

Higher Modern Studies

HIGHER MODERN STUDIES



DEMOCRACY



SOCIAL
INEQUALITY



ENQUIRY
SKILLS



USA



One Peebles

5.2: Mr Neil Hattie – gw20hattieneil@glow.sch.uk

5.6: Mr James McMordie - mcmordie.james@glow.sch.uk Miss Kirsty Wylie -
gw21wyliekirsty@glow.sch.uk

What is Higher Modern Studies?

Overview of the course

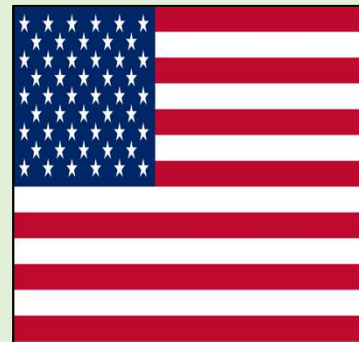
Unit 1:

Democracy in Scotland and the UK



Unit 2:

Social Inequality in the UK



Unit 3:

World Power: USA

What is Higher Modern Studies?

Unit 1: Democracy in Scotland and the UK

- Voting Systems
- Voting Behaviour
- Holding the government to account
- Participation



What is Higher Modern Studies?

Unit 2: Social Inequality in the UK

- Causes of Health Inequality
- Causes of Wealth Inequality
- Impact of Inequality
- Effectiveness of Govt Responses



What is Higher Modern Studies?

Unit 3: World Power: USA

- Participation
- Checks and Balances
- Influence
- Effectiveness of Govt Responses



How is it assessed?

There are three parts to the assessment of the course

Exam Paper 1
(52 marks)
1hr 45

Exam Paper 2
(28 marks)
1hr 15

Coursework Assignment
(30 marks)



The Exam (May 2026)

Exam Paper 1

Candidates are required to write **three** essays on each of the units.

2 x 20 marks and 1 x 12 marks



The Exam (May 2026)

Exam Paper 2

Candidates answer three questions assessing their ability to use sources

Reliability: (8 marks)

Accuracy: (10 marks)

Conclusions: (10 marks)



Coursework Assignment

The Assignment (30 marks)

Candidates select a Modern Studies topic of their choosing, and spend time in class and home researching and gathering evidence.

Candidates will then write-up their findings in class on a date communicated by the teacher.

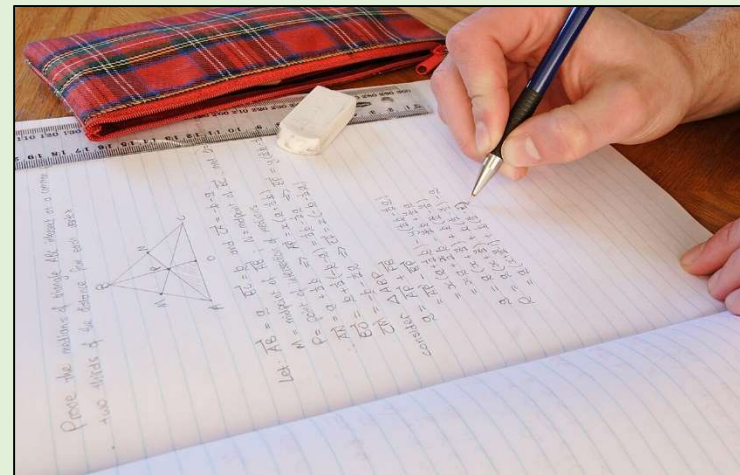
They have 1hr 30 to complete this task which is then sent to the SQA for marking.



Homework

Formal homework is not strictly necessary in Higher Modern Studies. However, there is an expectation that learners will be regularly working independently on various aspects of the course, including;

- Revision of content
- Preparation for assessments
- Preparation for essays
- Catch-up of missed work



Key Dates

Unit 1: June 2025 - October 2025

Unit 2: October 2025 - December 2025

Unit 3: December 2025 – March 2025

Prelim: It is expected that a **full** prelim mirroring the final exam will take place in January 2026.

Assignment: Likely to be late February or early March 2026.

Exam: Date TBC but likely May 2026



How to get support?

Pupils can contact staff via email or Teams. Pupils are also welcome to speak to staff after class.

Staff will offer supported study sessions when required.

Class notes are all available on MS OneNote.

Further guidance is available on SQA website.

Ensure young people are keeping up with classwork and meeting necessary deadlines.

