Overview
The Model United Nations program is designed to prepare students to participate in two Model UN conferences during 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).

The class will begin with an introduction to the history and structure of the UN, then the focus will shift to the wide variety of issues that the UN addresses around the world. 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 2012 and February 2013. 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. Because students are preparing to attend a conference in November, the work load and preparations will be quite intense. Students should expect to have written work, oral presentations or in-class work due every week.

Course Objectives
This is not a traditional style course. The learning objectives are broader than simply learning about a topic and being able to take an exam or write a research paper on it. Following students' participation in the Model UN Conferences at the end of the course, students should 1) have a deeper understanding and appreciation of the complexity of the UN system 2) have a deeper understanding of a particular issue area that the international community is trying to address, 3) recognize that there are a wide range of global perspectives and points of view of other countries, 4) gain greater skill in caucusing and consensus building among actors with different interests, and 5) improve their independent research and writing skills. It is my hope that as you learn more about the interests of other countries, you will also more fully develop your own views of international politics and gain a new respect for other cultures and perspectives.
**Required Reading**

There is no required textbook, but participants should read all of the provided handouts carefully and devote themselves to their research readings.

**Graded Components:**

1. Attendance 10 points
2. Quiz (on UN structure) 10 points
3. Position Paper (St. Louis)
   - Draft 5 points
   - Revision 5 points
   - Final 10 points

   Position Paper (Turkey)*
   - Draft 5 points
   - Final 10 points
4. Annotated Bibliography 15 points
5. Committee Presentation (St. Louis) 10 points
6. Ambassadorial speech (St. Louis)
   - Topic 1 5 points
   - Topic 2 5 points
7. Research Binder
   - St. Louis 25 points
   - Turkey* 25 points
8. Conference Participation
   - High School conference 10 points
   - St. Louis 20 points
   - Turkey* 20 points

**TOTAL** 190 points

- **A** = 177 - 190 points
- **A-** = 171 - 177
- **B +** = 162 - 170
- **B** = 153 - 161
- **C +** = 143 - 152
- **C** = 134 - 142
- **D +** = 125 - 133
- **D** = 116 - 124
- **F** = 115 or below

* Participation in the Turkey Conference is competitive and not guaranteed. The students who have made the strongest preparations for the St. Louis conference will be selected to travel to Turkey. If you do not attend Turkey, your grade will be calculated based only on the St. Louis graded components.
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. Two absences will be excused without any loss of points. One point will be taken off for each day missed after 2 absences. If you know that you are going to be absent, try to let me know in advance, and make an effort to get a copy of notes from that day's discussion.

2. **UN Quiz**
   This quiz will be over the history and structure of the UN, taken from the assigned reading and lecture materials. Part multiple choice, part short answer.

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 2-3 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. [Note: committee members need to have a combined final position paper].

   A position paper should include:
   a. State why the problem is important. Who should care about it? Why is it on the UN’s agenda? Are there potential negative consequences to not addressing the problem?

   b. What work has been done already to address this issue? What UN agencies deal with it? You can frame these in terms of an assessment - the agencies are “effective”, “successful”, “overburdened” etc. What conventions, conferences, meetings, etc have been held? What documents have come out of these meetings? Resolutions, treaties, conventions? Frame these in terms of your country's support (or rejection) of these efforts.

   c. Link your country to the work that has been done. Have you contributed funds? Sponsored/attended conferences? Signed treaties? Have you taken notable steps domestically to address this issue? (This is less important than 3.)

   d. Propose some specific steps to resolve the problem. These may not be directly linked to your country’s position, but should not be contradictory to your interests. Focus can be on multilateral steps, or on regional organizations, or on pursuing domestic/national legislation that will address the problem. Try to limit yourself to three clear plans of action. “Britain believes there are three key steps to be taken: first, ... second, ... third....”

*** 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

**The revised and final position papers must be turned in with the original paper to indicate progress and revisions.**

St. Louis papers:
- **Draft** due Tues Nov 5 (in class)
- **Revisions** due Tues Nov 26 (1 paper copy to class + email to Prof. Shaw)
- **Final Draft** due Thurs Dec 12 (by email only, by 1:00 pm).

Turkey papers:
- **Draft** due January 28
- **Final** due TBA

4. **Annotated Bibliography**
   Each committee will receive a "background guide" of information on their committee's topics. This guide will include a list of key bibliographic resources. Students must download/print all of these documents, read them, and type up a brief summary (5-10 sentences) on each source. If the list is extensive (more than 15 sources), Prof. Shaw will help you select which ones to focus on.

5. **Research Presentation**
   Each committee will prepare an oral report of their research findings. The presentation will present each committee's 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.

   **Final Report**
   - 10 points – clear presentation/ summary, handout, able to answer questions
   - 7 – lacking in one area above
   - 5- weak presentation
   - 0- no presentation
6. **Ambassadorial Speech**
Prior to the conferences, students will prepare a brief opening speech (approximately 1 - 2 minutes) and present this to the class for practice.
   - 5 points – speech presented
   - 0 points – no speech given

7. **Research Binder**
Students will collect and organize all of their research materials in a binder. The binder should contain each of the components listed below and will be turned in as the research is concluded (and returned before each conference begins).

