Model UN
Political Science 153 / 353
2005-2006

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Carolyn Shaw
Meeting Time: T/Th 12:30-1:45 LH
Office hours: T/Th 10:30 - 12:00; M/W 1:00 - 2:00; or by appointment
Lindquist Hall Room 418 B
Phone: Office 978-7130
691-9697 (home, between 9 am - 9 pm)
email: carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu

Overview
The Model United Nations program is designed to prepare students to participate in two Model UN conferences in the academic year. At these conferences students will represent diplomats from a foreign country in a simulation of UN committee meetings. In these committee meetings, “diplomats” representing countries around the world will write (mock) formal resolutions in an effort to address a wide variety of global problems (ex: maintaining international peace and security, protecting human rights, providing developmental assistance, and protecting the environment).

Early in the fall semester, the advisor will introduce MUN members to the wide variety of activities carried out by the UN on a daily basis. The advisor will also provide background information on the countries the team is representing so that students can more easily ‘step into the foreign diplomat’s shoes’. Once students have background knowledge of UN structure and functions, members will begin their committee research on the specific topics to be addressed in the conferences. Finally, as the conferences approach, the team will focus on learning the rules and procedures for the committee meetings.

Course Design
This course is designed specifically to prepare students to perform well at the Model UN conferences held in November 2005 and February 2006. Emphasis is placed on developing students' writing, research and speaking skills. By engaging in short assignments and in-class activities throughout the semester, students will not only become more knowledgeable about a variety of global issues, but will also become comfortable with discussing these issues with each other and advocating their own views.

Required Textbook
Graded Components:

1. Attendance 10 points
2. News Analysis Journal 20 points (5 points for each entry)
3. Position Paper (Chicago)
   - Draft 5 points
   - Revision 5 points
   - Final 10 points

   Position Paper (St. Louis)
   - Draft topic 1 5 points
   - Draft topic 2 5 points
   - Final 10 points
4. Committee Presentation (Chicago) 10 points
5. Committee Presentation (St. Louis) 10 points
6. Opening speech
   - Chicago 5 points
   - St. Louis 5 points
7. Conference Participation
   - Chicago 20 points
   - St. Louis 20 points

TOTAL 140 points

A = 126 - 140 points
B = 112 - 125 points
C = 98 - 111 points
D = 84 - 97 points
F = 83 or below

1. Attendance
   Participants are expected to attend class regularly. Students are encouraged to be actively involved in Model UN through asking questions, participating in discussions, and discussing their research findings with their teammates. I recognize that it is a challenge to make it to every class during the semester. Four absences will be excused without any loss of points. One point will be taken off for each day missed after 4 absences. If you know that you are going to be absent, make an effort to get a copy of notes from that day's discussion.

2. News Analysis Journal
   During the first 4 weeks of class, students will look for news articles regarding global issues to analyze. Students must print the article, write a brief summary of its content (1 paragraph), explain their own reaction to the information in the article (1 paragraph), and attempt to articulate Australia's view on the issue. Students will make 1 entry in their journal each week and turn it in on Thursday during class.
   - 5 points for complete entries (with all 3 components), turned in on time
   - 3 points for late or incomplete entries
   - 0 points for no entry
3. **Position Papers**

Each student will be assigned to a committee on which the team’s country serves in the UN. There will probably be two members per committee who will work collaboratively on their research. The committee members will research the country’s position on 2 issue areas. Even though students may conduct their research together and serve on the committee together at the conferences, they are required to write their own individual position papers. These papers must be no longer than 2 pages, single spaced and should follow the format established in class.

A position paper should include:

1. An introduction with history of your country’s involvement with the topic  
   (Ex: Norway has actively participated in UN peacekeeping for several decades including operations in ___ and ___ with ___# of troops)

2. Discussion of your country’s current policies on the topic, including why each policy was chosen over other policies.  
   (Ex: Norway takes an active interest in achieving peace in the Middle East and has been fundamental in the signing of the Oslo Accords. Norway is in a unique position as a mediator because it has a clear understanding of Palestinian demands and a working relationship with the PLO, but the Norwegian people also have considerable interest in and support for Israel as a nation.

