


Model United Nations

SVHS Model United Nations

Overview / FAQ's (for Students & Parents)

What is Model United Nations?

At Spring Valley High School, MUN is a year long, credit bearing, honors level elective class: "Global Diplomacy and the United Nations Honors." The course is highly interactive and involves simulation of the committees, debates, and activities of the real United Nations. Students are involved in Model UN through their 12th grade year.

What does a Model United Nations student do?

MUN students actively research, debate, and problem-solve, and write proposals on world issues while simulating the committees of the real United Nations. They also attend travel conferences to compete against other students and schools from all over the world. At Spring Valley High School, our MUN students have traveled internationally and hosted international exchange students for several weeks.

How will Model United Nations benefit me?

The public speaking, research, writing, critical thinking, problem solving, diplomatic, and leadership skills, not to mention the knowledge students gain in world affairs can have a positive impact on a student's readiness for college and careers. Additionally, MUN can make students stand out to colleges and scholarship committees. The MUN experience also promotes cultural diversity and fosters a deeper understanding of the interconnected, global society we live in.

When does Model United Nations meet?

MUN class meets Mondays after school for one hour, eight pre-scheduled Saturday session for four hours each, and at MUN conferences which last from one day to four days.

How are Model United Nations students graded?

MUN is a demanding class with very high academic standards. Grades are based on a point scale where one hour of course work equals up to ten points, but all the work is expected to be of high quality. Points may be deducted in the event of late work or less than exceptional performance on any given assignment or test. Additionally, MUN students are expected to travel to at least two MUN conferences per year.

How are Model United Nations students selected?

Selections for the Model UN class, as well as conference assignments are highly competitive and based on a variety of factors. Model UN Advisors make selections based on student academic transcripts and grades, challenging and rigorous course selections, teacher and administrator recommendations, proven public speaking and/or performance experience, strong research and writing capabilities, positive attendance and behavior records, and overall performance during practice sessions during the Model UN Elective. Additionally, it is our goal to create a program that reflects the rich cultural and ethnic diversity of our school.

Are there costs involved?

Yes. Like any other program involving travel or field trips, there are costs associated with each Model UN conference. Letters detailing the costs are sent home to parents/guardians as soon as possible including detailed itineraries and monthly payment due dates. Fundraising activities will be organized throughout the year whenever possible to assist with raising the needed funds to attend Model UN conferences. Additionally, a limited number of scholarships may be available and will be awarded based on financial need, student essays, and overall academic achievement.

How do I join?

Start by attending scheduled Model MUN Monday meetings at school (after school in room 826) and tell Mr. Salzman or Ms. Ancona you would like to add the class to your schedule. We typically add students who qualify at the beginning of each semester. If you have additional questions, email us at imsalzman@interact.ccsd.net (Mr. Salzman) or laancona@interact.ccsd.net (Ms. Ancona)