

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS YEAR 13 READING LIST: Global Politics extension work and additional reading

Things to read

It is absolutely crucial to success at A2 that you read regularly. This will help develop your literacy skills and help you to master the mature and sophisticated style of writing which is necessary for reaching the top grades. Reading regularly will also help prepare you for university style learning when you may well be asked to read several books each week.

What should I be reading?

Firstly, make sure you read through the chapters in the textbook relevant to our course fully and on a regular basis. Then begin to branch out and read more. Here is a list of suggested reading which includes a range of sources as only reading textbooks will become unmanageable and very boring quite quickly.

Alternative, high level textbooks in the library:

1. Issues in 21st Century World Politics edited by Mark Beeson and Nick Bisley 2013
2. The Globalization of World Politics An introduction to international relations by John Baylis, Steve Smith and Patricia Owens 2014

These textbooks all have very informative and relevant chapters in them which will provide further reading on most/ all of the topics we cover in class. Regularly reading chapters and taking notes would be an excellent way of consolidating learning and finding new examples and case studies.

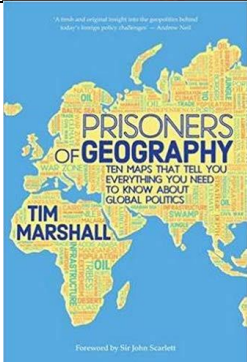
High level newspapers:

- The Times
- The Telegraph
- The Independent
- The Observer
- The Financial Times

High level political journals:

- The Economist – in the library and available online with school log in. This includes regular in-depth articles which help develop your understanding of current political issues.
- Foreign Affairs – longer essays rather than short articles. This journal is for those aiming for A grades and A* grades. Print copies in the library and available online with school log in.

Excellent library books to read

<p>Henry Kissinger “World Order”</p>	<p>The greatest living master of diplomacy, Henry Kissinger [1923-] examines the history of the relations between nation states, focusing on the implications of four visions of global order.</p>	
<p>Noam Chomsky ‘Rogue State’</p>	<p>Noam Chomsky is Institute Professor in the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy at the MIT University, Boston USA. He argues that the real 'rogue' states in the world today are not the dictator-led developing countries we hear about in the news, but the United States and its allies</p>	
<p>Richard Haass “A World in Disarray”</p>	<p>Richard Haass is an American diplomat and President of the Council on Foreign Relations. In a “World in Disarray Dr Haass investigates the impact on global relations of the United States withdrawal from a global leadership role.</p>	
<p>Tim Marshall “Prisoners of Geography”</p>	<p>Sky journalist, Tim Marshall, examines how issues of geo-strategy are determined by geography.</p>	

<p>Time Marshall 'The Power of Geography'</p>	<p>Marshall explores ten regions that are set to shape global politics in a new age of great-power rivalry: Australia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the UK, Greece, Turkey, the Sahel, Ethiopia, Spain and Space.</p>	
<p>Sathnam Sanghera 'Empireland'</p>	<p>An urgent, incisive account of how the depredations of its imperial past dog Britain's view of itself today, Empireland is provocative, meticulously researched writing of the highest order.</p>	
<p>Mark Galeotti 'We need to talk about Putin'</p>	<p>UCL academic, Mark Galeotti, provides an insight into what makes Russia, and its leader, different to the West</p>	
<p>Catherine Belton 'Putin's People: How the KGB Took Back Russia and Then Took on the West'</p>	<p>A president changing laws to stay in power. Interference in US elections. Sponsorship of extremist politics in Europe. War in Ukraine. This rigorous and revelatory book explains how this happened, Putin's rise to power, and how Russian black cash is subverting the world</p>	

George Packer “Our Man: Richard Holbrooke and the End of the American Century”	Stunningly reviewed biography of a career diplomat whose highest political position was Assistant Secretary of State, but whose life-story brilliantly encapsulates the conflicts within American foreign policy.		
Philippe Sands “East West Street”	Eminent QC, Philippe Sands, traces the origins of human rights law in this partly autobiographical study which includes an array of fascinating characters including Hersch Lauterpacht, Rafael Lemkin and Nazi lawyer, Hans Frank.		
The Future of Capitalism: Facing the New Anxieties	From world-renowned economist Paul Collier, a candid diagnosis of the failures of capitalism and a pragmatic and realistic vision for how we can repair it		

The books listed below are short, interestingly written and very relevant to various aspects of the course. There are also a whole range of other reference books and textbook style books available for you to access.

