

UNIVERSIDAD FRANCISCO MARROQUÍN
Instituto de Estudios Políticos y Relaciones Internacionales (EPRI)

Course: Participación en Asambleas Internacionales
Professor: Dr. Edwin Palenque Ph.D palenque@ufm.edu.gt
Year: 2006 First Semester
Career: Licenciatura en Relaciones Internacionales
Field of Studies: Relaciones Internacionales

Course Description

The fast changing characteristics of the political as well as the economic activities among nations today have significantly enhanced the importance of the international organizations. As a result an important part of modern diplomacy takes place through international organizations. EPRI has developed this course to train the students of international relations on the techniques of participating in a “General Assembly” of the OAS. This training takes place through the participation of the students in a simulated general assembly exercise. The project, which it is known by its acronym MOAS (Model Organization of American States) takes place in Washington, D.C.

Course Objectives:

1. General

This course uses first and foremost a practical approach; therefore most of the sessions will consist of writing and debating resolutions, based on themes prepared by the OAS General Assembly’s agenda, as well as practicing parliamentary procedures. In addition, the students will analyze the governments, the political, social, cultural and historical issues concerning the countries assigned to be represented by the university.

1. Specifics

- Analyze the origins of the Pan Americanism
- Study the political and administrative structures of the OAS
- Learn about the political and economical situation of the countries to be represented
- Learn and practice parliamentary procedures
- Develop the necessary skills to prepare and debate resolutions.

Profile of the student at the end of the course:

At the end of the course it is expected that the students would have:

- Learned and practiced skills that would allow them to understand how a general assembly of the OAS is conducted.
- Learned about the political situation of the American countries and their activities within the OAS.
- Learned how to write and debate resolutions according to an agenda provided by the OAS.
- Developed their writing skills, as well as their abilities to express and discuss ideas.
- Have acquired the capabilities to apply adequate tools for making critical analysis of international political issues.
- Have improved their knowledge of the English language.

Objectives	Subject	Time	Tasks	Source	Evaluation
Presentation of MOAS program and trip to Washington	Discuss ways and means of the course as well as the trip	2 sessions	Read program and begin organizing groups	Professor and students general discussion	
The Pan American Concept	History of how the Pan American nations began interacting	2 sessions	Discuss the relationships among Pan American nations	Professor and notes in MIU	
The OAS Structure and objectives of the OAS	Introducing the OAS and its functioning	2 sessions	Discuss the OAS operations	Professor and notes MIU and WEB OAS	
Parliamentary law and procedures	Learn about how to conduct legally international assemblies	2 sessions	Discuss Parliamentary law and procedures and how they apply to MOAS	Professor and notes provided by the professor	
Practicing resolution writing and debate	Writing Resolutions and debating them	The rest of the sessions until the trip	Practicing writing resolutions and debating them	Students	
Reviewing the accomplishments of the trip	How did we performed in D.C.	3 sessions	General evaluation	Students and professor	

Note: The course is conducted in English

**The course will be graded as follows: General participation and debate 40%
Presentations and behavior in D.C. 40%
Final exam 20%**

Bibliography: All students must read at least a daily news paper placing special emphasis to the news regarding the countries the UFM will represent.

OAS Today: Cesar Gaviria, other documents as assigned by the professor