3. Conclusion - list potential resolutions or wording that the country might be willing to support in drafting new documents to address current problems.

*** Prof. Shaw will schedule research appointments with all participants to help them get their committee research underway.

Grading for the position papers is as follows:

- **First drafts**
  - 5 points for papers turned in on time
  - 0 points for late papers

- **Revisions**
  - 5 points for clearly written, accurate papers, turned in on time.
  - 3 points for papers with grammatical and factual errors.
  - 0 points for late papers

- **Final**
  - 10 points for clearly written papers with strong substantive content and clear country position
  - 7 points for papers with weak content and/or ambiguous policy position
  - 5 points for late papers regardless of their merit

**AMUN papers:**

- Draft due Oct 4 (Tuesday)
- Revisions due Oct 25 (Tuesday)
- Final due Nov 10 (Thursday)

**MMUN papers:**

- Draft of Topic 1 due Dec 6.
- Draft of Topic 2 due Jan 24.
- Final Draft due Feb 7.
4. **Research Presentation**
Each committee will prepare an oral report of their findings presented in their position papers, including background information and the reasons for the position taken. Each group of presenters needs to prepare a 1-2 page handout for the class summarizing their main points (see assignment paper for suggestions). Both committee members should divide the labor and give part of the report. A single grade will be assigned for each committee.

- 10 points - clear presentation/ summary, handout, able to answer questions
- 7 - lacking in one area above
- 5 - weak presentation
- 0 - no presentation

5. **Opening Speech**
Prior to the first conference, students will prepare a brief opening speech (approximately 1 minute) and present this to the class for practice.

- 5 points - speech presented
- 0 points - no speech given

6. **Conference Participation**
The readings, lectures, and activities throughout the semester are all geared to prepare students for the MUN conferences in November (18 - 22) and February (21 - 26). The more that students put into these conferences, the more they get out of them. There are no specific requirements for the conference such as making a speech in front of the committee, or getting your own resolution passed, HOWEVER, students are expected to be in their committees on time and to be engaged in the work of the body throughout the conference.

- 20 points given for full attendance and on time arrival in your committee.
- 2 points deducted for each tardy occurrence (as determined by committee roll call at the start of each session) and for absence from committee.

**
Although some students are participating as club members, not for credit, I have the same expectations for all participants. Everyone is preparing to perform well at the conferences and needs to put in the work necessary to do so.

**

**Academic Freedom / Respect for Others**
Each student is encouraged to participate in class discussions. In any discussion of political ideas, there are bound to be many differing points of view. Students may not only disagree with each other, but may also have disparate views from me on sensitive and volatile topics. It is my hope that these differences will enhance discussion and create an atmosphere where students and instructor alike will be encouraged to think and learn. Therefore, be assured that your grades will not be adversely affected by any beliefs or ideas expressed in class or your assignments. Rather, we will all respect the views of others when expressed in classroom discussions.
Travel
1. MUN Retreat
   Every fall MUN participants travel to Camp Horizon in Arkansas City for a 1
   night / 1 day retreat. This is designed to be a fun time when students get to know
   their team mates better and learn more about themselves as well. There is NO
   CHARGE for the retreat. ALL participants are STRONGLY urged to attend.

2. Conferences
   Participation in the conferences is a excused absence for your courses. Although a
   note will be provided to students to give to their professors, it is the student's
   responsibility to arrange with their instructor to make up any missed work.

American Model United Nations Friday November 18 - Tues Nov 22, 2005 in Chicago.
Midwest Model United Nations Tues February 21 - Sun February 26, 2006 in St. Louis

Travel to and participation in Midwest Model UN (MMUN) is contingent on
preparations and performance at the American Model UN. Failure to adhere to
MUN and university guidelines may also result in non-participation in the
MMUN trip.

MUN participants are encouraged to work together as a team. Everyone has
valuable knowledge and skills that they can share with others in the group.
Support each other in your preparations and conference work. Communicate
with each other often. Work collaboratively. Seek feedback from each other.

