

**FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY: DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NEW COURSE or MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING COURSE**

Department/School Honors Date 5 October 2009

Course No. or level 350 Title The Model UN Experience

Semester hours 3 Clock hours: Lecture Yes Laboratory Experiential

Prerequisites Honors-eligible or approval of instructors

Enrollment expectation to

Indicate any course for which this course is a (an)

modification  
(proposed change in course title, course description, course content or method of instruction)

substitute  
(The proposed new course replaces a deleted course as a General Education or program requirement.)

alternate  
(The proposed new course can be taken as an alternate to an existing course.)

Name of person preparing course description Scott Kaufman

Department Chairperson's/Dean's Signature [Signature]

Provost's Signature [Signature]

Date of Implementation Spring 2010

Date of School/Department approval \_\_\_\_\_

Catalog description:

- Purpose:
1. For Whom (generally?)
  2. What should the course do for the student?

Teaching method planned:

Textbook and/or materials planned (including electronic/multimedia):

Course Content: ( Please explain the content of the course in enough detail so that the Academic Affairs Committee can make an informed judgement. Include a syllabus for the course.)

**When completed, forward to the Office of the Provost.** 9/03

## HONORS 350

### THE MODEL UN EXPERIENCE

**Books.** The following are required for this course:

Lawrence Ziring, et al., *The United Nations: International Organization and World Politics*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.

United Nations Association, *Guide to Delegate Preparation*

*A Global Agenda: Issues Before the United Nations General Assembly* [published annually]

Handbook(s) from NMUN simulation to be attended

**Purpose of Course.** The purpose of the Model UN course two-fold: First, to provide students with a background to the history and workings of the United Nations. Second, to prepare them for participation in the annual National Model UN (NMUN) Conference. Students will learn the origins of the United Nations; the membership and responsibilities of the General Assembly, Security Council, and committees; and the relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. In preparation for the NMUN, students will become knowledgeable in the history and policies of the country FMU is chosen to represent that year, the rules of NMUN, the roles of caucusing and diplomacy, and the process of turning a working paper into a resolution. Students will also make presentations to the class and participate in mock simulations.

**Passing this Course.** Getting an “A” in this class is not difficult, *if you are willing to put the required effort into it.* That means coming to class, paying attention, reading assigned material, taking notes, and asking questions. This may sound like a lot, but it is no different from what would be expected of you in any course.

**How your final grade is determined.** Your grade will be determined via the following:

- Quizzes
- Participation in in-class simulations. Students will each choose a nation (other than that assigned to FMU) and pretend to be a representative from that nation. They will engage in speech-making and caucusing on one or more subjects. In turn, students will get a sense of what both the UN and NMUN are like.
- Proof of preparation for NMUN. Each student will be given a choice on which NMUN committee he/she wishes to sit. He/she must demonstrate that he/she is conducting research on, and is knowledgeable of, the position(s) of the assigned nation as it relates to the committee in question. Proof of preparation will be demonstrated through class presentations and mock simulations.
- Working/position papers. Each student will draft a working paper and seek to turn it into a resolution.

**Academic dishonesty.** Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. The former is defined by the student handbook as “taking or presenting any information or material by a student with the intent of aiding him/herself or any other person on any academic work which is considered in any way in the determination of the final grade.” The latter is defined as the “use of the ideas or writings of another without acknowledgment of that use.” For more specific information on these violations, see the student handbook.

*The first incident of academic dishonesty will result in the student receiving an "F" on the assignment involved. The second incident will result in the student receiving an "F" for the course. In both cases, proper university authorities will be notified.*

## **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**

### **WEEKS 1-2**

- Class introduction
- Coverage of the history and workings of the United Nations
- Students start research into history and policies of their assigned nation

### **WEEKS 3-MODEL UN WEEK**

- Students continue their research
- Discussion of the membership and rules of the committees to which the assigned nation is a member
- Rules of NMUN discussed
- In-class presentations
- Students practice caucusing, speech-making, and writing working papers and resolutions
- Mock simulations take place

### **MODEL UN WEEK**

Students participate in National Model UN

### **REMAINDER OF SEMESTER**

Students write QEP assessments of their experiences at National Model UN

In-class assessments held of students' experiences