Charm offensive : how China's soft power is transforming the world	Joshua Kurlantzick	2007
We should all be Feminists	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	2014
Al-Qaeda : the true story of radical Islam	Jason Burke	2003
Terrorism and the New World Order	Lloyd Pettiford and David Harding	2003
Understanding power : the indispensable Chomsky	Noam Chomsky	2003
On Power and ideology	Noam Chomsky	2015

The return of history and the end of dreams	Robert Kagan	2009
The Writing on The Wall China and the West in the 21st Century	Will Hutton	2008
Soft power : the means to success in world politics	Joseph Nye	2005
Letters from Burma.	Aung San Suu Kyi	2010
The world is flat : the globalized world in the twenty-first century	Friedman, Thomas L	2007
The plundered planet : how to reconcile prosperity with nature	Collier, Paul	2011
Interventions : a life in war and peace (biography)	Kofi Annan	2011
Heroes	John Pilger	2001
How the world works	Chomsky, Noam, Barsamian, David, Naiman, Arthur	2012
9-11 : was there an alternative?	Chomsky, Noam	2011
The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order	Huntington, Samuel P	2002
The Bottom Billion: why the poorest countries are failing and what can be done about it	Paul Collier	2008
Politics in Africa	Nana Poku and Anna Dmee	2011
The Dragon's gift: the real story of China in Africa	Deborah Brautigam	2009
An inconvenient Truth	Al Gore	2006
Distant voices	John Piliger	2010

Fiction

Novels can also be a useful way of gaining insight into a political situation. Why not take one of these on holiday this Summer?

- ✓ 'The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver 2008 for example is a really good read and tells the story of a family of American girls in the Congo and touches on cultural difference, poverty, conflict and colonialism.
- ✓ 'The Kite Runner', 'And the Mountains Echoed' and 'A Thousand Splendid Suns' written by Khalid Hosseini also are excellent books which help demonstrate life in Afghanistan and touch on Human Rights, culture, conflict and relations with the Middle East.
- ✓ 'The Reluctant Fundamentalist' by Mohsin Hamid and 'The Book Seller of Kabul' by Asne Seierstad similarly give insights into terror, conflict and the Middle East.
- ✓ 'The Good Women of China' Xinran 2003 is a brilliant insight into some of the lives and stories of women in different regions of China and their experience of life, poverty and rights.

- ✓ 'Nothing to envy: real lives in North Korea' by Barbara Demick, 'The Aquariums of Pyongyang' by Kang Chol-Hwan and 'Escape from Camp 14' by Blaine Harden all give an excellent insight into life in North Korea and are also a good read.

Things to watch

Sometimes you may be fed up of reading but fear not! There is a whole range of excellent films and documentaries which you can watch. It is often really useful watching about political issues as they can reveal the full extent of a situation and help you develop empathy and strong opinions on issues.

Film list

- Black Hawk Down
- Hurt Locker
- Hotel Rwanda
- Argo
- Blood Diamond
- Zero Dark Thirty
- The Constant Gardener
- United 93
- Black Gold
- Lord of War
- In this world
- Rendition
- Idiocracy
- The 11th Hour
- Quo Vadis, Aida? (2020)

Documentaries

- BBC Documentary 'The Whistleblowers: Inside the UN' 2022
- BBC Documentary 'Once Upon a Time in Iraq' 2021
- Andrew Marr's History of the world (gives an excellent overview of key periods in history and the development of power and states in the world over time).

Top documentaries.com

- The Cove
- The geopolitics of World War III
- The great challenge, China and Russia
- Euromania
- Aghet: a genocide
- America's dangerous game

Netflix documentaries

- Black Earth Rising (Rwanda ICTR drama)
- Water, explained
- The Vietnam War
- RESTREPO - Directed by journalist Sebastian Junger and photojournalist Tim Hetherington (who was to be killed a year after its release while working in Libya), this feature-length documentary about a platoon of American soldiers in Afghanistan's deadly Korengal Valley won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.
- 13th – documentary on realities of being black in modern-day America
- The Square- The Square is a 2013 Egyptian-American documentary film by Jehane Noujaim, which depicts the ongoing Egyptian Crisis until 2013
- E-team – on human rights abuses around the world
- Two Catalonias – on the complexities of statehood and independence in Catalonia
- Fahrenheit 9/11 Michael Moore's very controversial documentary on 9/11 and the Bush administration
- Bottled Life – a look at Water and the huge power of giant TNC Nestle
- Dirty Wars
- TEDTalks : On the paradox of capitalism (Paul Collier on the bottom billion and Sahshi Tharoor on soft power)
- Food Inc.
- The Corporation – documentary charting the historic rise of the corporation and their power
- An Inconvenient Sequel : Truth and Power: A decade after "An Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore continues his tireless drive to influence climate policy and show that the planet still has a chance.
- Walmart: The High Cost of Low Price
- Zeitgeist The Movie
- Countdown to Zero
- A Crude Awakening