



Model UN 7-9 Syllabus

Course Goals

1 United Nations

Students learn about the structure and function of the United Nations and related organizations.

2 Model UN Preparation

Students learn how to participate in Model UN tournaments during the school year.

Course Topics

1 Structure of the UN

Students learn about how the UN is organized and what its role is in international politics.

2 Current Events

Students discuss current world events and learn how to stay updated on these events.

3 Public Speaking

Students practice public speaking, which will assist them during the debates throughout the session.

4 Non-Governmental Organizations

Students learn the role that NGO's play and research some. They present their findings to the class.

5 Research

Students learn the importance of good research and some sources to go to for quality information.

6 Position Papers

Students learn about the role of a position paper in a Model UN committee and how to properly write one.

7 Debates

Students participate in many debates throughout the session to practice their ability to argue a point of view.

8 Vocabulary

Students learn the terminology they will need to know to successfully argue for their country's perspective in committee.

9 Consensus

Students learn how to build consensus around their solution to a problem.

10 Working Papers

Students learn the role of working papers and how to write them properly.

11 Model UN Debate Structure

Students learn the structure of a Model UN debate and how to become involved in the Model UN club in a high school.

Course Schedule

Day 1

Introduction to the United Nations

Students receive and overview about the goals and functions of the UN.

Current Event Discussion

Students share their knowledge on international events, and they learn various sources that can be checked to learn about the news.

Public Speaking for a Debate

Students discuss the qualities of speaking well publicly and practice these in an informal debate.

Day 2

Bodies of the United Nations

Students discuss the main bodies of the UN and the topics they debate about.

Sustainable Development

Students begin to learn about sustainable development, which the course will focus on.

Vocabulary

Students begin to learn the terminology that will be necessary for success in upcoming debates.

Debate Exercise 1

Students use the public speaking skills they have acquired to hold a debate.

Day 3

Non-Governmental Organizations

Students learn about the role and types of NGO's, research specific ones, and present their findings to the class.

Sustainable Development Issues

Students brainstorm issues related to sustainable development that they could debate.

Debate Exercise 2

Students debate a pertinent topic to practice the skills they have learned.

Day 4

Background Guides

Students learn the role of background guides in a MUN conference.

Research

Students learn about the type of research that is necessary for Model UN conferences.

Position Papers

Students learn the purpose and structure of a position paper used in Model UN debates.

Debate Exercise 3

Students hold another debate to practice the skills they have learned.

Day 5

Role Playing

Students take on various roles and attempt to solve a problem in a way that everyone agrees with.

Review

Students review the information they have learned throughout the week and begin to discuss topics to debate in the next week.

Day 6

Research Exercise

Students practice effective research skills and present their findings to the class.

Introduction to Model UN

Students learn how high school Model UN clubs are set up, and they discuss the events in Model UN conferences.

Debate Exercise 4

Students debate a topic they have researched that day from the point of view of their particular country.

Day 7

Consensus Building

Students learn how to work together to come up with a proposed solution that everyone can agree with.

Questions

Students learn the importance of asking questions during Model UN conferences.

Debate Exercise 5

Students use the skills they have learned, particularly the use of questions, to participate in a debate.

Day 8

Working Papers

Students learn the rules for writing a working paper and about its importance in a Model UN debate.

Debate Exercise 6

Students debate a topic and practice writing working papers based on the points argued during the debate.

Day 9

Rules and Procedures

Students go over the rules and procedures of a Model UN debate, which they will simulate the following day.

Debate Exercise 7

Students participate in a final debate exercise before the Model UN simulation the following day.

Day 10

Model UN Simulation

Students hold a formal Model UN debate on topics they have researched.

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