Model United Nations Summer Institute Syllabus

Students in this Summer Institute will simulate the United Nations through debate of international relations in subsidiary committees. PLEASE NOTE: Prior to the start of the Summer Institute, students will have the opportunity to select a preferred committee and entity to represent, will be provided with related Background Guides and Research Guides, and will be required to write and submit two short position papers even before MUNSI begins! Doing initial research prior to the start of the Model UN Summer Institute and writing these position papers will greatly aid students to start thinking critically about the topics presented, and will also allow all participants (novice and experienced, alike) to be well prepared for the start of MUNSI. Further details will be distributed to participants prior to the start of the program.

Once the Summer Institute begins, students will be given detailed instruction on the rules and procedure of Model United Nations in order to make for effective debate while simultaneously teaching students strategies of public speaking and cooperative crisis resolution. Next, students will be examining some of the most pressing international flash points of the modern day. This examination will take place both through lecture and through interactive and cooperative research initiatives in preparation for the United Nations' committee simulations. Rather than simply learning facts about international affairs and countries' foreign policies, students will be required to conduct this research from the perspectives of assigned countries. Then, the bulk of the class will operate within these respective committees, where students will debate the best solutions to these flash points, with the goal of providing security and stability through collaborative resolution writing.

In addition to the substance of modern diplomacy, this course will cover the subject of diplomatic protocol, as well as addressing students' practical communication skills in writing executive summaries, talking points, diplomatic reports as well as writing and delivering speeches, all of which are vital requirements for an effective diplomat.

Grading Evaluation:
Position Papers - 10%
Debate Participation - 40%
Committee Caucusing - 30%
Resolution Writing - 20%

As the week of the Summer Institute will be equivalent to one full class, attendance each day is crucial and more than 1 day’s absence will result in a grade of NP. Students are expected to conduct proper research relevant to their committees, participate in the flow of debate and cooperation, as well as arrive to class on time and actively participate in all related exercises of the Summer Institute.
Through this intensive week-long program, students will experience the following:

- **MUNSI Opening Ceremonies:**
  - Welcome and keynote speeches

- **MUNSI Logistical Meetings:**
  - Overview of logistics/expectations of Summer Institute
  - Introduction to Summer Institute staff and fellow participants

- **MUNSI Research Presentation:**
  - Training on conducting proper research
  - Discussion of Position Paper

- **MUN Training Sessions:**
  - Training on Model United Nations rules and procedures
  - Review of Sample Resolution
  - Discussion of International Relations Theory
  - Examination of some of the most pressing international flash points of the day
  - Lectures and research initiatives in preparation for the United Nations’ committee simulations, concurrent with Background Guides
  - Presentations on effective strategies of public speaking and cooperative crisis resolution
  - Discussion of proper flow of debate, review of the progression of Model United Nations debate as well as different types of formal and informal debate

- **MUN Committee Sessions:**
  - Delegates will conduct proper research relevant to their committees, laying out key positions of each member of the committee
  - General debate toward identifying most pressing international issue
  - Submission of final version of Position Paper
  - Continued debate regarding the best solutions to international flash points, with the goal of providing security and stability through collaborative caucusing
  - Presentation of further substantive debate on best ways to mitigate flash points leading to introduction of draft resolutions
  - Revising draft resolutions though further debate and caucusing
  - Emphasis on debate of/amendments to draft resolutions pertaining to solving international flashpoints
  - Presentation of final arguments for draft resolutions and movement towards voting procedure
  - Culmination of previous session’s voting outcome and closure of debate

- **MUN Committee Brief:**
  - After conducting research, students will write a brief outlining student’s country or character’s policy on the topic, a brief summary of the background of the topic, and proposals for future actions related to the topic.
• MUN In and After College:
  o Students will have the opportunity to explore university life directly from current undergraduate students
  o Students will receive pre-college counseling, attend an admissions presentation, and learn about Model United Nations in college and its application outside of school

• MUNSI Closing Ceremonies:
  o Institute staff speeches
  o Awards announced and distributed.

NOTE: The program schedule and syllabus are subject to change.