

Milford Public Schools Curriculum



Department: Social Studies

Course Name: Model UN

Course Description

MODEL UN

Grade 11,12

(0.5 Credits)

Level: ES - 60E325

This course will be offered during the **fall** semester only. Students will prepare for involvement in a Model United Nations (MUN) conference. This will be done on several levels, including country delegate positions, and current and prior United Nations policies. Students are required to become delegates and participate at the selected Model UN conference. This course will meet the global requirement.

UNIT 1

Unit Title: History and Structure of the United Nations

Unit Overview: Students will learn the origins of the United Nations along with the organization of the international body. Students will then evaluate its effectiveness focusing in particular on the need for reform.

LEARNING GOALS

Enduring Understanding(s):

- People develop systems to manage conflict and create order.
- Conflict resolution can involve aggression, compromise, cooperation, and change.
- Local, national, and international relationships are affected by economic transactions.
- Global societies are diverse, creating varied perspectives, contributions, and challenges.
- People are affected by environmental, economic, social, cultural, and civic concerns.

Essential Question(s):

- How are governments and international organizations created, structured maintained, and changed?
- How do competing interests influence how power is distributed and exercised?
- What effect does the economy have on society?
- What are the benefits and challenges of a diverse society?

Content and Skills:

Content:

- History and formation of the United Nations
- Structure of the UN, its main organs and subsidiary agencies
- Millennium Development Goals and post-2015 Development Agenda
- Security Council – Its structure, role, importance, controversies
- The IMF and the World Bank – Their intent, differences, requirements for loans, controversies

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- Local, national, and international relationships are affected by economic transactions.
- Global societies are diverse, creating varied perspectives, contributions, and challenges.
- People are affected by environmental, economic, social, cultural, and civic concerns.

Standards Addressed:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.3**
Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.2**
Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.9**
Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.
- **CIV 9–12.1**
- Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of local, state, tribal, national, and international civic and political institutions.
- **CIV 9–12.5**
- Evaluate citizens’ and institutions’ effectiveness in addressing social and political problems at the local, state, tribal, national, and/or international level.

UNIT 2

Unit Title: The Modern World Order

Unit Overview: Students will learn about the modern (post-Soviet) world order and how the United Nations factors into it. They will then apply their knowledge of the United Nations by evaluating how it has responded to a series of crises in the post-Soviet era.

LEARNING GOALS

Enduring Understanding(s):

- The need for international cooperation and negotiation has increased with modernization and globalization.
- International organizations face constant pressure to solve problems and mediate conflict.

The United Nations is an imperfect organization that has tried to address international issues within the constraints of its defined structure.

Essential Question(s):

- How does the United Nations fit into the modern world order?
- Why has the United Nations responded to modern crises the way in which it has?

How do non-governmental organizations work with nations and the U.N. to solve problems?

Content and Skills:

Content:

- Structure – how nations, international organizations (including the U.N.), and NGOs solve problems
- Human rights issues – ex. genocide, civil war, human trafficking, the effectiveness of the International Criminal Court, and how to prosecute terrorists
- Environmental topics – ex. climate change, deforestation, and the availability of drinking water
- The conflict between unilateral and multilateral decision-making – should international concerns trump individual national sovereignty?

Enduring Understanding(s):

- The need for international cooperation and negotiation has increased with modernization and

globalization.

- International organizations face constant pressure to solve problems and mediate conflict.
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Standards Addressed:

- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.3**
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- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.2**
Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
- **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.6**
Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.8**
Evaluate an author's premises, claims, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other information.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.11-12.4**
Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective, such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range of formal and informal tasks.

UNIT 3

Unit Title: Foreign Policy Simulation

Unit Overview: Students take the role of an international or national actor in a foreign policy simulation run on ICONS.net, through the University of Maryland. Students will apply their knowledge of international relations through their assigned role.

LEARNING GOALS

Enduring Understanding(s):

- The need for international cooperation and negotiation has increased with modernization and globalization.
- International organizations face constant pressure to solve problems and mediate conflict.

The United Nations is an imperfect organization that has tried to address international issues within the constraints of its defined structure.

Essential Question(s):

- How has globalization affected political organization, economic development, and international relations?
- How do nation-states, corporations, and international organizations negotiate to benefit their constituencies?

Why must international actors sacrifice their own self-interest to the forces of globalization?

Content and Skills:

- Simulation-driven research based on student role and the simulation selected (<http://www.icons.umd.edu/education/simulations/catalog>)

Enduring Understanding(s):

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UNIT 4**Unit Title:** Preparation and Conference**Unit Overview:** Students will prepare for the Model U.N. conference. Preparation will include parliamentary procedure, how to draft a resolution, and coalition-building.**LEARNING GOALS****Enduring Understanding(s):**

- International negotiation is a process of moderating one's objectives in pursuit of a larger goal.
- International actors will form coalitions based on shared interests.

Resolutions will not necessarily satisfy all parties in their need to appease the majority.

Essential Question(s):

- What is the best tactic to negotiate with other parties?

How can the drafting of resolutions in order to appease the majority result in ineffective solutions?

Content and Skills:

- Content will be driven by the chosen conference and roles it assigns.
- Parliamentary procedure – points and motions.
- Drafting of a resolution

Enduring Understanding(s):

- International negotiation is a process of moderating one's objectives in pursuit of a larger goal.
- International actors will form coalitions based on shared interests.
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