- National statistics summary page; and State Dept background notes
- Position paper
- Country ambassadorial statements/ speeches (including your own from class)
- List of regional neighbors / potential caucus partners and conference goals
- Conference Rule and Procedures
- Committee Background Guide
- UN Docs - resolutions/ declarations/ conventions, etc. - With Annotations
- Relevant news articles

   - 25 points – complete binder with all components, turned in on time
   - 20 points – 1 or 2 components missing, or turned in late
   - 15 points – 3 or more component missing
   - 0 points – no binder turned in

8. **Conference Participation**
The readings, lectures, and activities throughout the semester are all geared to prepare students for the MUN conferences in February and March. 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.

**Wichita Area Model United Nations (WA-MUN)** is a high school conference that we will be hosting on Friday, January 24, 2014 (8:30 – 4:30). You will be the dais staff for this conference. Everyone is expected to contribute to organizing and leading this conference in some capacity. Plan to attend pre-conference training session on Jan 21 (T) (12:30 - 1:45).

**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.**

**SPRING SCHEDULING:** WE WILL CONTINUE TO MEET FROM JAN 20 - FEB 11 ONE TUESDAYS ONLY TO PREPARE FOR OUR FINAL CONFERENCE. PLEASE AVOID SCHEDULING SPRING CLASSES FROM 12:30-1:45 T.
Committee Partners
Any student who is assigned a partner to work with on their committee must be responsible for communicating with their partner regularly. Each partner should do an equal share of the work in preparation for the conference. If you are having trouble contacting your partner at any time, please be sure to include me in your correspondence, or speak with me specifically, so that I’m aware of the problem.

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.

Credit hours
Success in this 3 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend, 3 hours per week, with 1 of the hours used for lecture and at least 2 hours toward preparation/studying or other course related activities, for a total of 135 hours.

Travel
1. MUN Retreat
   Every fall MUN participants attend a retreat. This is designed to be a fun time when students get to know their teammates 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.

Midwest Model United Nations Tues Feb 18 - Sat Feb 22 in St. Louis.

Participation in Model UN is contingent on adequate preparations and appropriate performance at the Model UN conferences. Failure to adhere to MUN and university guidelines may also result in an early return from the conference.

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 are three desktop computers with fast internet access and printers. There are over 100 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 our countries and information on MMUN and AMUN conferences. In order to access this site (www.blackboard.wichita.edu) you need your MyWSU 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.

App from iTunes store for Model UN:
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 17 (Th)</td>
<td>Introduction / UN History and Structure</td>
<td>Read handouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 22 (T)</td>
<td>Overview of Committee Topic Areas/ Iraq / Netherlands</td>
<td>UN Quiz Read State Dept Background Notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 24 (Th)</td>
<td>How to Write a Position Paper</td>
<td>Read 'How to Write a Position Paper'</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 29 (T)</td>
<td>Committee Research work</td>
<td>@ Ablah Library room 217</td>
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<td>Oct 31 (Th)</td>
<td>No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 5 (T)</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>Draft Position Paper Due Read 'Public Speaking Tips'</td>
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<td>Nov 7 (Th)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 12 (T)</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>Give Ambassadorial speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 14 (Th)</td>
<td>How to Write Resolutions</td>
<td>Read 'How to Write a Resolution'</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 16 (Sat)</td>
<td>MUN Retreat</td>
<td>Not required, but strongly encouraged. FREE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 19 (T)</td>
<td>Rules and Procedures</td>
<td>Carefully read Delegate Handbook</td>
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<td>Nov 21 (Th)</td>
<td>WSU Simulation</td>
<td>Be sure to read through Delegate Handbook in advance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 26 (T)</td>
<td>Committee Research work</td>
<td>Revised Position Paper Due (1 paper copy to class + email to me)</td>
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<td>Nov 28 (Th)</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING</td>
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<td>Dec 3 (T)</td>
<td>SC Simulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 5 (Th)</td>
<td>Committee Presentations</td>
<td>Research Binder Due</td>
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<td>Dec 12 (Th) @ 1:00</td>
<td>Committee Presentations</td>
<td>Final Position Paper Due (digital copy)</td>
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**Spring Semester 2014**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21 (Tues)</td>
<td>First meeting - Spring semester TRAINING FOR WA-MUN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 24 (FRI)</td>
<td>WA- MUN Conference</td>
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<td>Jan 28 (T)</td>
<td>Turkey Position papers due (draft)</td>
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<td>Feb 4 (T)</td>
<td>2nd Ambassadorial Speech</td>
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<td>Feb 11 (T)</td>
<td>Final meeting for St. Louis preparation</td>
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<td><strong>Feb 18 – 22 (T-Sat)</strong></td>
<td>Midwest Model United Nations Conference – St. Louis</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>March</strong></td>
<td>Model UN Turkey MUNTR</td>
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