

Model United Nations

UGRA_013005

Departments	Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability
Teaching Languages	English
ECTS	3
Teacher responsible	Semeriak Gavrilena Aleksandra - aleksandra.semeriak@esade.edu

Course Goals

The following objectives should be met upon successful completion of this course:

Acquiring knowledge of how the United Nations (UN) System and related multilateral organisations operate.

Understanding how diplomacy works in practice: role of governments, inclusion and development of topics in the international agenda, foreign policy, and decision-making.

Learning intercultural mediation and negotiation strategies in international affairs.

Obtaining practical experience on how Model United Nations (MUN) conferences work.

Prior knowledge

Students are expected to have a general knowledge of Politics, International Relations, and History.

Prerequisites

No specific requirements are established for this course.

Teaching methodology

In class, on-campus:

Lectures: presentation of the concepts of the module along with case-studies.

Model United Nations Simulation: individually or in groups, students will be assigned a delegation/country in a specific United Nations committee, agency or in another international organisation or forum to discuss a current international issue.

Outside class: Individual study and teamwork.

This course comprises both formative and formally assessed components. Students may get feedback in both group and one-on-one tutorial sessions (upon demand). The teaching team will adapt the simulation process as the sessions progress to ensure that all students have an opportunity to meet key assessment requirements; in some cases, this requires influencing the flow of debate and conduct of proceedings.

Description

Course contribution to program

The purpose of this course is to provide an interactive educational experience for students to learn about the United Nations System, international affairs, foreign policy and the art of diplomacy.

Short description

Model United Nations: Diplomatic Skills introduces students to the functioning of the United Nations System, diplomacy, negotiation and related topics discussed in multilateral organisations (peace and security, human rights, use of force, sustainable development, international economics, forced displacement, statelessness, democracy and rule of law).

The course focuses on the art of diplomacy and its key skills: researching, public speaking, writing, agenda-setting, negotiation, and intercultural mediation.

Program Learning Objectives

GEL23-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order

- Responsible Leadership
 - Recognize the social impact of international organizations and governments decisions.
- Communication Skills
 - Communicate effectively through written interventions.
 - Communicate effectively through oral interventions.
- Teamwork
 - Contribute to a positive team dynamic through own behavior.
- Diversity Understanding and Appreciation
 - Contribute to work in a multicultural environment respecting the principle of equality and taking into account the gender perspective.
- International Relations and Global Governance
 - Apply geopolitical analysis to decision-making by the different actors involved in international relations.

Bibliography

White, N., The law of international organisations: Third edition (Melland Schill Studies in International Law), Manchester University Press, 9780719097744 (Book)

Karns, M.; Mingst, K. & Stiles, K., International Organizations: The Politics and Processes of Global Governance Third Edition, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc., 9781626371514 (Book)

Cooper, A.; Heine J. & Thakur, R., The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Oxford University Press, 9780198743668 (Book)

Berridge, G.R., Diplomacy: Theory and Practice Fifth Edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 1137445513 (Book)

Griffiths, M.; O'Callaghan, T. & Roach, S., International Relations: The Key Concepts Third Edition, Routledge, 9780415844949 (Book)

Activities

Role-play exercises and simulations

Individually or in groups, students will be assigned a delegation/country in a specific United Nations committee, agency or in another international organisation or forum to discuss a current international issue.

Essays

An individual essay on current international issues is expected as part of the assessment.

Research work and projects

For the Model United Nations simulation, students will have to carry out research and prepare a diplomatic paper and a final report.

Content

#	Topic
1	Introduction to the United Nations: Basic concepts and functioning of the United Nations System.
2	The Art of Diplomacy: Introduction to diplomacy, foreign Policy and agenda-setting, multilateral diplomacy, negotiation and mediation.
3	Diplomatic Skills: Researching, Public International Law, diplomatic language, public speaking and writing skills.
4	Model United Nations

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Individual or team exercises	Diplomatic Paper	Ordinary round	25.00%
Individual or team exercises	Individual Assessment	Ordinary round	25.00%
Individual or team exercises	Simulation Report	Ordinary round	20.00%
Individual or team exercises	Participation in simulation and public speaking	Ordinary round	30.00%
Written and/or oral exams	Extraordinary evaluation	Retake	100.00%

PROGRAMS

GBL24-Double Degree in Business Administration and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Business)

GBL24 Year 1 (Mandatory)

GEL19-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GEL19 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GEL23-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GEL23 Year 1 (Mandatory)