

## MODULE DESCRIPTOR

### Module Title

Political Participation and Pressure Groups in an Age of Global Politics

Reference	BS3144	Version	6
Created	June 2022	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	August 2005	SCQF Points	15
Amended	June 2022	ECTS Points	7.5

### Aims of Module

To provide students with a critical understanding of key contemporary debates and developments in the fields of political participation and pressure groups.

### Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Appraise the importance of various types of political participation to democratic practice.
- 2 Critically evaluate the competing explanations provided for political participation.
- 3 Appraise the activities of and challenges facing UK, EU 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; Global/International Pressure Groups; Pressure Groups and Democracy.

### 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	30	30
Non-Contact Hours	120	120
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

**ASSESSMENT PLAN**

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

**Component 1**

Type: Examination Weighting: 100% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3  
 Description: A written examination at the end of the semester.

**MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR****Explanatory Text**

The overall grade for this module is based on the grade received for the written examination.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
<b>A</b>	A grade of 'A' in the written examination.
<b>B</b>	A grade of 'B' in the written examination.
<b>C</b>	A grade of 'C' in the written examination.
<b>D</b>	A grade of 'D' in the written examination.
<b>E</b>	A grade of 'E' in the written examination.
<b>F</b>	A grade of 'F' in the written examination.
<b>NS</b>	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.