

**MODEL UNITED NATIONS**  
**Bluefield State College**  
**SOSC 340—FALL 2013**  
**CRN: 10207**  
**Section: 001**  
**WEBBD**

**Colin S. Cavell, Ph.D.**

**Class F: 3:00 p.m.-4:50 p.m. (i.e. 15:00-16:50)**

**Office Hours: TBA**

**VOICE: 304.327.4034 (W)**

**Course Room No.: B104**

**INTERNET: ccavell@bluefieldstate.edu**

**Office No.: B120**

**512-924-2364 (M)**

Introduces students to the actual workings of the United Nations, offering insight into the difficulties involved in reaching consensus on a variety of international issues that might come before the body. PR COMM 208.

Grading Policy: 20% for Attendance\*; 20% for the In-Class Presentation; 20% for the Midterm Exam; 20% for the Position Paper; and 20% for Participation\*\* in Class Activities. A Guidelines sheet will be distributed outlining the requirements for your Class Presentation and for your Position Paper.

Grading Scale: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F. These numerical scores correspond to the following evaluations: "A" = Excellent; "B" = Good; "C" = Satisfactory (NOTE: A grade of "C" or better is required in major courses); "D" = Poor (passing, except in major courses); "F" = Earned Failure (removed only by repeating the course; upon successfully passing the course, the first grade is "excluded" from grade point average. The second grade is "included" in the recalculation of the grade point average); and "I" = Incomplete.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of SOSC 340, students should be able to read and provide an immanent critique of texts; to articulate arguments and examine their flaws; be familiar with the basics of logical, ethical, and dialectical reasoning; be familiar with essays, both pro and con, regarding the 1945 United Nations Charter, reasons for an international organization of states and the need to actively participate in reinforcing the international community of nations, the relationship between the United States and the United Nations and the role it should play, the effect of federalism in the structure of the United Nations as well as the power relationships between the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly; be familiar with the historical struggle for the goals of world peace and comity amongst nations including struggles over rights and responsibilities of nations; be familiar with the horrendous tragedies as well as accomplishments of the United Nations experiment in world governance; empathize with the plight of oppressed peoples, women, children, ethnic minorities, et al. who struggled to overcome adversity in their quest for freedom; understand the effects of race, gender, class and other divisions on societies and the effect of UN resolutions, institutions, and international regimes to either enhance or dissipate such divisions; have some familiarity with the art of diplomacy and the role of leadership in advancing common goals; be able to articulate some conception of human freedom and adopt a stance towards it; and be able to envision a defensible future.

Academic Integrity Policy: Academic integrity is expected of all students. This means that all work for this class must be undertaken and completed by you alone without collaboration from others. Any dishonesty in the performance of course work, such as plagiarism or cheating in other forms, will be reported. In the event the student is charged with some form of dishonesty, the Student Discipline Policy will be followed. The full text of the BSC Academic Honesty Policy can be found at: <http://www.bluefieldstate.edu/academics/academic-honesty-and-proctoring>. In addition, students should be aware that research paper assignments may be submitted to [Turnitin](#) by the instructor for the purpose of checking for possible plagiarism. Submitted assignments will be included in the BSC dedicated database of assignments at Turnitin and will be used solely for the purpose of checking for possible plagiarism during the grading process during this term and in the future.

Attendance Policy\*: Attendance in class is mandatory. It is the student's responsibility to sign the attendance sheet each day of class; failure to sign the attendance sheet—even if in attendance—will be counted as an absence. "When the number of clock hours of willful absences exceeds the number of semester hours of credit, the instructor will notify the Registrar that the student has exceeded the permissible number of absences and should be withdrawn from class." Students with Excused Absences must submit to me a hard copy of the campus publication *The Bulletin* announcing your allowed absence in order to get credit for the day(s) of your absence. "It is the responsibility of the student to...provide supporting documents for institutional and unavoidable absences" (*Bluefield State College Academic Catalog 2012-2014*, p. 55). As well, you are expected to follow the syllabus and accordingly be prepared for each day's class. This means that you must read the pre-assigned readings before class so that you will be prepared to

discuss and debate in class the subject matter scheduled for that day and answer questions related to the issues being covered.

\* Absence from class may be made up by preparing a **two-page, typed** (i.e. using maximum 12 point font size and maximum double-spaced text with one-inch margin on all sides), **summary** on the missed material scheduled to be covered the day(s) of your absence. The summary must be in your own words and must **not** be copied material from the text(s), the internet, or any other source(s). **All summaries must be turned in to me by the last day of classes if you want credit for your absences.**

**Participation Policy\*\*:** All students in the Model UN class are automatically members of the BSC Model UN Club and are required to participate in all Club activities, particularly preparation for the Annual BSC Model UN Conference on campus immediately following the Fall semester. Twenty percent of your total grade will come from your participation.

**Cell Phone Policy:**

Turn off all cell phones during class or put on vibration. If you absolutely must answer your phone, leave the classroom before answering your phone and return only after you have completed your conversation.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Academic Withdrawal from the course prior to the deadline date for withdrawal as published within the academic calendar is accomplished by securing a Change In Schedule form and having it signed by appropriate persons. Blank copies of the change in schedule form are available in the offices of the Registrar, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean and the advisor. After obtaining the required signatures, the student must submit, prior to the deadline date, the change in schedule form to the Office of the Registrar.

