Module Descriptor

Title	Participation & Democracy		
Session	2025/26	**Status**	
Code	PLTC10014	**SCQF Level**	11
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Education and Social Sciences**		
Module Co-ordinator	R Campbell		

Summary of Module

This module examines the changing patterns of political participation in advanced industrial democracies. As voters, demonstrators, or by engaging with social and political movements, people shape and contest power. Whilst the subject of participation is particularly vast, this module emphasises:

(1) how and why people get involved in politics;

(2) explanations for why people participate in different ways; and

(3) how changing styles of political participation are contributing to demands for democratic reform.

The module takes an inquiry-based approach. By utilising a series of quantitative labs as part of the learning and teaching strategy, it equips students with the skills to conduct their own project. In doing so, it also equips students with a range of important transferrable and employability skills, including working independently; managing a varied workload; assimilating

and synthesising multiple data sources; constructing coherent arguments; and preparing written reports.

• Participation

• Electoral behaviour

• Radical Right

• Party membership

• Revolutions

• Social and Political Movements

• Social Capital

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus[1] ☐	Hybrid[2] ☒	Online[3] ☐	Work -Based Learning[4] ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☒ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☒	Term 3	☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Understand the key approaches explaining political participation, particularly since the 1960s.
L2	Select and refine an appropriate project for independent study.
L3	Understand empirical data, methodological approaches, and good research practice in political science.
L4	Present evidence-based arguments in a clear and engaging piece of independent study.
L5	

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 10** Retrieving, interpreting and analysing primary data sources including electronic sources, especially survey data.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Drawing on information from a variety of sources, including academic research publications, to make original, and distinct, observations.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Developing reasoned argument, synthesising relevant information and exercising critical judgement to evaluate theories, concepts and evidence

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Understanding the R programming language and using it for independent analysis.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Exercising autonomy and initiative while developing capacity for independent work. Developing and extending the capacity to work with others through group interaction in labs.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	Other 40 credits in social sciences modules at level 9 or equivalent.	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	12
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	12
Independent Study	12
Independent Study	164
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Campbell, R. (2019) Popular Support for Democracy in Unified Germany: Critical Democrats. London: Palgrave. Dalton, R.J. and Klingemann, H.D. (2009) The Oxford Handbook of Political Behavior. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Inglehart, R. (1977) The Silent Revolution: Changing Values and Political Styles Among Western Publics. Princeton: Princeton University Press. Norris, P. (2002) Democratic Phoenix: Reinventing Political Activism. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Scholzman, K.H., Verba, S. and Brady, H.E. (2012) The Unheavenly Chorus: Unequal Political Voice and the Broken Promise of American Democracy. Oxford: Princeton University Press.
(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:**

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Social Sciences**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	UG Social Sciences
Moderator	M Leith
External Examiner	J Halsall
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**
Changes / Version Number	

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Written Assignment 25%
Assessment 2
Written Assignment 75%
Assessment 3

(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Review	☒	☒	☐	☐	☐	25	18

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Essay	☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	75	18

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
New template, no changes	Mar 25	R Campbell