

Advanced Model United Nations

UGRA_016660

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

Course Goals

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

- Expanding and applying knowledge of the structure, functioning and challenges of the United Nations (UN) system and related multilateral organisations.
- Understanding the application of international relations theories in real and hypothetical scenarios.
- Practicing and enhancing key MUN skills, such as researching, legal writing and resolution drafting, public speaking, intercultural mediation, lobbying, negotiating and strategic caucusing.
- Mastering the art of diplomacy through engaging in discussions on current international issues and applying diplomatic protocols in multilateral simulations.
- Developing leadership, coordination and peer-training capacities by taking on key roles in MUN preparation and conference participation.

Previous knowledge

Students enrolling in this course are expected to have foundational knowledge of international institutions, diplomacy, international relations, politics, history and MUN formats. Basic knowledge of Public International Law and human rights frameworks is not mandatory but recommended. Due to the participatory and practice-oriented nature of this course, students are expected to actively monitor international developments and be prepared to engage in independent research, collaborative teamwork and high-level debate.

Prerequisites

Enrolment in this course is open to first, second- and third-year students who have successfully completed the mandatory Model United Nations Diplomatic Skills course.

Participation in this elective course is a requirement for representing ESADE in any official MUN conference as part of ESADE's delegation.

First year students taking the mandatory MUN course in the second semester may only enrol in the following academic year.

Teaching methodology

In class:

- Workshops: Sessions will combine brief lectures to present key concepts and strategies with applied practice.
- Simulation-based learning: Students will regularly participate in exercises, mirroring real MUN conferences. Individually or in groups, students will be assigned a delegation/country in a multilateral setting to discuss current international issues.
- Guest lectures: Sessions may include the participation of experts in negotiation, geopolitics and diplomacy.

Outside class:

- Individual: Research and position paper drafting.
- Teamwork: Collaboration in conference preparation, peer-learning and coaching.
- Conference Participation: Attendance of a minimum of one external MUN conference.

The course comprises both formative and summative components. Students will receive ongoing feedback through in-class activities, one-on-one tutorials (upon request) and participation in MUN conferences. The teaching team will evaluate the need for dynamic adaptation based on student progress to ensure fair participation and development opportunities.

Description

Course contribution to program

This course prepares students to participate and lead in international simulations and aims to provide an academic and experiential foundation to pursue careers in international organisations and diplomacy.

Short description

Advanced Model United Nations (Advanced MUN) offers an immersive learning experience in international affairs, foreign policy and diplomacy. As an extension of the foundational Model United Nations Diplomatic Skills (MUNDS) course, this interactive elective focuses on advanced, applied and simulation-based training in strategic negotiation, diplomacy and global governance through active engagement in Model United Nations (MUN) conferences. This format allows to bridge theory and practice through continuous and progressive training.

The course aims to continue equipping students with in-depth knowledge of the United Nations system and other multilateral organisations, including their structures, functions and mandates in the context of current, past and future global challenges such as peace and security, sustainable development, human

rights, climate justice, international economics, forced displacement and the rule of law. A key component of the course is the practical application of MUN Rules of Procedure (RoP). Participants will not only review the fundamental procedural aspects but also learn and develop strategic expertise in using points, motions, caucuses and committee structures to lead and influence MUN debates. The course includes personalized training and in-class simulations and focuses on real-time decision-making, drafting techniques (including position papers, draft resolutions, amendments, statements and press releases) and mastering both moderated and unmoderated formats to achieve diplomatic goals.

Only students who take this elective course are eligible to participate as part of the United Nations ESADE Student Delegation, representing the institution at university-level MUN conferences throughout the academic year. This provides students the opportunity to immerse in a dynamic and professional delegation structure, mirroring real diplomatic work and fostering leadership, strategic thinking and intercultural competences. Students are required to attend a minimum of one external MUN conference.

Program Learning Objectives

GEL25-Bachelor of Global Governance, Economics and Legal Order

- General Management Skills
- Recognise the economic, legal and social concepts that define the context of different stakeholders in the context of international relations and global governance.

Bibliography

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

Krein, Anna-Theresa, Model United Nations. A Practical Guide., Springer Cham, 978-3-031-13523-1 (Book)

Activities

Role-play exercises and simulations

Individually or in groups, students will be assigned a delegation/country in a multilateral setting to discuss current international issues.

Teamwork

Students will be expected to collaborate in conference preparation, peer-learning and coaching.

Research work and projects

As part of the simulations, students will be required to conduct independent research and draft diplomatic documents.

Content

#	Topic
1	Deep Dive into the United Nations System
2	Advanced MUNing (research, legal writing, public speaking, negotiation, intercultural mediation and RoPs)
3	Strategic preparation for Model United Nations conferences
4	Model United Nations Simulations

Assessment

Tool	Assessment tool	Category	Weight %
Individual or team exercises	Position Paper(s)	Ordinary round	30.00%
Individual or team exercises	Conference Performance Report(s)	Ordinary round	20.00%
Participation in program activities	Participation in MUN Simulations	Ordinary round	30.00%
Participation in program activities	Teamwork and Overall Engagement	Ordinary round	20.00%
Written and/or oral exams		Retake	100.00%

PROGRAMS

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

GDL23 Year 3 (Mandatory)

GDL23 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GDL23 Year 1 (Mandatory)

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

GDL25 Year 2 (Mandatory)

GDL25 Year 3 (Mandatory)

GDL25 Year 1 (Mandatory)

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

GEL23 Year 1 (Optative)

GEL23 Year 3 (Optative)

GEL23 Year 2 (Optative)

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

GEL25 Year 2 (Optative)

GEL25 Year 1 (Optative)

GEL25 Year 3 (Optative)