JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

PSC250H

INDEPENDENT STUDY: HONORS MODEL UNITED NATIONS

3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
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Revised Date: January 2009
by
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Arts & Science Education
Dr. Mindy Selsor, Dean
PSC250H  Independent Study: Honors Model United Nations

I.  CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

A.  Prerequisite: An instructor interview with analysis of past academic success.

B.  3 semester hours credit

C.  Model United Nations emphasizes the origins, structure and functions of the United Nations in the contemporary international arena. Model United Nations is an independent study course, running from October to February, which includes participation in the Midwest Model United Nations where students will represent a country in a simulation. Honors students will be expected to take leadership roles and accept spokesperson responsibilities in the simulation. This course will partially fulfill the social and behavioral science requirement for the Associate of Arts degrees and fulfills part of the requirement for an Honors Certificate or Honors Diploma. Students cannot apply both PSC250 and PSC250H toward graduation. (S)

II.  EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

| Explain the history and functions of the United Nations and its affiliate agencies (i.e., World Bank, World Health Organization). | UN Exam
| Evaluation at Midwest Model UN Conference |
| Analyze and explain the problems and potential solutions dealt with by today's international organizations | UN Procedure Exam
| Evaluation at Midwest Model UN Conference |
| Describe the process of politics between nations and between nations and international organizations and be able to discuss such processes | Research Paper
| Evaluation at Midwest Model UN Conference |
| Demonstrate through participation in class discussion, the research paper, and the MWMUN Conference the ability to comprehend the practical problems involved in modern international problem solving | Research Paper
| Position Paper
| UN Exam
| Evaluation at Midwest Model UN Conference |
Use the intensive study of one nation’s actual participation in United Nations sessions as a means to develop analytic and research skills. The student will use such study in effectively and accurately representing the nation at the MWMUN Conference.

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<th>Research Paper</th>
<th>Position Paper</th>
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<td>UN Exam</td>
<td>Evaluation At Midwest Model UN Conference</td>
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Actively participate and demonstrate the knowledge as a delegate at the annual (February) Midwest Model United Nations Conference held in St. Louis under the auspices of St. Louis University and the MWMUN Association. At the four-day conference students will represent the country they study during the semester. Participants will engage in floor debate, respond to inquiries from other delegates, and offer resolutions concerning current U.N. issues to the conference.

| Evaluation at Midwest Model UN Conference |

III. COURSE OUTLINE WITH UNIT OBJECTIVES

A. History of International Organizations
   1. Describe the development of modern international organizations from 1917 to present day.
   2. Examine and explain problems in international relations that have been dealt with by such organizations as the League of Nations and United Nations.

B. Present International Organizations
   1. Describe and evaluate all major present day international organizations including but not limited to:
      a. United Nations Secretariat
      b. United Nations Security Council
      c. U.N. General Assembly
      d. U.N. International Court of Justice
      e. World Bank and other Development Banks
      f. Other U.N. agencies such as the World Health Organization, U.N. Commission on Refugees, and the various peace-keeping units created by the U.N.
   2. Examine the role of nongovernmental international organizations in modern international relations.
      a. Students will be able to describe the role of multinational corporations in trade and economic development issues.
b. Students will be able to describe the role of private groups such as Amnesty International, Greenpeace, and labor organizations in international issues.

C. Current International Issues
1. Research and explain current international controversies including but not limited to:
   a. Middle-East political events
   b. Changes occurring in the formerly communist countries and their movement towards democracy (Russia, Eastern Europe, Communist China).
   c. Trade and development issues involved the major industrial nations and the developing nations. Students will be able to explain the recent international trade agreements such as the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs and the North American Free Trade Agreement and their effect on the international economic system.
   d. Focus on human rights issues globally and explain the difficulties involved in protection of human rights by international law or other actions.
   e. Students will be able to describe the ethnic and regional conflicts in each major crisis area (i.e., South Africa, Bosnia, Middle-East, etc.)
   f. Students will know the background and significance of additional international issues chosen annually by the Midwest Model United Nations Conference.

D. Study of the Nation to be Represented
1. Students will determine the political, economic, cultural, and general history of the country they represent and how this influences its world view.
2. Describe their country's history of participation in the United Nations including positions taken and voting record on major U.N. actions and resolutions.
3. Describe their country's relationships with multinational organizations of a governmental nature (i.e., World Bank, World Health Organization) and nongovernmental (i.e., Amnesty International, Exxon, private banks).
4. Discuss their chosen country's relationships with all other major countries in political, economic, and other matters.

E. Writing of Position Papers - Write a detailed explanation of their country's position on the focal issues chosen for the MMUN Conference for that year. The students will explain their country's position on these issues and its rationale for that position. These are submitted to the MMUN Conference.
F. Writing of Resolutions - Construct solutions to the problem topics and write resolutions to be submitted to the MMUN Conference for consideration, debate, and adoption.


H. MMUN Conference--February or March, Spring Semester
   1. Participate in a four-day simulation of a United Nations session in St. Louis. The student will actively represent his/her chosen country in debate, caucusing, and voting on the issues chosen for the Conference.
   2. Explain their country’s position and reasoning to other delegates and work towards solutions of those issues addressed.
   3. Debate and informal bargaining with other delegates.

I. Research Paper - Write a formal research paper on an international topic chosen by the student and instructor. The student will explain the topic’s significance to modern international relations. This paper is due in February.

IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
   A. Lecture
   B. Small group discussion and workshops
   C. Handouts
   D. Textbook
   E. Research using library and inter-library materials
   F. Tests on materials and rules of procedure
   G. Research paper
   H. Student evaluation of their work in preparation and participation in MMUN

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK (with publication information)
   None

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS/COSTS
   Laboratory fee for Conference is $60.00
VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

Books on reserve at the Library

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION

A. United Nations Exam
B. Rules of Procedure Exam
C. Position Paper and Resolution Writing
D. Research Paper
E. Participation at MMUN
F. Grading Scale:
   A 90%
   B 80%
   C 70%
   D 60%
   F below 60%

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any statement requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-797-3000, ext. 169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College Website).