

# HIGHER MODERN STUDIES – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## For Parents and Carers



### Which topics are covered at Higher?

Section 1	Democracy in Scotland & the UK
Section 2	Social Issues in the UK – Social Inequality
Section 3	International Issues -World Powers – The USA

### Resources to support learning.

#### External

SQA Past papers

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>

BBC Bitesize Revision for Higher Modern Studies

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/ztsvr82>

#### Internal

Higher Modern Studies have their own class Teams Page. Contained within the Files Section at the top is access to all folders covering all 3 units of the course.

Within these folders are copies of Higher past papers and marking schemes, revision PowerPoints and materials on how to answer all source questions, model answers and practice essays and Enquiry Skills questions.

### Are there important dates of which I should be aware?

**October** – Core assessment 1

**January** – Core Assessment 2

**March** – Assignment write up (**27% of final grade**)

**May 2026** – Final SQA exam

### Where do I find more information about the course?

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47448.html>

### Where can I find more information about the writing exam and assignment?

The SQA Understanding Standards provides exemplars and grades awarded.

<https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/>

### How is the course assessed?

COMPONENT	DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
<b>FINAL EXAM:</b> Question paper	Component 1 - Paper 1 – 3 X essays	1 hour 45 minutes	52	47%
	Component 2- Paper 2 - 3 X Enquiry Skills questions	1 hour 15 minutes	28	26%
<b>INTERNAL EXAM:</b> Assignment	Written Assignment - undertaken in class under exam conditions. Submitted to SQA for marking	1 hour	30	27%

### Practical strategies for parents/carers to support learners.

- Answer Past Paper Questions and then mark these using the SQA Marking Instructions which are available from the SQA website.  
<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>
  - Writing Essays and Source Questions under timed conditions – approximately 25 minutes for a 12 mark essay, 40 minutes for a 20 mark essay. Conclusions and Objectivity Source Questions – 27 minutes each, 20 minutes for a reliability of sources question.
  - Stick post-it notes detailing key information around your room so that you can revise on the move.
  - Encourage your child to record their own revision notes and to listen to them when on the bus or walking to school
  - They could make flashcards or mind maps on different topics
  - They could make a glossary of key words for each topic and memorise these
- Encourage your child to create a Revision Timetable to help them study effectively
  - Quiz your child about topics relating to the course and in preparation for assessments and the final exam
  - Ask your child to teach you about particular topics – particularly those they may find more challenging
  - Encourage your child to access and use the support materials available to them both on Teams and on external site
  - They could use sites such as Kahoot! Or Blooket - they contain quizzes which can help them revise