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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Political Participation and Pressure Groups in an Age of Global Politics

Reference	BS3144	Version	4
Created	April 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	August 2005	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

This module will provide students with a basic survey of the political science literature on political participation and explore its contemporary significance in political debate.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Recognise and discuss the importance of political participation to democratic practice.
- 2 Identify and classify various types of political participation.
- 3 Evaluate the competing explanations provided for political participation.
- 4 Appraise the challenges facing UK, EU and International pressure groups from global politics.
- 5 Identify the activities of national, European and international pressure groups in relation to political participation.

Indicative Module Content

Forms of Political Participation; Political Participation and Democracy; International Evidence of Political Participation; What are Pressure Groups?; The Role and Function of Pressure Groups; UK Pressure Groups; Pressure Groups in the EU; Global/International Pressure Groups; Pressure Groups and Democracy; Promoting 'Responsible' Political Participation

Module Delivery

This is a lecture based course. It is supplemented by tutorials/seminars in which students will be asked to make group presentations. A range of case studies covering various forms of political participation and recent issues will be used to ground abstract concepts.

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	32	32
Non-Contact Hours	118	118
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Examination	Weighting:	20%	Outcomes Assessed:	5
Description:	Class participation/presentation. This will encourage each student to engage in class discussion and to aid the learning of other students.				

Component 2

Type:	Examination	Weighting:	80%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4
Description:	A written examination at the end of the semester.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Participation - 20% weighting. C2 - Examination - 80% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
B	60-69% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
C	50-59% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
D	40-49% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None in addition to SCQF 9 entry requirement or equivalent.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 STOKER, G., 2016. *Why politics matters: Making democracy work (2nd Ed.)* London: Palgrave.
- 2 QVORTRUP, M., 2007. *The politics of participation: from Athens to e-democracy*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- 3 MAIR, P., 2013. *Ruling the void: The hollowing of western democracy*. London: Verso.
- 4 NORRIS, P., 2011. *Democratic deficit: critical citizens revisited*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 5 WATTS, D., 2007. *Pressure Groups*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- 6 GRANT, W., 1999. *Pressure groups and British politics*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 7 JORDAN, A.G., 2007. *Democracy and interest groups: enhancing participation*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 8 GREENWOOD, J., 2003. *Interest representation in the European Union*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.