The University of Texas at Tyler

Model United Nations I

POLS 4315.001

MWF: 11:15-12:10 PM

RBN 2011

Ms. Melissa Salgado

Office: CAS 114A

Office Hours: MW 1:30-3PM

Email: msalgado@utttyler.edu

Please check Canvas for announcements.

Office Hours: Office hours will be held on Monday/Wednesdays from 1:30-3PM or by appointment. Office hours can be held face to face or students can request a virtual appointment as well.

Form of Contact:

Email: msalgado@uttyler.edu

- Please send an email from your patriots' email only as I will not respond to emails from any other accounts. Email is the best way to contact me.
- During weekdays students can expect an email back within 24 hours, on weekends students can expect at least 48 hours before a response back. (Weekends begin Fridays at 5pm!)
- Please make sure you are paying attention to announcements on Canvas, this will be the main way in which I will communicate with the whole class.

Course Information:

This course will explore the basic foundations of international relations as well as the development of key international organizations (with emphasis on the United Nations). In addition to these theoretical and historic discussions, we will also be exploring many of the key issues that humans are dealing with today.

The course will be divided into two parts.

1. The first part will introduce the students to core aspects of international relations, international institutions (specifically the UN), and contemporary issues in global studies. Students will examine many of the issues and challenges currently on the UN's agenda.
2. The second part of the course will consist of a "mock" Model United Nations. Students will learn how to prepare for Model United Nations conferences. Particular attention will be paid to comprehending and analyzing issues, learning parliamentary procedure (as it applies to Model UN conferences), and technical writing of position papers as expected of Model UN delegates. Using topics and issues discussed at previous Model United Nations conferences; we will conduct our own mini-Model UN within the course structure.

In the second part of the course, we shift from a typical lecture environment to one of more active participation. The students will engage in research, simulations, debates, and presentations. The students will assume the identity of diplomats representing a country in the United Nations. They will learn about parliamentary procedure in the United Nations, write and respond to resolutions, form alliances with like-minded countries to pass these resolutions and respond to international incidents. This will prepare students to become delegates at the National Model United Nations conference held in New York City in the Spring semester. Please note, however, that enrollment in the Fall Model UN course does not guarantee participation in the National Model United Nations conference.

Learning Outcomes:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate:

- familiarity with the historical development of international organizations
- basic knowledge of the structure and purpose of the United Nations
- an understanding of the inner workings of the United Nations
- basic knowledge and understanding of many of the issues currently on the agenda of the United Nations
- familiarity with the assigned country
- familiarity with rules and procedures of Model UN
- familiarity with writing position papers and resolution

Readings

Readings will be available through Canvas. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to obtain the required reading for each class and come to class prepared to discuss that day's readings.

Assignments and Attendance

Class attendance is expected of students whether it is face to face or virtual. Class grades will be determined by the following break-down:

Small Assignments:

Small assignments will be given throughout the semester, most of these will have to deal with writing short paragraphs to get used to writing for Model UN purposes.

Research Presentation:

Students will have a research presentation due over a topic to be discussed at a later time. Presentations will be the week of November 8 and expectations will be discussed in class.

Model UN Mock Simulation:

In this course we will have a mini model UN simulation where we will practice rules of procedure, make speeches, and work on position papers as well as resolutions papers. Each part of this process is critical in learning about Model UN and how to be delegates at the conference itself. Grades for this portion of the course will be determined by participation in the mock conference, a member state profile, and student work on resolutions.

Position Papers :

Position Papers are an incredibly important part of the conference, and we will be going over how to research, and write for these papers. The process for the papers will simulate what we would do for the actual conference which involves a multiple draft process and going over edit together. This is a learning process where students should feel comfortable asking questions to get a better understanding of the process.

High School Conference Paper:

The last thing due for this course is a background guide for the High School Conference the Model UN program hosts each year. This paper is geared towards high school students and is meant to be used for their conference which will occur in the spring.

**Assessment of Student
Learning:**

Small Assignments	**5%**
High School Conference Paper	**15%**
Research Presentation	**15%**
Position Papers	**25%**
Model UN Mock Simulation	**40%**

*This syllabus is subject to change.

UT Tyler Student's Rights & Responsibilities:

UT Tyler AI Policy:

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, we *may* use AI tools (such as ChatGPT and Copilot) to examine how these tools may inform our exploration of the class topics. You will be notified as to when and how these tools will be used, along with guidance for attribution. Using AI tools outside of these parameters violates UT Tyler's Honor Code, constitutes plagiarism, and will be treated as such.