

Model United Nations

UGRA_013005

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

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Acquire a solid understanding of the structure, functions and operations of the United Nations (UN) System and related multilateral organizations.
- Understand the practical workings of diplomacy, including the roles of governments, the formulation of foreign policy, the inclusion of issues on the international agenda and decision-making processes.
- Learn to apply intercultural mediation and negotiation strategies in the context of international affairs.
- Gain hands-on experience with the procedures, formats and dynamics of Model United Nations (MUN) conferences.

Previous knowledge

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

Prerequisites

There are no formal prerequisites for this course.

Teaching methodology

In class, on-campus:

Lectures: Instruction will focus on the systematic presentation of key theoretical concepts, complemented by selected case studies to illustrate their practical application.

Model United Nations Simulation: Students will be assigned, individually or in small groups, to represent a designated country or delegation within a specific United Nations body, specialized agency or comparable international forum. Through structured simulation, participants will engage in formal discussions on a contemporary international issue, developing skills in diplomacy, negotiation and policy analysis.

Outside class: Students are expected to engage in both independent study and collaborative group work to prepare for in-class activities and assessments.

This course comprises both formative and summative assessment components. Feedback will be available through group or individual tutorial sessions upon request. The teaching team will monitor and, where necessary, adapt the simulation process to ensure that all students are able to meet the core assessment requirements. This may occasionally involve guiding the direction of debates and procedures of the simulation.

Description

Course contribution to program

The purpose of this course is to offer an interactive learning experience through which students will explore the United Nations System, international affairs, foreign policy and the art and practice of diplomacy.

Short description

Model United Nations: Diplomatic Skills introduces students to the structure and functioning of the United Nations System, the practice of diplomacy, negotiation techniques and key issues addressed within multilateral organizations. Topics include peace and security, human rights, the use of force, sustainable development, international economics, forced displacement, statelessness, democracy and the rule of law.

The course emphasizes the development of core diplomatic competencies, including research, public speaking, formal 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.
- Responsible Leadership
 - Recognize the social impact of international organizations and governments decisions.

GEL25-Bachelor of

Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order

- 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)

Hodgin, G., Model UN Handbook: A Preparation for MUN Conferences First Edition, Hamilton Books, 0761854495 (Book)

Breslin J. & Rubin, J, Negotiation Theory and Practice, Cambridge, MA (Book)

Activities

Role-play exercises and simulations

Students will be assigned, individually or in groups, to represent a country or delegation within a specific United Nations committee, specialized agency or another international organization or forum, where they will engage in structured discussions on a current international issue.

Presentations

As part of the course assessment, students will be expected to conduct independent research, prepare and deliver an oral presentation on a current international issue.

Research work and projects

As part of the Model United Nations (MUN) simulation, students will be required to conduct independent research and prepare both a diplomatic position paper and a final reflective report.

Content

#	Topic
1	Introduction to the United Nations: Overview of the fundamental concepts, structure and functioning of the United Nations System.
2	The Art of Diplomacy: Introduction to the principles and practice of diplomacy, including

#	Topic
2	foreign policy formulation, agenda-setting, multilateral diplomacy, negotiation and intercultural mediation.
3	Diplomatic Skills: Development of key competencies, including research techniques, the use of diplomatic language, public speaking and formal writing skills.
4	Model United Nations Simulations

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Individual or team exercises	Diplomatic Position Paper	Ordinary round	30.00%
Individual or team exercises	Individual Assessment	Ordinary round	30.00%
Individual or team exercises	Simulation Report	Ordinary round	15.00%
Individual or team exercises	Participation in MUN simulation	Ordinary round	25.00%
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)

GBL25-Double Degree in Business Administration and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Business)

GBL25 Year 1 (Mandatory)

GDL23-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GDL23 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GDL25-Double Degree in Law and Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GDL25 Year 1 (Mandatory)

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

GEL23 Year 1 (Mandatory)

GEL25-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order (Undergraduates: Law)

GEL25 Year 1 (Mandatory)