

PLSC 362-001 CRN# 13926

Collegiate Model United Nations

Credit Hours: One

Fall 2018

Location: Bancroft 339

Wednesday: 12:30-1:20

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Office Hours: Monday 10:00-11:00, Tuesday 2:00-4:00 every week, and Friday 1:30-2:30 by appointment for this day **only**. Email me for alternative times if your schedule does not fit these hours.

Email: vanallerc@winthrop.edu

Prerequisite: PLSC 260. Note that this course may be repeated twice as we represent different countries each year.

Course Goals:

This class is designed to prepare students prepare for the two college level Model United Nations in this region: the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) Conference in October, which describes itself as a high school/college “training” experience and then the more demanding Southern Regional Model United Nations (SRMUN) Conference in November. Other opportunities may be added given class interest and financial considerations. In contrast to Winthrop’s Model UN that concentrates on debate with pre-written resolutions submitted by high schools, most college level conferences are more in-depth simulations that involve **extensive personal negotiations and writing resolutions** that can last over days. In short, these conferences are much closer to what actually occurs at the real United Nations and similar deliberative bodies, with the possible exception of the Security Council and small specialized committees. We have previously done well at these simulations both as a club and class, receiving awards at both listed above, and so we hope all of you will build on Winthrop’s previous successes! **The all-important dates for the fall conferences are:**

The Fall 2018 dates are 1) the University of North Carolina at **Charlotte** simulation on October 19th - Sunday October 21st, with registration beginning at 2:00 on Friday October 19 and the Closing Ceremony concluding at 12:00 on October 21, and 2) the Southern Regional Model UN in **Atlanta** from November 15-17, returning the morning of the 18th.

Let Professors and supervisors know about these dates right away-we have a form that you can give to them on Blackboard as done earlier in 260! As this experience is a team effort, you must let us know as early as possible if you cannot attend these conferences. We cannot win awards or even participate in some cases if our team is short on delegates!

Course Goals:

* to provide training and coordination for high level negotiation in addition to our own Conference.

*to successfully compete with college level participants at regional conferences.

*to provide a capstone experience to students who may have attended the Winthrop Model UN as high school delegates and who, after taking PLSC 260, wish to continue a long term interest.

Student Learning Outcomes:

-Students will demonstrate enhanced knowledge of the United Nations and international diplomacy

-Students will learn to write detailed resolutions on world issues and work to pass them through compromise and debate

-Students will demonstrate familiarity with the parliamentary rules of college level conferences

-Students will learn the basics on how to chair and administer large parliamentary committees

Global Learning Initiative/University Competency

University Level Competency #3: Winthrop graduates understand the interconnected nature of the world and the time in which they live.

This course meets the criteria of the **Global Learning Initiative** by its very nature.

Drop Date and Lab Fee: This year it is October 19. After this date, only the Registrar can allow you to drop. There is also a \$75 non-refundable lab fee to offset the cost of your registration, which is a standard practice for most Model UN programs. This fee is automatically deducted from your student account. **You need to drop very promptly to avoid paying this fee, within the first week. As the dropping of the course is very disruptive to team efforts if done too late, a prompt decision is imperative for financial (yours) and logistical (mine) reasons.**

Students with Disabilities/Need of Accommodations for Access:

Winthrop University is committed to providing access to education. If you have a condition which may adversely impact your ability to access academics and/or campus life, and you require specific accommodations to complete this course, contact the Office of Accessibility (OA) at 803-323-3290, or, accessibility@winthrop.edu. Please inform me as early as possible once you have your official notice of accommodations from the Office of Accessibility.

Student Code of Conduct: The Political Science Department abhors all forms of academic misconduct, and faculty members aggressively investigate all incidents of suspected cheating. This includes, but is not limited to, using turnitin.com. Please click on the enclosed link to read the enclosed policy in detail:

<http://www.winthrop.edu/plsc/PLAGIARISM/%20AND%20MISCONDUCT.doc>

For cell phone and laptop policy see:

<http://www2.winthrop.edu/artscience/AppropriateUseApprovedPolicyMar2010.pdf>

Attendance Policy: Over two unexcused absences during the semester will result in a significantly lower participation grade. Missing more than 25% of classes will result in a failing grade. Chronic lateness is an imposition on other students and will also count against the participation grade. As we meet only once per week, your attendance is very important for the success of our MUN team. **Attendance** and active **participation** at both Model UN conferences is absolutely vital and will be carefully recorded.

