



Maximising Attainment Information



Which topics are covered at Higher?		Important dates		
Unit	Topics	November/December - Prelim		
Democracy in Scotland & UK	The democratic processes, institutions and organisations which make up political life in Scotland and the United Kingdom	February – Assignment (27% of final grade)		
Social Issues	A major social issue in the United Kingdom, focusing on social inequality	April/May – Final exam (73% of final grade)		
International Issues	World Issue – Global Development: causes/ effects/ responses			
How is the course assessed?				
COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
Final exam	Paper 1- Knowledge - Essays - Democracy in Scotland/ UK - Social Issues - International Issues Candidates complete 2x 20 mark essays and 1x 12 mark essay across the three sections (3 total)	1 Hour 45 Minutes	52	Approx. 47%
Final exam	Paper 2 – Sources Questions – Enquiry Skills - Conclusions (10 marks) - Objectivity (10 marks) - Reliability of sources (8 marks) Candidates answer 3 sources questions	1 Hour and 15 minutes	28	Approx. 25%
Assignment	Written Assignment – sections drafted at home, with in-class support – write-up undertaken in class under exam conditions. Submitted to QS for marking	1 Hour and 30	30	Approx. 27%
What are the question types in the exam?		What resources can I use to support my learning?		
20 mark essays: Up to 8 marks are awarded for Knowledge/ Understanding (KU) including description, explanation and exemplification. Up to 12 marks are awarded for analytical or evaluative comments. 12 mark essay: Up to 8 marks are awarded for Knowledge/ Understanding (KU) including description, explanation and exemplification. Up to 4 marks awarded for analytical comments.		Teams/OneNote – Revision Booklets and Organisers, textbook copies, Info sheets. Higher Modern Studies essay skills booklet and Channel on Teams Higher Modern Studies Enquiry Skills Channel and booklet on Teams Assignment write-up channel on Teams with exemplars and marker commentaries BBC Bitesize Revision for Higher Modern Studies https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/ztsvr82 - Let’s Achieve - New on ACHIEVE: Higher Modern Studies - ACHIEVE		
Where can I find more information about the exam and assignment?		How do I ensure top marks?		
SQA Understanding Standards provides exemplars and grades awarded. https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/		- Attend and work hard! - Complete practice questions and give them to your teacher to mark. - Submit assignment drafts, essays and skills ‘assignments’ on time for feedback.		

Where do I find the past papers? You can find papers on the SQA website. https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm	- Create revision diagrams/flashcards, etc. for each of the syllabus areas. - Create strong essay drafts, improve them based on teacher feedback. - Explore other revision strategies – teach a parent about a topic, create a quiz for someone else (and complete their quiz).
Where do I find more information about the course? The course specification document on the QS website as a more detailed breakdown of the syllabus for each unit. https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa//files_ccc/h-course-spec-modern-studies.pdf	