SYLLABUS: Political Science 1/Model UN

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**Course Overview**

This course will be taught as a combination of Political Science 1 and Model UN.

Political Science I introduces students to political theory through the study of governments; public policies; and political processes, systems, and behavior. Compared to last year, we will focus more, but not exclusively, on the domestic policy process in the United States.

Model UN consists of a series of simulations of real-world discussions that take place at the international. national, state, or local level. Each year, more than 60,000 high school and university students participate in Model UN simulations around the world.

This course has several main objectives for scholars to accomplish:

1. The scholar will be able to articulate a comprehensive worldview on a variety of issues of global or national importance.
2. The scholar will be able to complete quality research to thoroughly and accurately represent a country’s or government official’s perspective.
3. The scholar will be able to speak effectively on a variety of important international and domestic topics.
4. The scholar will be able to write high quality, well researched position papers on a variety of subjects.
5. The scholar will be able to work effectively in groups, developing leadership and interpersonal skills to reach solutions to real-world problems.

**Course Procedures**

This course will have an intellectually demanding curriculum and as such, we ask that each student display the maturity and common courtesies listed here:

* ***BE prepared.*** Get to class on time and be ready to go. Complete all prerequisite materials before class starts. **Be prepared to contribute in group work settings and class discussions.**
* ***BE productive.*** Work as hard and efficiently as you can. I try not to give homework, so if you work efficiently in class, you should be able to complete your assignments. Complete all course requirements on time. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the hub or my website so that you will be able to make up for any assignments that you may have missed.
* ***BE positive.*** Value everyone’s opinions and be courteous. Listen when the instructor is speaking and follow all instructions. Even if it’s hard, you’re scared to speak, or you are confused or frustrated, work through it and keep trying. Just breathe!
* ***BE communicative.*** with your teachers and peers so that we can help you throughout the year. Ask questions when you don’t understand. Help each other!

**Grading**

This is a project-based course. Quizzes and exams will not be given. Categories and weights for grades are as follows:

* Classwork: 60%--simulation research and preparation, daily discussion participation, daily gradesetc.
* Major Work: 40%--research papers, overall grades for simulations, major projects, etc.

**Late Work Policy**

All late work will have 20 points deducted from the assignment grade. Work will no longer be accepted 2 weeks after the due date.

**CTE**

Principles of Government is the second course in a 3 year CTE pathway called Government and Public Administration. The full pathway is listed below. All courses will be taught in combination with Model UN.

* 1st Year: Principles of Government and Public Administration
* 2nd Year: Political Science 1
* 3rd Year: Dimensions of Diplomacy

**Class Materials**

We spent so much time on computers last year, so I want to get away from them as much as possible. So, please have the following available every class…

* A folder (or a section of a binder for another class)
* Paper
* Something to write with

**Model UN Conference Dates:**

* + All on hold due to pandemic, but I hope to travel to some as soon as possible!