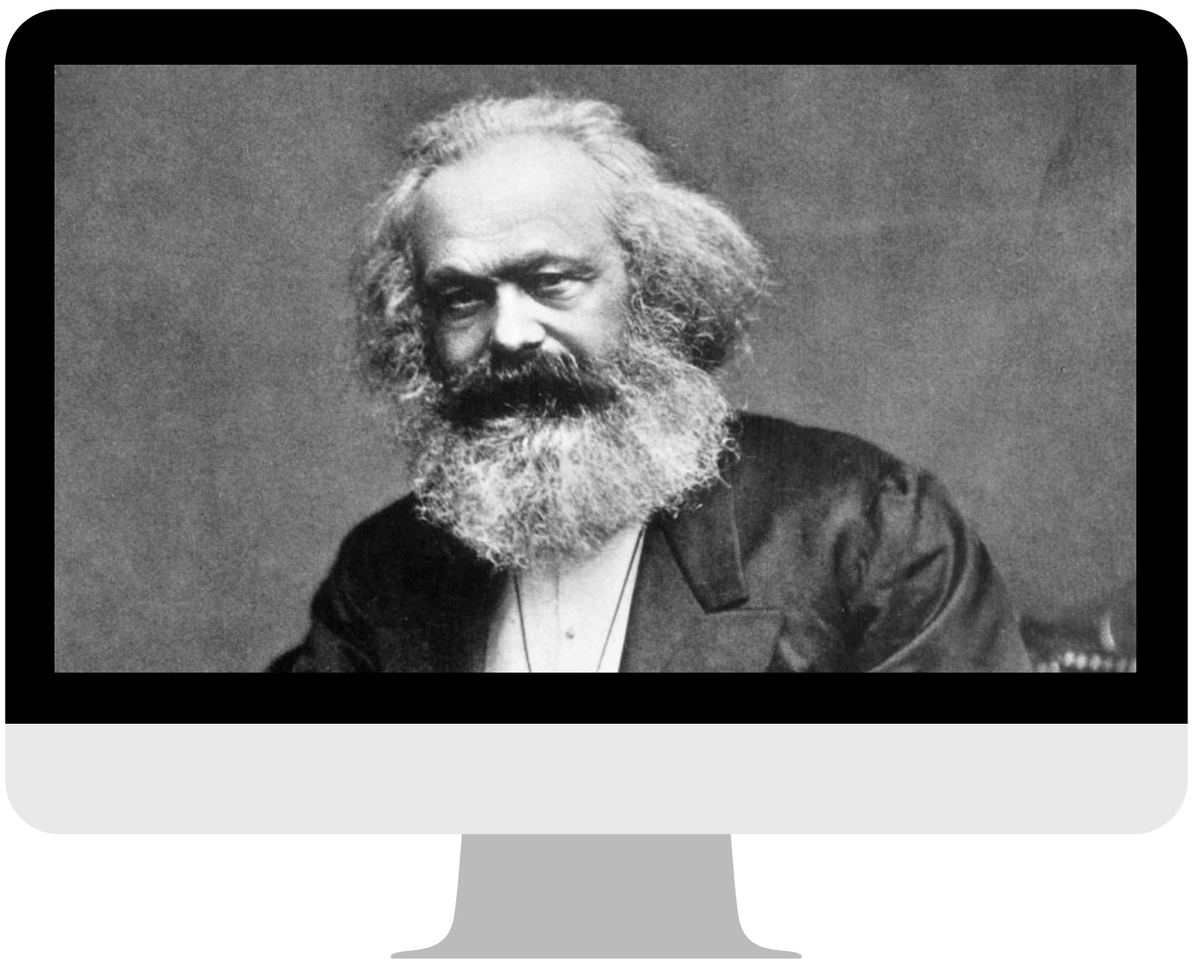
UNIT ONE
POLITICAL THEORY

INTRODUCTION

Candidates study the key political concepts of power, authority and legitimacy, with particular reference to the work of Steven Lukes and Max Weber, and analyse the relevance of these concepts today.

They study the nature of democracy and the arguments for and against direct and representative democracy, including the works of relevant theorists.

Candidates study the key ideas of two political ideologies: Conservatism & Socialism.



THEORISTS COVERED

PLATO
ARISTOTLE
WEBB
WEBER
LUKES
RAND
NOZICK
HOBBES
BURKE
GIDDENS
CROSLAND
MARX
ENGELS
BENN
LUXEMBOURG
A C GRAYLING
SCHUMPETER
ROUSSEAU
MILL
MACHIAVELLI
DISRAELI
OWEN

UNIT TWO
POLITICAL SYSTEMS

HP

INTRODUCTION

Candidates study the constitutional arrangements in different political systems. The detailed study of the political systems focuses on the roles of the executive and legislative branches within each system.

Candidates compare and contrast the respective powers of individual branches of government within the two political systems, and draw balanced conclusions about these.

POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Candidates take a comparative approach which reaches conclusions about the sources of power within the political systems of the UK and USA

UNIT THREE

POLITICAL PARTIES & ELECTIONS

H
P

INTRODUCTION

Candidates compare the electoral impact of two different dominant ideas. This can
either be from within one political party or between two different political parties.

