

COURSE OUTLINE: ADVANCED HIGHER MODERN STUDIES

Week	Topic	Homework (reading for dissertation should form ongoing homework for Advanced Higher)
Aug 15	Introduction : What is comparative politics	
Aug 22	Ideas of democracy - 'liberal democracy' Representation Participation	What are the main features of a democracy
Aug 29	Representation – types Electoral systems - FPTP Voting Systems –PR arguments for and against	Essay on electoral systems.
Sept 05	Introduction to dissertation – structure / marking allocations – titles – organising the dissertation	Chose title for dissertation Devise chapters / aims (3 / 4)
Sept 12	Political Participation Trends in participation Methods of participating	
Sept 19	Factors influencing participation Introduction to social science methods	
Sept 26	Factors influencing participation Trends in political participation	Essay on political participation
Oct 03	Influences on voting behaviour	
Oct 10	Influences on voting behaviour	
Holiday		Essay on Voting behaviour
Oct 24	Work on dissertation Research methods	Finish first aim / chapter of dissertation
Oct 31	Political Parties – roles / functions in democracies and authoritarian systems	
Nov 07	Political Parties – political spectrum – party policies and changes in party ideologies	
Nov 14	Political Parties – party structures – elite versus mass parties	
Nov 21	Political parties	
Nov 28	Political parties	
Dec 05	Social Science research methods	Source question on methods
Dec 12	Social Science research methods	Source question on methods
Dec 19	Politics of Influence Introduction	
Jan 02	Politics of influence pressure groups	
Jan 09	Politics of influence pressure groups	Dissertation Aim 2 / chapter 2 completed and handed in W/E 6 January
Jan 16	Politics of Influence - pressure groups	
Jan 23	Politics of influence – the mass media	Essay on Politics of influence
Jan 30	Politics of influence – the mass media	Source questions on methods
Feb 07	Social Science research methods	Chapter 3 / aim 3 completed
Feb 14	Living Political ideas : introduction Living political ideas - Liberalism	
Feb 21	Living political ideas - nationalism	
Feb 28	Dissertation	
Mar 07	Living political ideas– Socialism / Communism	Chapter 4 /aim 4 completed Final revision of dissertation text
Mar 14	Living political ideas - Conservatism	
Mar 21	Living political ideas – religious fundamentalism	Dissertation handed in for transmission to SQA.

Mar 28	Revision	
April 17	Revision	
April 24	Revision	