing how various human rights agreements are implemented and the extent to which they are upheld.

Development

You will deal with what development means, how it can be promoted and inhibited. Issues such as the right to development will be addressed.

Peace and conflict

You will study the concepts of peace, conflict and violence, the causes and nature of conflict and issues surrounding conflict resolution.

Internal Assessment:

Students undertake an engagement activity and then produce a 2000 word report analysing the political issue explored in that activity. Example activities could include: interviewing a representative from an NGO, interviewing a local politician, participating in a model United Nations.

SKILLS THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED

You will be expected to apply your theoretical knowledge to real examples both historical and contemporary. Some of these could include:

- Nation states e.g. China, India, the US, Russia, Japan, Germany and the UK
- International organisations e.g. the UN, NATO, the IMF and World Bank.
- Violent protest movements such as Hezbollah, Al Qaeda and IS.
- Wars and conflicts e.g. Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

Knowledge and understanding will form the basis of your studies, you will, through discussion, debate and written work develop sophisticated skills of analysis and evaluation.

SOME USEFUL WEBSITES

There are far too many useful websites to list here. A keen interest in current affairs is essential for this course. Use Google and learn to recognise the useful sites in the listings amid the rest. Look for the domain endings 'ac.uk' or 'edu' for academic sites. Wikipedia is useful for confirming facts and giving a rough overview. News websites such as the BBC, Channel 4, the Economist and the Guardian are essential.

ASSESSMENT

Paper One (1 h 15 min)

Stimulus based paper based on a topic from one of the four core units. There will be four compulsory short-answer/ structured questions. (30%)

Paper Two (1 h 45 min)

Extended response paper based on the four core units. Students must write **two** essays from a choice of eight, each selected from a different core unit. (45%)

Internal Assessment See above under Content. (25%)

SPECIFIC MATRICULATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the Sixth Form matriculation requirements, students must have at least one GCSE grade C or above in a Humanities subject.

OTHER INFORMATION

E.g. Field Trips/expenses/books

No specific expenses. However, it is helpful to read more widely making your own use of libraries / bookshops. Many Politics students participate in the bi-annual visit to the UN headquarters in Geneva.