

The University of Texas at Tyler

Independent Study

POLS 4399.60

MWF: 11:15-12:10 PM

RBS 2019

Ms. Melissa Salgado

Office: CAS 120

Email: msalgado@uttyler.edu

Please check Canvas for announcements.

Office Hours: Office hours will be held Mondays and Wednesdays 12:30-2PM or by appointment. Office hours can be held face to face or students can request a virtual appointment as well.

Form of Contact:

Email: msalgado@uttyler.edu

- Please send an email from your patriots' email only as I will not respond to emails from any other accounts. Email is the best way to contact me.
- During weekdays students can expect an email back at minimum within 24 hours, on weekends students can expect *at least* 48 hours before a response back. (Weekends begin Fridays at 5pm!)
- Please make sure you are paying attention to announcements on Canvas, this will be the main way in which I will communicate with the whole class outside of in class announcements.

Course Information:

This course will explore dive deeper into international relations as well as the development of key international organizations (with emphasis on the United Nations). In addition to these theoretical and historic discussions, we will also be exploring many of the key issues that humans are dealing with today. As part of the course students will participate in a National Model United Nations Conference and are expected to travel with Model for a course grade.

The course will be divided into two parts.

1. The first part will have students re-evaluating and building on information learned from the previous year in Model UN and will work towards improving their public speaking, research and writing skills, as well as their efforts in diplomacy. They will do this by working on position papers and focusing on mock simulations in class.

2. The second part of the course will consist of travel to the National Model United Nations Conference being held in Barcelona, Spain. Students are expected to travel with the group and actively participate in the conference as part of how they will be evaluated.

Learning Outcomes:

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate:

- familiarity with the historical development of international organizations
- basic knowledge of the structure and purpose of the United Nations
- an understanding of the inner workings of the United Nations
- basic knowledge and understanding of many of the issues currently on the agenda of the United Nations
- familiarity with the assigned country
- familiarity with rules and procedures of Model UN
- familiarity with writing position papers and resolution

Readings

Readings will be available through Canvas. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to obtain the required reading for each class and come to class prepared to discuss that day's readings.

Assignments and Attendance:

Class attendance is expected of students whether it is face to face or virtual. Class grades will be determined by the following break-down:

- ***Small Assignments:***
 - Students will have to submit a Member State Profile, a Background Guide Assignment, copies of their speeches, and position negotiables.
- ***Model UN Mock Simulation:***
 - In this course we will have a mini model UN simulation where we will practice rules of procedure, make speeches, and work on position papers as well as resolutions papers. Each part of this process is critical in learning about Model UN and how to be delegates at the conference itself. Grades for this portion of the course will be determined by participation in the mock conference (includes: speeches, practicing the rules of procedure, and research on work on position papers), a member state profile, and student work on resolutions.
 - As part of the simulation grade, participation is required, this means that attendance is vital to the course.
 - Tardiness to the course will also affect your attendance grade. Consistent lateness will start adding up to absences.
- ***Position Papers:***
 - Position Papers are an incredibly important part of the conference, and we will be preparing for papers to submit to the conference by November 1, 2026. Like previous model un courses and travel position papers will go through a draft process with multiple due dates throughout the semester. This is to allow time and

effort to give feedback on writing and research before it is submitted to the conference.

- ***Conference Participation:***

- As part of their grade students will participate in the National Model United Nations Conference. This requires travel to Barcelona, Spain over Thanksgiving Break. This also requires making speeches, making motions and working on the rules of procedure as well as working on draft resolutions and collaborating with students from other universities during the conference.

Good Delegate Policy:

This course requires travel to the National Model United Nations Conference in November. As part of the course this travel can and will affect your grade. While most of your grade is tied to the conference itself, your grade is also tied to the trip as a whole. Engaging in behavior that misrepresents our delegation (and the university) or results in conflict with other students (within and outside of our delegation) will affect your grade and any future participation in Model UN trips and activities.

Assessment of Student Learning:	Grade %	Due Date
Small Assignments -	15 %	Varies (on canvas): - Member State Profile (8/30) - Background Guide Assignment (9/6)
Position Papers	20%	Draft 1: 9/13 Draft 2: 9/23 Draft 3: 10/ 16 Final Draft: 10/ 30
Model UN Mock Simulation	15%	Varies (on canvas)
NMUN Conference Participation	50%	November 21 st - 29 th

*This syllabus and due dates are subject to change.

Course Topic Schedule:

Semester Schedule Outline	
Week 1	International Relations Theories
Week 2	International Relations Theories/UN History
Week 3	UN History and Organization
Week 4	UN Organization/ UN Committees
Week 5	UN Committees and Important Documents
Week 6	UN Committees and Important Documents
Week 7	Simulation Lectures: Speeches, Resolutions, Rules
Week 8	Simulation Lectures: Rules, Resolutions: Simulation begins
Week 9	Speeches and Simulation
Week 10	Speeches and Simulation: Focus on Resolution Writing
Week 11	Speeches and Simulation: Focus on Resolution Writing
Week 12	Speeches and Simulation: Focus on Conflict Management
Week 13	Speeches and Simulation: Focus on Voting Procedure
	Thanksgiving Break- NMUN Spain Travel
Week 14	Presentations
Week 15	Finals

UT Tyler Student's Rights & Responsibilities:**UT Tyler AI Policy:**

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, the use of AI is prohibited.