

# Exploring British Politics

Sixth Edition

Mark Garnett, Peter Dorey,  
and Patrick Diamond

Designed cover image: © Alamy

Sixth edition published 2024

by Routledge

4 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN

and by Routledge

605 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10158

*Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business*

© 2024 Mark Garnett, Peter Dorey and Patrick Diamond

The right of Mark Garnett, Peter Dorey and Patrick Diamond to be identified as authors of this work has been asserted in accordance with sections 77 and 78 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilised in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

*Trademark notice:* Product or corporate names may be trademarks or registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and explanation without intent to infringe.

First edition published by Pearson Education 2007

Fifth edition published by Routledge 2021

*British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data*

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-1-032-35168-1 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-1-032-35166-7 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-1-003-32562-8 (ebk)

DOI: 10.4324/9781003325628

Typeset in Bembo Std

by codeMantra

Access the support material: [www.routledge.com/9781032351667](http://www.routledge.com/9781032351667)

# Brief contents

	Guided tour	xvii
	Guide to features	xix
	Preface	xxvi
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Context</b>	
Chapter 1	Understanding British politics	3
Chapter 2	Analysing British politics	23
Chapter 3	UK government and politics in historical context: From Attlee to 'austerity'	45
Chapter 4	Economy and society	71
Chapter 5	The media and communications	99
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Constitution and institutions</b>	
Chapter 6	The constitution	131
Chapter 7	The core executive	164
Chapter 8	Parliament	202
Chapter 9	The judiciary and the law	253
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Multi-level governance</b>	
Chapter 10	The changing state	281
Chapter 11	Local government to local governance	313
Chapter 12	Devolution	341

Chapter 13	The UK and the European Union	387
------------	-------------------------------	-----

**Part 4 Political parties**

Chapter 14	UK party systems	429
------------	------------------	-----

Chapter 15	Party organisation	449
------------	--------------------	-----

Chapter 16	Ideology and party competition	490
------------	--------------------------------	-----

**Part 5 Participation**

Chapter 17	Elections and electoral systems	531
------------	---------------------------------	-----

Chapter 18	Voting behaviour	573
------------	------------------	-----

Chapter 19	Participation beyond elections	607
------------	--------------------------------	-----

**Part 6 Conclusions**

Chapter 20	Governance and democracy in the UK	639
------------	------------------------------------	-----

	Index	659
--	-------	-----