

Proposed Course Outline

Week	Generative Topics	Key Learning	Readings/Activities/Notes
1	#swipeleft - Introduction to this course; why do you want to know more about how democracy works?	Introductions and setting of learning goals	Assess UDL requirements and adjust if necessary
2	#votelefttransferleft and making the incoherent coherent in a system of proportional representation	How (Irish) parliamentary democracy works using a system of proportional representation	See detailed plan
3	#notmytaoiseach and how you get who you vote for.	How a government is formed by public representatives elected in the system outlined in week 2	See detailed plan
4	#repealtheseal and the purpose and responsibilities of an effective Opposition	The role of an Opposition in the parliamentary system resulting from the elections as detailed in week 2 and after a government has been formed as detailed in week 3	See detailed plan
5	#togetherforyes, #repealthe8th and how everybody can have a part to play in shaping our country	The part played by the public in the parliamentary democracy system (taking into account dynamics of government and opposition as detailed in weeks 3 and 4)	Assess success of using Mentis (or other digital tools. Readings should be accessible and widely available - newspaper articles and reports. Educational section of the Oireachtas as a useful and accessible tool.
6	#ibelieveher and the role of courts in our democracy	The role played by the courts (also taking into account the role played by the President and others outside Parliament)	Assess possibility of using curated social media threads as an example of how debate can be skewed.
7	#TBT Take a breath and review how what we have learned knits together	Review of what has been learned and bringing discussion to overall analysis of how parliamentary democracy works	Formative Assessment and assess whether tools have been successful. Seek feedback on what has worked.
8	Revisiting #repealtheseal and seeing how laws are made	The specific process of making laws and discussion of how legislative change is achieved versus how people may want it achieved.	Opportunity to try to achieve threshold learning.
9	Revisiting #notmytaoiseach and using your vote to get the Government you want	The daily work of parliament, including keeping government to account through parliamentary questions, Private Members' business, the raising of national and local issues. What changes (and does not change) after elections	
10	#howitstarted and #howitsgoing - What have we learned and putting it into action	Review of course and questions and answers session	Assessment (reflective, discussion-based)

