

Central Michigan University
College of Humanities and Social & Behavioral Sciences

Master Course Syllabus

<u>PSC 353</u>	<u>Model United Nations</u>	<u>3 (3-0)</u>
Design. No.	Title	Credit (Mode)

I. Bulletin Description

Introduces students to the activities of the United Nations and the protocol and procedures of diplomacy in order to participate in United Nations simulations.

II. Prerequisites

26 credits completed or permission of instructor.

III. Rationale for Course Level

No specialized knowledge is required but the course requires cognitive and scholarly skills that are expected to be found at the junior and senior level.

IV. Textbooks and Other Materials To Be Furnished by the Student

Smith, Courtney B. Politics and Process and the United Nations: The Global Dance. Boulder, CO: Lynn Rienner Publishers. 2006.

American Model United Nations International (AMUN) 2006 Representative Handbook (Issues and Rules and Procedures). http://www.amun.org/amun_handbook.php.

Model United Nations Preparation Guide. <http://www.model-un.org>

United Nations Charter <http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/index.html>

V. Special Requirements of the Course

Students will be required to travel in order to attend a Model United Nations simulation as one of the course requirements. Additional fees for conference registration and associated travel costs are required.

VI. General Methodology Used in Conducting the Course

Lectures, guest speakers, in-class group and individual projects and exercises. Students will make oral presentations and complete several written assignments.

VII. Course Objectives

Through study of assigned readings, active participation in class sessions, oral and written presentations, in class simulations, participation in a Model United Nations conference and completion of a research binder, students will demonstrate that they:

1. are able to describe and explain the protocol and procedures of international diplomacy;
2. can identify the institutions of the United Nations, including the Committee system of the General Assembly;
3. are able to debate and discuss selected significant political, governmental, and economic issues confronting the international community;

4. can explain how decision-making within United Nations General Assembly and Security Council occurs;
5. can discuss a selected UN Member State's positions on specific issues in detail;
6. are able to describe and explain the theories of international relations and international events that shaped the organization and evolution of the United Nations.

VIII. Course Outline

Week 1	Orientation to the Model U.N. and Research Techniques
Week 2	UN System Overview
Week 3	Begin overview of assigned Member State
Week 4	United Nations Parliamentary Procedures Overview
Weeks 5-8	Student Presentations on International Issues
Week 9	Resolution writing and caucusing exercises
Weeks 10-12	Conference Diplomacy Practice Simulations
Week 13	Attend Model United Nations Simulation
Week 14	Debrief Conference Participation
Week 15	Theories of International Relations
Week 16	The United Nations, International Diplomacy and International Relations Theories

IX. Evaluation

• Fact Sheet:	5%
• Attendance and Participation:	20%
• Oral Presentation:	15%
• MUN Position Paper:	10%
• MUN "White Paper":	10%
• Research Binder:	25%
• Debriefing / Thought Paper:	10%
• UN Knowledge Final Exam:	<u>5%</u>
	100%

X. Bibliography

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- Coate, Roger A.; Forsythe, David P.; Weiss, Thomas G. The United Nations and Changing World Politics. United States of America: Westview Press. 2001.
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- Higgins, Rosalyn. The Development of International Law through the Political Organs of the United Nations. Great Britain Royal Institute of International Affairs. 1963.
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- Malone, D M. The United Nations and Regional Security: Europe and Beyond. United States of America: Lynne Rienner Publishers. 2003.
- Meyrowitz, Elliot L. Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons: The Relevance of International Law. United States of America: Transnational Publishers, Inc. 1990.
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