

**Political Science 180**  
**United Nations Studies**  
Fall 2018 Syllabus

Meeting: xxxxxxxx  
Instructor: xxxxxxxx  
Office: xxxxxxxx  
Office Phone: xxxxxxxx  
Email: xxxxxxxx  
Office Hours: xxxxxxxx



### **Course Description**

This course will provide introduce you to the United Nations and the role it plays in the modern world. It will also prepare you to participate in a collegiate Model United Nations conference. Your experience at this conference will help you develop skills that will help your success in future endeavors, including being able to write clearly and concisely, conduct detailed research, speak persuasively in public, and build consensus between differing views. Past participants have gone on to use these skills in upper division college courses, student government, governmental internships, graduate studies, law school, and private business. Because of their universal benefit, these skills are well-worth pursuing. But they come only with effort on your part; all I can do is provide you the opportunity to acquire them. You will get out of this course what you put into it. The course is hybrid by design. We will meet in class Monday and Wednesday. Friday is a work day, and I will be in class for personalized assistance with the research, writing, and presentations you will need to succeed in the course.

### **Required Texts**

Dille, Brian. 2017. *Engaging the United Nations*. Engagement Learning. ISBN: 978-0-9988518-0-8  
You can purchase a copy of the text in class at a discount, or at [www.engagingtheun.com](http://www.engagingtheun.com). You can use either the paper or digital version.

You will also learn about the UN through the research you do and the on-line resources I will direct you to. One source to use is the UN Wire – on-line newsletter. Subscribe for free at <http://r.smartbrief.com/resp/efjvCccamnCfshmqCidafSBWcNWJPZ>

We will use a shared Google folder, accessible with your Maricopa email account. Let your instructor know if you do not yet have access to it.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **Attendance**

Regular attendance is crucial to the quality of the class for both yourself and your classmates. If you must be late or absent, notify me before the meeting by phone or email. Any student who

misses three classes may be dropped.

### **Participation/Attendance**

We rely on your active participation in the discussions and simulations at the weekly meetings. This means speaking frequently and showing through your behavior a desire to learn the material and procedures of conference. You will receive points for participating in many of the class exercises and simulations. Of course, you can't participate if you aren't here, so be sure to come to each class. If you miss more than three classes you may be dropped from the course.

### **Class Exercises**

Each chapter in the text includes a class exercise. You will be expected to prepare for and participate in these activities. You will be graded for each exercise on either the work you submit or your participation, depending on the nature of the exercise. Each exercise is worth 20 points.

### **Class Presentation**

The text is introductory in nature. This assignment is an opportunity to explore one chapter in depth and share your insights with the class. You will sign up for the chapter of your choice, then select one agreement, agency, or historical episode mentioned in that chapter to research further. You will then give a 5-10 minute presentation to the class on that topic. The presentation is due the first day that chapter is discussed, you will be introducing the topic to the class. You are encouraged to use audio and/or visual elements in your presentation, which is worth 25 points.

### **Exams**

To assess your understanding of the course material, there will be a short multiple choice quiz for each chapter and three midterm exams composed of short answer essays. Each quiz is worth 10 points and each midterm exam will be worth 40 points.

### **Credential Packet Contribution**

To obtain credentials to attend a conference, each country team must submit a country profile and a policy statement for each agenda item being discussed in the conference committees. This means that each team member must submit two policy statements and a draft resolution. These will be worth 100 points each. You will turn in drafts well before the end of the term and have lots of opportunity to revise and resubmit them before the end of the term.

### **MUN Conference Participation**

This is the primary purpose behind the course, and if you have prepared well you will have a great time. It is fun and exciting to interact with other college students from excellent schools. MCC has a history of performing as well or better than our peers, and that is a reward in itself. You will earn 50 points each day of conference. Note that these points will reflect the level of your participation, not the results of whatever committee you are engaged in. Your grade is not dependent on whether or not your resolution gets passed, but rather on your ability to function as a diplomat at conference. As preparing for this conference is central to the course, attendance is mandatory, so failure to attend will result in being dropped from the course.

### **Final Essay**

At the end of the term, you will turn in your final drafts of your policy statements and resolution.

You will also will write a short essay reflecting on your experience. This is to be an academic assessment, not a personal essay. It is to be five pages, double-spaced. In the essay, answer the following questions. First, what did you learn about the United Nations that you did not know before this class? Second, in what way did the MUN conference you attend **not** match your expectations? Third, identify the most important thing you learned from the entire experience, including the preparation stage. You can submit this essay to me personally, to the social/cultural office staff, or to my email address. This assignment is worth 100 points.

### **Point Summary**

Class Exercises (8 @ 20 pts)	160 pts
Topic Presentation	25 pts
Quizzes (9 @ 10 pts)	90 pts
Exams (3 @ 40 pts)	120 pts
Policy Statements (2 @ 100 pts)	200 pts
Resolution	100 pts
MUN Conference	200 pts
Reflective Essay	<u>100 pts</u>
Total	995 pts

Grades will be determined on a traditional percentage scale: 90%+ = A, 80 – 89% = B, etc.

## Course Schedule

### August

- 21 Orientation
- 23 Chap 1 content
- 28 Chap 1 Sim
- 30 Chap 1 Sim

### September

- 4 Chap 2 Content
- 6 Chap 2 Content – Presentations
- 11 Chap 2 Sim
- 13 MUNGSW Country/Committee Selection – Basic Policy Statement Structure
- 18 Chap 3 Content – Presentations
- 20 Chap 3 Content
- 25 Chap 3 Sim
- 27 Chap 3 Sim, Policy 1 draft due, Exam 1 out

### October

- 2 Chap 4 Content – Presentations, Exam 1 due
- 4 Chap 4 Sim
- 9 Chap 4 Content
- 11 Chap 4 Sim
- 16 Chap 5 Content – Presentations
- 18 Chap 5 Sim
- 23 Chap 6 Content – Presentations
- 25 Chap 6 Sim, Policy 2 draft due, Exam 2 out
- 30 Chap 7 Content – Presentations, Exam 2 due

### November

- 1 Chap 7 Content
- 6 Chap 7 Sim
- 8 Chap 7 Sim
- 13 MUNGSW conference
- 15 Chap 8 Content – Presentations
- 20 Chap 8 Sim
- 22 Research
- 27 Chap 9 Content and Sim
- 29 Research, Resolution draft due, Exam 3 out

### December

- 4 Research, Exam 3 due
- 6 Research
- 11 No class
- 13 Final Essay Due