PSCI 337.01: Model United Nations

Karen R. Adams
University of Montana - Missoula, karen.adams@umontana.edu

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Welcome to the team!

Overview of the Course:

The purpose of this class is to adequately prepare team members for competing in the International Model United Nations Conference in New York, March 30-April 3, 2014. In doing so, we will share research information, practice debating and presenting on topics from assigned committees, and write position papers to be submitted for the conference. This class meets once a week, and has assignments due for each meeting.

Classroom Etiquette:

Treat each other with respect and follow the Student Conduct Code. Any conduct/attendance issues will be taken into consideration of team membership and could possibly result in a member losing their spot on the team.

Travelling Plans:

As of now, no flight reservations have been made. These will be made during winter break and you will be updated continually as to all travel and conference information. If any questions or concerns arise, contact Prof. Adams or the team President.

Course Materials:

It is highly recommended to procure a bind in which research, notes, and pertinent articles can be collected within. This can be taken and used at the conference for reference during committee, when laptops are not allowed to be in use.

Course Schedule (assuming we still meet on Tuesday nights):

December 12: VP Team elections, overview of the NY conference, travelling expenses, course requirements

January 28: Course overview, information session, requirements of the position papers
Due Today: background research on Fiji and assigned committee
(After this date, students should start writing about topic one on their position papers)
February 4: Position paper revisions, discussion of suggestions and strategies for writing the papers; further on background research of Fiji
Due Today: Topic One of the position paper

February 11: Overview of Parliamentary Procedure and Resolution Writing
Due Today: Review basics of resolution writing; bring a sample from class last semester (hopefully one you wrote on your own); keep working on topic two of position paper

February 18: Position paper revisions, topic/agenda setting debate practice
Due Today: Topic Two of the position paper, rough outline of possible opening speech

February 25: Position paper revisions, speech and debate practice, conference strategies (i.e. working with other delegates, etc.)
Due Today: Topic Three of the position paper Practice opening speech (1 min.), any background information that can be useful for other team members

***Final Position Papers due to me (christina.bloemen@umontana.edu) by February 27***

March 4: Speech and debate practice, conference strategies (i.e. working with other delegates), resolution practice cont.
Due Today: Practice opening speech (1 min.), any background information that can be useful for other team members

March 11: Details of the New York trip (hotel, traveling, etc.)
Due Today: none

March 18: Substantive debate between team members (to the best of our abilities), negotiating strategies
Due Today: outline for speeches on topics

March 25: Final overview of the conference (schedule, travelling details) and any questions/concerns or particular elements that want to be overviewed by the team
Due Today: excitement and enthusiasm for the conference!!

March 30-April 3: New York Conference

Any information about the conference itself can be found on the national website:
http://www.nmun.org/nmun_ny.html

Grading:

The main component of each member’s grade is participation and attendance of each team meeting, as well as participation during the NY conference. All students must submit papers by the provided due dates above. Any questions or concerns about the class can be directed towards Prof. Adams or myself.

*This syllabus may be subject to change at any point during the semester*