Course Name: Model United Nations
Course Prefix: POLS
Course Number: 3150
Submitted by: Stephanie Wolfe, stephaniewolfe@weber.edu

Current Date: 10/13/2014 College: Social & Behavioral Sciences
Department: Political Sciences & Philosophy
From Term: Spring 2015

Substantive

change
Current Course Subject: POLS
Current Course Number: 3150

POLS 3150 - Model United Nations Credits: (2) Typically taught: Spring [Full Sem] A study of the issues before the current General Assembly of the United Nations as well as preparation for a particular nation’s (or nations’) position(s) on these issues in preparation for the Model United Nations of the Far West. May be repeated once for 4 credit hours.

New/Revised Course Information:

Subject: POLS
Course Number: 3150

Check all that apply:*This is for courses already approved for gen ed. Use a*[*different form*](http://documents.weber.edu/catalog/forms.htm)*for proposing a new gen ed designation.*

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* CA
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* LS
* PS
* SS
* EN
* AI
* QL
* TA
* TB
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* TE

Course Title: Model United Nations
Abbreviated Course Title: Model United Nations
Course Type: LEC
Credit Hours: 3
or if variable hours: to

Contact Hours:Lecture: Normal seminar each week - (150 minutes per week)
Lab:
Other:

Repeat Information:Limit: 1
Max Hrs: 6
Grading Mode: standard

This course is/will be:

a required course in a major program
a required course in a minor program
a required course in a 1- or 2- year program
elective

Prerequisites/Co-requisites:None

Course description (exactly as it will appear in the catalog, including prerequisites):A study of the current events before the United Nations General Assembly as well as in-depth research on selected countries; includes preparation for the Model United Nations of the Far West and the Northern Utah Model UN. May be repeated once for a total of 6 credit hours.

Justification for the new course or for changes to an existing course. (Note: Justification should emphasize academic rationale for the change or new course. This is particularly important for courses requesting upper-division status.)The course "Model United Nations" was previous taught by Dr. Nancy Haanstad before she retired. As she taught it, it was a 2 hour course. I have revamped the course and, as I now teach it, the work load is on par with my three credit classes. Some of the differences include:

1) The previous course required the students to read only one text book. (Student Atlas of World Politics) where as I am now requiring that text book in addition to two more. (One on the United Nations as an institution and one on how to be a winning delegate). Thus the reading schedule is heavier.

2) Previously this course had a volunteer segment at the Northern Utah Model United Nations (NUMUN) conference which was optional. This meant the majority of students did not attend. The course update now requires participation at NUMUN and the course grade reflects this: 10% of the overall grade corresponds to how well they do at NUMUN. Thus also means that students are required to spend an additional 7 hours in class on a Saturday.

3) Previously this course did not have a test. Now 10% of the overall grade is from a test on the United Nations structure.

4) I run full simulations in class and have added several more then what was required previously. Thus the amount of work is increased (How many position
papers and resolutions they have to turn in). In addition I require all students to write position papers and resolutions for the Model UN Far West, regardless of
if they are attending or not. This is a change in policy and also requires more work on their behalf.

5) Finally, due to the added simulations, we need an additional 50 minutes for debate and negotiation time. The class time simply needs to be longer so we
can complete our work.

While it is true that this course has been taught as a 2 credit course in the past, the increased work-load clearly indicates that the course should be a 3 credit
class.

In addition, the increase in the workload is justified. Most universities that offer this course, do so as a 3 hour course. As an experiment last year (which was my
first year here) I offered this course with an increased work-load. The organizers of the Model UN Far West (MUNFW) were so impressed with our outstanding team, that we were invited to apply as for one of the major powers in 2015. (There are 32 schools that attend MUNFW and only 5 are invited to be a "Big 5" country. These are the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council who have a veto.)

The outstanding work directly resulted in Weber being granted Russia at the 2015 Model UN Far West conference. This is the first time Weber has been awarded a Big 5 to our knowledge. Thus keeping the workload high is essential in order for Weber to maintain the excellent reputation we have gained while being fair to the students credit wise.

INFORMATION PAGE
for substantive proposals only

1. Did this course receive unanimous approval within the Department?trueIf not, what are the major concerns raised by the opponents?N/A

2. If this is a new course proposal, could you achieve the desired results by revising an existing course within your department or by requiring an existing course in another department?N/A

3. How will the proposed course differ from similar offerings by other departments? Comment on any subject overlap between this course and topics generally taught by other departments, even if no similar courses are currently offered by the other departments. Explain any effects that this proposal will have on program requirements or enrollments in other department. Please forward letters (email communication is sufficient) from all departments that you have identified above stating their support or opposition to the proposed course.N/A

4. Is this course required for certification/accreditation of a program?no

If so, a statement to that effect should appear in the justification and supporting documents should accompany this form.

5. For course proposals, e-mail a syllabus to Faculty Senate which should be sufficiently detailed that the committees can determine that the course is at the appropriate level and matches the description. There should be an indication of the amount and type of outside activity required in the course (projects, research papers, homework, etc.).

Please mail a signed [approval page](https://portalapps.weber.edu/lCourseProposal/SignaturePage.PDF)to the Faculty Senate Office, MA 210J, MC 1033.