Resources
The WSU Model UN room (Lindquist 412) is full of resources to help you with your
research. There is a desktop computer (and 2 laptops) with fast internet access and
printers. There are over 100 new UN publications on a variety of topics in the MUN
library. There are also journals and other periodicals to help you learn more about UN
activities. Students should also look for previous years A Global Agenda: Issues before
the United Nations (year). These books list many of the topics being addressed by UN
agencies and gives summaries of the key issues.

The course is facilitated by Blackboard, an online web aid accessible to all WSU
students. The Blackboard page for the MUN contains a copy of the syllabus, tips to
writing position papers, some of the class handouts, and numerous web links to UN
agencies, other international organizations, information on Australia and Egypt and
information on MMUN and AMUN conferences. In order to access this site
(www.blackboard.wichita.edu) you need your student id number and pin number.

The Faculty Advisor will provide you with a number of handouts throughout the semester
to help you in your conference preparation. Much effort has been made to cull through
materials and only pass along those that are of key importance to you. Be sure to READ
YOUR HANDOUTS.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 18 (Th)</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 23 (T)</td>
<td>History and structure of the UN</td>
<td>Read handout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 25</td>
<td>History and structure of the UN</td>
<td>A Global Agenda</td>
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<td>Aug 30 (T)</td>
<td>Conflict / Terrorism</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>News Analysis (1) Due</td>
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<td>Sept 6 (T)</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<td>Sept 8</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td>News Analysis (2) Due in Dept office (LH 418)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 13 (T)</td>
<td>Development / Trade</td>
<td>Chapters 3 and 6</td>
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<td>Sept 15</td>
<td>Human Rights / Environment</td>
<td>News Analysis (3) Due</td>
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<td>Sept 20</td>
<td>Writing a Position Paper / Australia Overview</td>
<td>Read handouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 22</td>
<td>Australia - Guest speaker</td>
<td>News Analysis (4) Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 23 - 24 (Fri/ Sat)</td>
<td>RETREAT at Camp Horizon</td>
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<td>Sept 27 (T)</td>
<td>Disarmament and Proliferation</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
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<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Disarmament and Proliferation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 4 (T)</td>
<td>Writing Resolutions / Rules and Procedures</td>
<td>Read handouts Draft position papers due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 6</td>
<td>Writing Position Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 11 (T)</td>
<td>Simulation 1</td>
<td>Review Procedures handout</td>
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<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 18 (T)</td>
<td>NO MEETING - October Break</td>
<td>Revise position papers</td>
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<td>Oct 20</td>
<td>NO MEETING</td>
<td>Revised Position papers due by 4:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 25 (T)</td>
<td>Simulation 2</td>
<td>[deadline for AMUN submission]</td>
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<td>Oct 27</td>
<td>Committee Preparation</td>
<td>Prepare presentation materials</td>
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<td>Nov 1 (T)</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
<td>Research Handouts Due</td>
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<td>Nov 3</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
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<td>Nov 8 (T)</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
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<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
<td>Final position papers due</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 15</td>
<td>Opening speeches</td>
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<td>Nov 17</td>
<td>Strategy Session</td>
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<td>Nov 18 - 22 (Fri - Tues)</td>
<td><strong>CHICAGO - AMUN Conference</strong></td>
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<td>Nov 29 (T)</td>
<td>Overview Egypt</td>
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<td>Dec 1 (Th)</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
<td><strong>Topic 1 Draft position paper due (MMUN)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6 (T)</td>
<td>NO CLASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 9 or 17</td>
<td>End of the Year Gathering?</td>
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**Spring Semester 2005**

**Tuesday Meetings ONLY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 17</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 24</td>
<td>MMUN Rules and Procedures</td>
<td><strong>Topic 2 Draft position paper due (MMUN)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 31</td>
<td>Speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
<td>Prepare 1 page handouts for class</td>
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<td><strong>Final Position Paper Due</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 14</td>
<td>Committee Research Presentations</td>
<td>Prepare 1 page handouts for class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 21-26</td>
<td><strong>ST LOUIS - MMUN Conference</strong></td>
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