Texts for the Class:

Kerem Turunc, *The Winning Delegate: An Insider's Guide to Model United Nations*, New York: iUniverse Inc. 2009

Recommended: *The United Nations: A Very Short Introduction* by Jussi M. Hanhimaki, Oxford Press (you should have this (portable) book from 260)

UNCC and SRMUN websites and WMUN Facebook: These may have information from last year until fully updated. Sometimes information is posted as the semester evolves so be aware. **Keep referencing them** as even basic info can change (such as key deadlines) and print useful parts out in a three ring binder. *Open laptops are **not** allowed in committee deliberations during debate, so some printed materials are necessary.*

UNCC Fall Conference: <https://www.unccmodelun.com/about-carolinas/>

SRMUN Atlanta Conference: <http://www.srmun.org/atlanta/>

As you veterans remember, Winthrop's Model United Nations website also has many useful sources for your research and preparation: <http://www.winthrop.edu/modelun/>

Course Requirements:

The most important requirement for this course is your attendance at the two conferences and the classes to prepare for them, so you must be very careful **TO PLAN** leaving town, job, and family for both the UNCC and SRMUN Conferences in October and November respectively. The UNCC Conference will not be an overnight affair however, so that should help you plan things out. Some of you might stay in Charlotte Friday and/or Saturday night but that **cannot** be paid for by the University. The first day of this conference is on a Friday and we will leave campus no later than 2 pm. For SRMUN, we will leave on a Thursday morning about 8 am and return Sunday morning. **If you miss a conference for anything other than a medical emergency, you will be marked down 50% from your end of year grade. For this reason, you must carefully check your schedule and responsibilities and drop the course promptly if you cannot attend the**

conferences in their entirety. Teams without full participation in committees are not eligible for awards.

Student Learning Activities

Country Profile: (15%): Each delegate must complete a straightforward Nation Guide. This report is *much* shorter than your 260 briefing folder. You have to be generally familiar with your country although you will specialize in one basic area/committee: this role is in contrast to PLSC 260, in which college students did not have to know one area to the degree that their younger high school colleagues did in *their* specialized committees! As SRMUN is the main conference, you will only do one of these for one of our two basic countries. The basic template is on **Blackboard**.

Position Papers: (25%-one per conference): Country delegations will be divided into individuals or two person teams that serve on each committee or other division, such as the Security Council or one of the ECOSOC divisions. In short, we are now a multiple committee delegation like the high school teams that visited our conference. SRMUN and also UNCC require such papers as evidence that you have prepared for the Conference, and give awards for the best ones. (Paper scores will also help me determine a grade for the course). Position papers are concise statements about a country’s understanding of the history of the topic at hand, and its preferred position on the issue. *The requirements are on the website of each conference* and the format must be followed **carefully**. Each topic requires a separate position paper. Each student must submit a position paper even if there are two in the same committee. We will go over the requirements that each conference specifies for its position paper. **It is beyond imperative that you submit your particular position paper to SRMUN/UNCC on time to me and the Big Three, via email, as failure to do so will make our school ineligible for awards and will occur manifold wrath from the instructor. One of the Big Three will forward them to the conference websites by the appropriate time!!**

Quizzes: (10%): We will have two quizzes, based mainly on the new MUN textbook, evolving world events, and conference websites.

Recruiting for the Winthrop Spring Conference (10%). Everyone in the class needs to speak in front of at least three classes (or equivalent venues like a club meeting) to recruit for our spring conference in March. Signatures or initials will be required on the form provided on Blackboard. I am particularly interested in reaching out to students from the International Center, the Business School, and the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. Model UN is popular with all majors at diverse universities, as you will find when you attend the two conferences.

Performance at Conferences: (30%) As in our own Model UN Conference, I will be observing your participation in the various committees and asking the Directors (chairs) about the level of your efforts. **Awards will be admired and will certainly help your grade but cannot by themselves atone for transgressions in other areas, particularly**

poor attendance or chronic lateness. Professionalism is our goal for our team, awards or no awards.

Class Presentations: (5%) Each student will be responsible for one presentation; a sign-up sheet will be provided the first class meeting. These will not be long, about three to five minutes. These can be on any issue before your nation and are to give you more practice on public speaking. Our 260 experience seems to give us an edge in public speaking in college level simulations, so we want you to maintain these skills. We require a real speech **without** power points!

Conference Reflections: (5%) As institutional memory can make or break a Model UN team, I need you to submit a one page reflection on your participation in committee and in the conference generally after we return. This task needs to be done after **EACH** conference, within one week.

Grading Scale:

A 92-100

A- 90-91

B+ 87-89

B 82-86

B- 80-81

C+ 78-79

C 72-77

C- 69-71

D 65-68

D- 60-64

F 0-59

Note that missed quizzes cannot be made up without printed documentation. Late position papers will result in a zero for this assignment and are critically important to the welfare of our team. At both conferences, arriving on time and ready to go for committees is also critical and will be penalized if disregarded.

I will add that both conferences have **conduct statements** which we will review carefully as well. Delegates from other institutions have been ejected from both conferences for undiplomatic behavior, to the lasting shame of their team and universities.

Attendance Policy: Over two absences without substantive documentation will result in a losing one letter grade. **REMEMBER WE MEET ONLY ONCE PER WEEK!**

Final Exam: The SRMUN Conference acts as our final exam-and is certainly more work than one! Nothing is due after the conference but your written reflection.

Countries of Representation for 2018: For SRMUN, our countries are:

1. Ethiopia - Minimum Delegates: **6**/ Maximum Delegates: **11**
2. Cambodia - Minimum Delegates: **4**/ Maximum Delegates: **8**

We will try to obtain these countries at UNCC as well or similar ones. Due to the smaller number of committees/schools at UNCC, we usually represent additional countries there as well.