**Disability Services Statement:** BSC is committed to full inclusion of all students. Students who, by nature of a documented disability, require classroom, equipment, testing or assignment accommodations should contact the Student Support Services at 304.327.4227 to request accommodations before the start of the semester. Your immediate attention to these arrangements is necessary to assure a positive learning experience.

**Free Tutoring Services Available:** BSC offers **free online tutoring for all BSC students** in the following subjects: Math; Accounting, Managerial; Accounting, Financial; Writing (all subjects); Grammar; Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Statistics; Spanish. Chemistry, etc. This service is free and available 24 hours a day to all BSC students. Go to <http://www.smarthinking.com/> and follow these instructions.

**Required Text (Available Online – Professor will provide):**

*Basic Facts about the United Nations.* 2011. New York, NY: United Nations Department of Public Information. [ISBN: 978-92-1-101235-4 or eISBN: 978-92-1-054807-6], 309 pages.

*AMUN Rules & Procedures: Bringing Global Perspectives to Future Leaders.* July 2012. Produced for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual American Model United Nations International Conference in Chicago, Illinois from 17-20 November, 2012. Oak Park, IL: American Model United Nations International.

**\*\*\*This class is web-enhanced and students will be able to access supplemental materials on the BSC BlackBoard website, including chapter outlines, chapter PowerPoint summaries, etc.\*\*\***

**Mandatory LiveText Assessment Statement:**

"An active LiveText account is a required resource for this course because at least one assignment *must* be submitted electronically using this online platform. LiveText is used by Bluefield State to help maintain our national accreditations, to demonstrate the quality of our academic programs, and to improve teaching and learning. As a student, you have the option to use your account for secure online storage of your academic work, and to create digital documents such as electronic portfolios or reflective journals, which can be shared with prospective employers or other audiences.

If you do not already have a LiveText account, you can purchase your five year account for \$98.00 at the college bookstore or online with a credit or debit card at [www.livetext.com](http://www.livetext.com). LiveText will be a required resource in many different courses throughout your program, and you can use the same account for any course that requires it for the full five years, so **you only need to purchase the account one time**. If you already have an active LiveText account, you do not need to purchase another one. After five years you can extend your membership if you continue to need it for additional coursework or would like to maintain it for your personal use."

— Tracey Anderson, Ed.D., BSC Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness

**Aug. 23:** World Organizations Past & Present

**Readings:** *UN Charter* [<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>]; *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 3-5.

**Aug. 30:** Introduction to the United Nations: The UN Charter & General Conference Information

**Readings:** *UN Charter* [<http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/>]; *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 3-5; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 3-6.

**Sept. 6:** UN General Assembly & General Conference Information

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 5-6; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 3-6.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Sept. 13:** UN Security Council & Role Playing and Preparation

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 7-9; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 7-11.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Sept. 20:** UN Economic and Social Council & Role Playing and Preparation

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 12-16; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 7-11.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Sept. 27:** UN Trusteeship Council & The International Press Delegation

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, p. 16; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, p. 12.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Oct. 4:** International Court of Justice

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 16-17; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 13-15.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Oct. 11:** MIDTERM EXAM

**Oct. 14:** Mid-Semester Grades Due to Registrar

**Oct. 18:** UN Secretariat & The International Court of Justice (ICJ)

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 17-21; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 13-15.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Oct. 21-25:** Pre-Registration for Spring Semester for Currently Enrolled Students

**Oct. 25:** UN Budget & Position Papers

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, p. 27; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 16-17.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Nov. 1:** UN System & Draft Documents

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 29-41; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 18-23.

**Assignment:** **[Position Papers Due]** Submit hardcopy of Position Paper; as well, submit electronic copy to Turnitin by 11:59 p.m. on 11/1/13.

**Assignment:** Position Papers Due today. Upload an electronic copy of your Position Paper to Turnitin.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Nov. 8:** Last day to withdraw from class/college with a "W"

**Nov. 8:** UN System & Security Council Rules of Procedure

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 29-41; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 24-29.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Nov. 9:** Last Day to Withdraw with "W" for Full Semester Classes

**Nov. 15:** [In-class Presentations Due] Specialized Agencies and Related Organizations & Security Council Rules of Procedure

**Readings:** *Basic Facts about the United Nations*. 2011, pp. 42-54; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 24-29.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Nov. 22:** Specialized Agencies and Related Organizations & GA and ECOSOC Rules of Procedure

**Readings:** Basic Facts about the United Nations. 2011, pp. 42-54; *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 30-39.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Nov. 23-26:** American Model United Nations International Conference, Chicago, Illinois

**Nov. 25-29:** Thanksgiving Day Holidays — College closed (No Classes)

**Dec. 6:** Summary & GA and ECOSOC Rules of Procedure [**Last day of classes. All course work MUST be completed by this date. No submissions will be accepted after this date.**]

**Readings:** *AMUN Rules & Procedures*, 2012, pp. 30-39.

**Assignment:** Plan for November AMUN Conference in Chicago

**Assignment:** Plan for December BSC Model UN Conference

**Dec. 16:** Final grades due to Registrar electronically

**Dec. 17-18:** BSC Annual Model UN Conference (on campus)

**Program:** This is our Fall finale, and all members are expected to participate. Food, fun, and excitement running our own Model UN Conference with local high schools.