

**PLS 2060-01: Model United Nations
Fall 2011—Oxendine 1256**

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Class Hours: M 12:20-1:10 PM
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Course Description: This course will provide the necessary skills, background and preparation for successful participation in the Southeast Regional University Model United Nations, to be held in Atlanta November 17-19.. This year UNCP will represent Germany at the conference.

The format for class meetings will consist of a number of teaching methods—lectures tied to learning about both Germany and parliamentary procedure, as well as in-class workshops intended to get students familiar with Robert's Rules and other forms of etiquette and protocol tied to the conference. We will also practice once or twice.

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.

Course Objectives

Following students' participation in the Model UN Conference 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
5. Improve independent research and writing skills.
6. Gain an understanding of parliamentary procedure and develop a level of comfort to work under those strict conditions.

Text: There are no required books for this class. However, I do recommend that students consult the following web sites for more information on the two countries and the conference:

www.un.org United Nations official website

www.srmun.org useful links on general and country-specific preparation, including position paper guidelines and helpful videos on parliamentary procedure.

[Reed's Parliamentary Rules](#)

Please also join the UNCP Model United Nations Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/uncpmun/>. There are a number of links and videos there that you will find useful.

Participants should read all of the provided handouts carefully and devote themselves to their research readings.

Attendance: Attendance is expected in this class. We are only meeting a limited number of times, and having a grasp on the concepts we learn in this course is integral to your performance at the conference. As such, three unexcused absences will result in automatic failure in this class.

Tardiness: Do not make it a habit of arriving into my class late. I will keep track of late arrivals, and two tardies will count the same as one absence for the purpose of attendance grades. This policy is instituted to discourage chronic tardiness which has become increasingly prevalent in recent semesters.

Classroom Etiquette: While as a whole I have minimal in-classroom requirements, I do expect some degree of respect to be shown in the classroom environment. This includes having your cell phone OFF or on VIBRATE when in class, not bringing your breakfast or lunch into class, not studying for another test while in my class, and not talking when others are. Systematic violations of this can result in a reduction of grade. This is a university-level class, and you will be treated as adults. As such, you will be expected to act like adults.

Office Visits: You are more than welcome to meet with me at any time that is mutually convenient. My office hours are listed at the top of this syllabus. If these times are not convenient to you, we can easily arrange some other time. Do not assume that office visits are only to address problems you might be having in class. I'm happy to talk about whatever you like, including any difficulties you may be having in class.

Students with Disabilities: Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to speak directly to Disability Support Services and the instructor, as early in the semester as possible. All discussions will remain confidential. Please contact DSS at 521-6695. This syllabus is also available in alternative formats upon request. Please call the aforementioned number if you desire this. Do not spring this on me on the day of a test.

Grading: Grading will come from three primary areas in this course. The first segment is the completion of a comprehensive position paper that will advocate the country's objectives and goals tied to the three topics of discussion in your assigned committee. These will be single-spaced, approximately two (2) pages in length, and should follow the appropriate format. These will be used during the actual simulation in November. The second grading component is class participation. You will be required to give short public speeches and actively participate in formal and informal caucuses in preparation for the simulation. Finally, you will be graded based on your performance and participation at the regional conference. Your performance will be evaluated on the basis of *informed* and regular participation in the MAL sessions. It is expected that students will behave in a professional, punctual, and personable manner.

Position Paper.....	100 points
Class Participation.....	100 points
Conference Performance.....	100 points
TOTAL	300 points

Note: Winning an official award of any type at the SRMUN Conference will result in an automatic grade of "A" for the course.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty of any variety will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, unauthorized collaboration on an assignment, and plagiarism. Any instance coming to the attention of the instructor will result in the assignment of an "F" grade for the course, and notification of appropriate Deans. In order to ensure that you understand what constitutes plagiarism and academic dishonesty, please read the complete description of the UNCP policy on academic dishonesty, which is available in the student handbook and online at <http://www.uncp.edu/studentconduct/honor/>.

Disclaimer: We all know how boring long, droning lectures can be. Teachers can learn a few things from class discussion, too. But above all, I want this class to be both FUN and INTERESTING for all of us!

Date	Topic
Aug 22	Preliminaries, logistics, and committee assignments
Aug 29	Introduction to the United Nations
Sept 5	No Class: Labor Day Holiday
Sept 12-19	History and Politics of Germany
Sept 26-Oct 3	Writing Position Papers
Oct 10-17	Rules of Procedure
Oct 10	Final Position Papers Due
Oct 24-31	Writing Draft Resolutions
Nov 7-14	Session Simulations
Nov 16-19	Travel to and participation in Southeastern Regional Model United Nations in Atlanta.

2011 SRMUN Committee Agendas

General Assembly Plenary

- I: Examining the Economic and Environmental Effects of Agricultural Practices on Member States
- II: Analyzing Member State Security Policies to Promote Economic Growth
- III: Engaging the Youth of Member States Economically, Politically, and Socially

General Assembly Third Committee

- I. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice System
- II. Rehabilitation of Multilateral Funding: Responding to the Economic Instability of the Global Economy
- III. Combating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Increased Drug Trafficking and Black Market Trade

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

- I: Coordinating Macroeconomic Policy in the Digital Service Age
- II: Ensuring Standardized and Coordinated Financial Investments and Trade in West Africa
- III: Defining and Promoting the Role of Non-State Actors in Trade and Development

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

- I: Encouraging the Establishment of Multinational Corporations within the Borders of Latin American Member States
- II: Opportunities and Risks for Regional Investments in Biofuels
- III: Fighting Drug Production and Trafficking in Latin American Member States

Commission on the Status of Women

- I. Moving Beyond Micro-financing; Ensuring Diverse Sustainable Development Opportunities for Women
- II. Education and Empowerment; Reassessing Opportunities for Women after the Global Financial Crisis
- III. Gender Mainstreaming and Economic Empowerment: Evaluating Strategies for Gender Equality after the Beijing Conference

Commission on Sustainable Development

- I: Investing in Sustainable Development Efforts in Developing Member States
- II: Responsible Management of Water Resources to Prevent Destruction of Ecosystems
- III: Improving Access to Healthcare in the Developing World

World Food Programme

- I. Combating Global Malnourishment: An Assessment of World Efforts to Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- II. Examining the Impact of Natural Disasters on Food Distribution
- III. Establishing Partnerships to Improve Economic Access and Resources for Developing States

North Atlantic Treaty Organization*

- I. Examining NATO's Role in the Africa-EU Energy Partnership
- II. Ensuring NATO's Ability to Operate Effectively in Time of Economic Turbulence
- III. A Review of Policies to Prepare for, Prevent and Deter Maritime Piracy

Security Council*

The Security Council will have an open agenda.

* North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Security Council are single-delegate committees. All other committees allow up to two delegates to represent each country.