Tentative Schedule of Classes and Assignments: I reserve the right to change the schedule, *particularly* as information about both conferences is evolving on their websites. I also want to stress that in comparison with previous iterations of this course, the priorities are now practicing resolution writing, caucusing, and public speaking. We therefore may change the syllabus to more effectively promote these goals, which are all important to doing well at the college level Model UN simulations. The Secretariat is working with me to make this syllabus the best tool possible in order to make this course effective. Finally, if the class wants to meet outside of normal times to practice or work together, I will help this admirable effort which most other teams seem to do.

Wednesday, August 22: Introduction to the class. Recollections of the conferences from those repeating the class or other veterans. (which you can do twice as we represent different countries each year). Possible discussion of fund-raising activities to help pay for food at the conferences (Model UN Club status as we have become official).

Wednesday, September 29: 1st class presentation by student. *Please* do not use a power-point: this exercise is a speech which you might employ in committee. Questionnaire distributed by Big Three for committee assignments and general preferences **Insider's Guide** text-1-25. Review of conference responsibilities and their significant differences with the Winthrop Model.

Wednesday, Sept.5: 2nd student presentation. Practice resolution writing and caucusing, utilizing your former 260 identities. **Insider's Guide:** 27-45. General country background due in class. Blank form is on Blackboard. **Note** that you will have to convert document to an expandable one as the original is a scan. As a reminder, note that Position Paper guidelines and deadlines are found on the websites of the respective conferences.

UNCC position paper due October dates-The deadline for accepting position papers is earlier this year but date is not yet available. Plan for the third week of September at a minimum. KEEP CHECKING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SRMUN position paper dates: No date listed right now so keep checking! Plan on mid October at a minimum. KEEP CHECKING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The deadlines for both position papers may be close to each other: check the websites as they evolve!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Wednesday, September 12: 3rd class presentation. **Insider's Guide: 47-60.** Review of Rules of Procedure for both conferences, available on their websites: the rules in the Guide are designed to be similar. Note that these laws are more complex and designed around *building* resolutions than in our MUN system at Winthrop.

Wednesday, September 19: 4th class presentation. Second part of Rules discussion. **Insider's Guide: 61-76.** Discussion on the *real* ways committees function from previous class members and on-line tutorials. We want to identify common mistakes made by new MUN delegates. Hopeful finalization of national committee assignments for UNCC.

Wednesday, September 26: 5th class presentation. **Quiz** on the **Guide text** so far, mainly the rules. Discussion of vehicles and riders for the UNCC conference, as well as progress on food money raised by the club. Review Position paper information on Blackboard.

Wednesday, October 3: 6th class presentation. Review of UNCC assignments. Practice caucusing and resolution writing. **Insider's Guide: 77-89. Note that Position Papers will be due to UNCC !! Hard Copy and emailed version to me and modelun@winthrop.edu, <https://www.unccmodelun.com/position-papers/>**

Wednesday, October 10: 7th class presentation. **Insider's Guide: 91-120.** Practice caucusing and committee work. Read additional committee information on Blackboard.

Fall Break: October 12-15 (You might work on SRMUN position papers!)

Wednesday, October 17: 8th class presentation. **Insider's Guide: 121-139.** Review additional information resolution writing on Blackboard. Practice resolution and group negotiation. Make sure all know assignments for UNCC conference.

Friday, October 19. **UNCC Conference:** Please carefully review parking and committee assignment locations at UNCC. We will leave our campus between 1 and 2 pm on Friday afternoon. Bring snacks as dinner can be hectic the first day of conference. Again, some of you may wish to stay in Charlotte Friday/Saturday night but that must be on your own initiative and budget. <https://maps.uncc.edu/>

Wednesday, October 24: 9th class presentation. Discussion of experience at UNCC. We need to build on what we learn there and not repeat mistakes. Your 250 word reaction is due on Friday the 26th. Make it as specific as possible. Also this day is United Nations Day, so we hopefully can recruit by Digs as we have in the past. Remember that you all are helping in recruiting with your classes and organizations!

Tuesday October 27-SRMUN position papers due!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
http://www.srmun.org/atlanta/key_dates.php

Wednesday, October 31: 10th class presentation. **Quiz** on SRMUN website info
Resolution and committee practice. Possible simulation Topic: Implications of European
Union Breakup.

Wednesday, November 7th: 11th class presentation. Potential simulation topic: Bridging
the Digital Divide Among Member States.

Wednesday, November 14th: We will use this class to double check all things SRMUN:
transportation, food and fund raising, committee assignments, possible rearrangement of
delegate assignments, SRMUN code of conduct.

SRMUN Conference in Atlanta: November 15,16,17, (Return Sunday the 18th) We
usually leave about 8 am on Thursday morning and go back early Sunday morning. We
hope again to share transportation again with the UNCC team on their bus.

*Wednesday, November 28. hard copy of reaction paper due well as email version.
Gadget Day for evaluations.

Winthrop Model United Nations is counting on you!