INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY STUDY - MODEL OAS - MEXICO

The Model Organization of American States (OAS) is a simulation of the real OAS. Universities from North America, Latin America and the Caribbean send student delegations to represent the countries of the Americas. Months of preparation culminate in a meeting of the General Assembly where students spend one week at OAS headquarters in Washington DC debating the issues that importantly affect the Americas.

This class will prepare the student for this experience. Since each student must be trained to become an expert on particular agenda topics, there is much independent research involved in this class. Students will come prepared to brief the entire delegation each week.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge of Western Hemisphere political systems including their institutions, processes, laws and constitutions and the relations between and among nations.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of the diverse political roles and spaces exhibited in diplomatic relations.

3. Distinguish their own views from those of others and can defend their own perspective.

4. Demonstrate mastery of the independent research process.

Washington Model OAS website:  www.wmoas.org
OAS website:  www.oas.org
Mexico OAS Mission  http://mision.sre.gob.mx/oea/
Summit of the Americas website:  www.summit-americas.org
Mexico – ECLAC :  http://www.cepal.org/mexico/

READINGS

The following articles and documents must be read before the class for which they are scheduled. Articles are available in a packet at SAS/E on Calhoun Street.

Global Studies: Latin America Country Profile – Mexico
“The Lost Continent”
“Liberating Pachamama”
“Female Leaders on the Rise in Central, South America”
“The Real War in Mexico: How Democracy Can Defeat the Drug Cartels”
“Violence against Women”
“Hemispheric Echoes”
“Machisma”
“Go Before you Die”
Schedule

I. Weeks 1 and 2 - January 8 - 17

Introduction to the OAS and Model OAS - general discussion and history; introduction to Mexico; assigning of committees and agenda topics; internet guide to OAS site; orientation to research for the model; begin research on agenda topics

READ: Global Studies: Latin America Country Profile – Mexico
“The Lost Continent”
“Liberating Pachamama”
“Female Leaders on the Rise in Central, South America”
“The Real War in Mexico: How Democracy Can Defeat the Drug Cartels”
“Violence against Women”
”Hemispheric Echoes”
“Machisma”
“Go Before you Die”
“Aftershocks”
“What are They So Scared of?”
*Heraldo Muñez, “A New OAS for the Times”
*Viron Vakey, “Organizational Structure of the OAS”

II. Weeks 3 - 5 January 21- February 7 – Research and research reports; Writing, critiquing, editing resolutions

READ:  *Organizational Chart - Secretariat
*Organizational Chart - OAS
*Charter of the OAS
*Inter-American Democratic Charter
*Common OAS Acronyms

III. Weeks 6 - 8 February 10 – February 28 – Rules of Procedure - begin mock sessions

READ:  *Model Rules of Procedure
*Draft Resolution Template
Week 9  SPRING BREAK

IV. Weeks 10 - 11 March 10 - March 21 – Continue mock sessions; Writing, critiquing, editing resolutions; final preparation

Week 12 – 2013 WASHINGTON MODEL OAS – March 24 – 30

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICY

Attendance - Attendance is mandatory

Exams - There will be no exams in this course.

Reflection Paper – Each student will write a short - 5 page – paper comparing how one agenda item they were responsible for was dealt with a the Model as opposed to the real OAS General Assembly. Evaluate the successes or failures of each

OFFICE HOURS
Please feel free to see me at any time - I have an open door policy. Formal office hours will be announced.

FINAL GRADE WILL BE COMPUTED AS FOLLOWS:

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