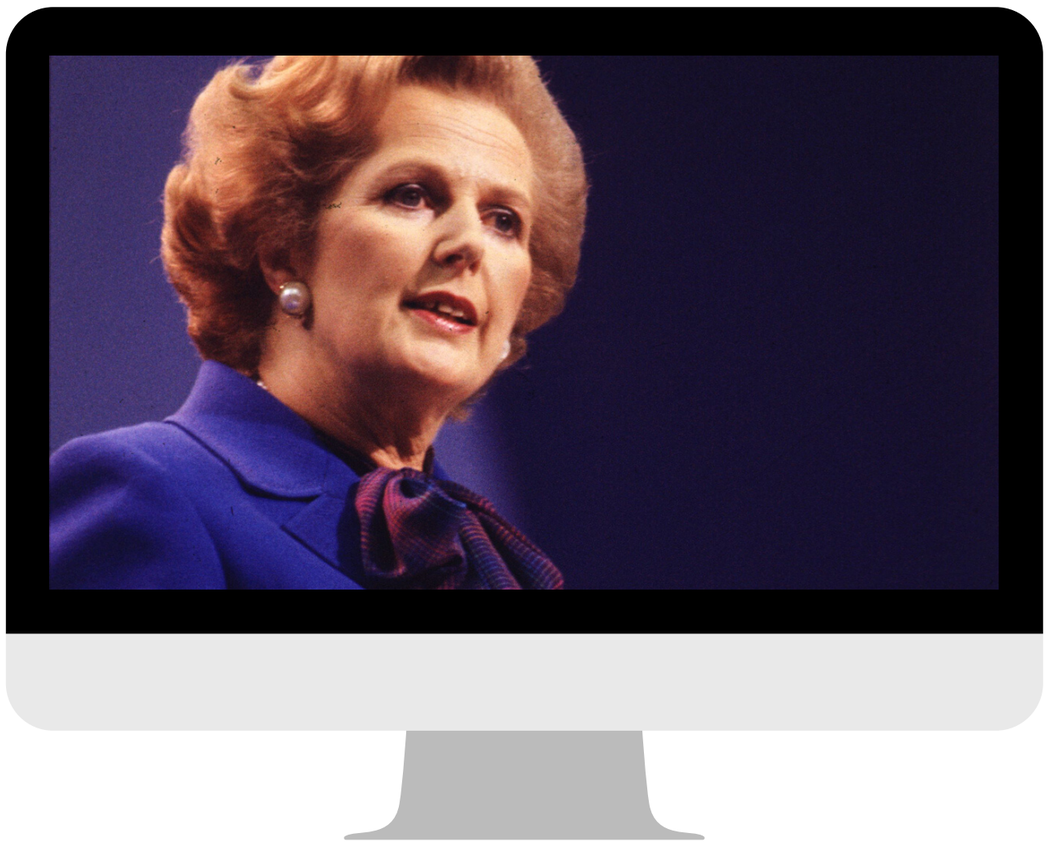
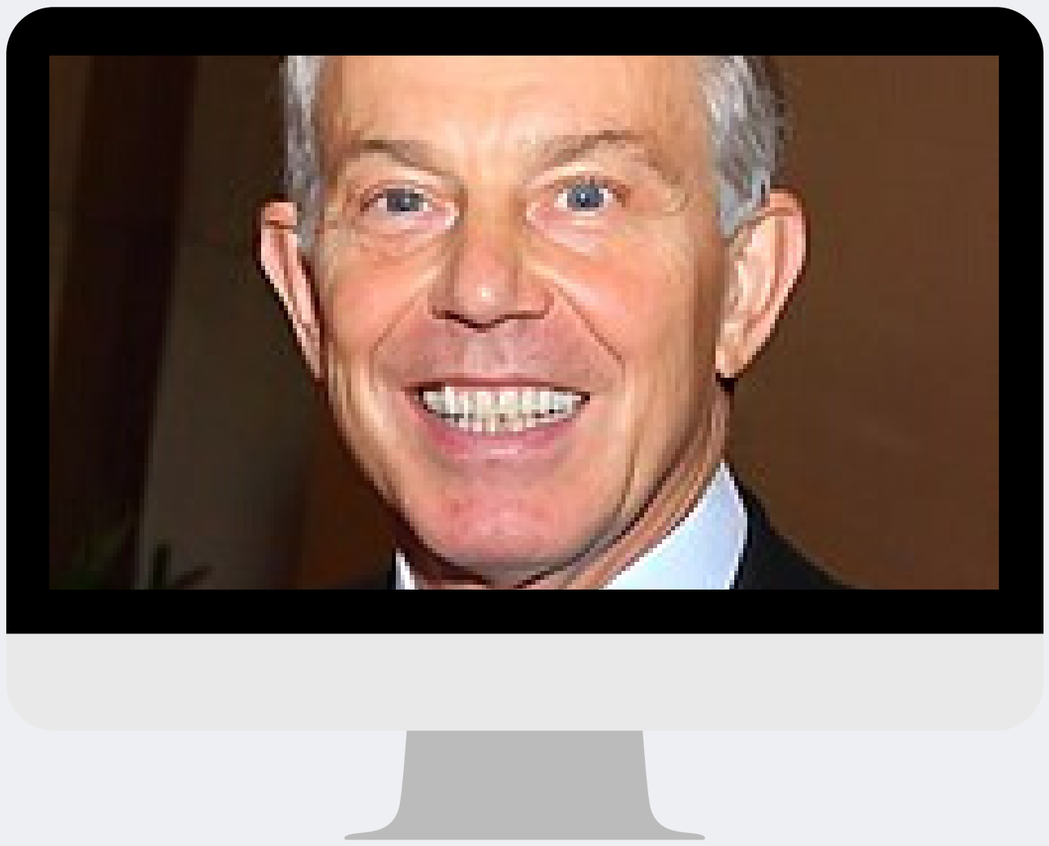
Candidates will study the Conservative Party & the Labour Party.

These ideas are studied alongside the
impact of political campaign management strategies and theoretical analyses of voting behaviour.

DOMINANT IDEAS COVERED

One Nation Conservatism

Thatcherism

Democratic Socialism

New Labour