

PSC 389 Topics: Organizing and Managing the SUNY Model European Union

Professor of Record

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Course Description

This is a hands-on course designed to teach students how to organize and run a simulation of a European Council summit at the end of a six-month European Union (EU) Presidency. Students in this course will play the “General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union,” the body responsible for facilitating European Council summits. Students will work in teams to plan and implement various tasks such as recruitment, registration, budget, grant writing, parliamentary procedure, crowdfunding, social media, meals, transportation, tourist information, and all aspects of this student-run, student-directed event. Students will also learn about the European Union, focusing especially on the Council of the European Union (formations) and the European Council. Dr. Buonanno teaches about the EU and responsibilities and strategies of the General Secretariat (GS) during SUNYMEU. Ms. Janicke coordinates all aspects of SUNYMEU organization with the GS. This experience is equivalent to a campus-based internship and will be assessed accordingly. Dr. Buonanno and/or Ms. Janicke will check in with each student on a weekly basis with respect to their accomplishment of assigned tasks, assistance needed, what they are learning, and so forth. Each student will staff the SUNYMEU Office for approximately 3 hours per week during which time they will have one-on-one time with either Dr. Buonanno or Dr. Ceesay, depending on their GS role. Each student will receive a written evaluation of their performance in the course by the end of April.

Course Objectives

1. Examine the structure of the European Union, with special emphasis on the Council of the European Union and the General Secretariat.
2. Explore the policies currently of concern to the European Union and its Member States.
3. Develop organizational and teamwork skills.
4. Acquire “hard” skills in budgeting, grant writing, crowdfunding, professional communication through social media, and post-event evaluation on a web-survey platform (Qualtrics).
5. Acquire skills at negotiating, conflict resolution, parliamentary procedure, parliamentary prose, public speaking, and debate.

Meetings

We meet formally as an entire group on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. Cassety Hall 225 Seminar Room. Students will meet in their teams in the SUNYMEU Office, Cassety Hall 211.

This class requires students to devote at least three hours per week on simulation planning – in addition to our weekly class meeting - until SUNYMEU. Once SUNYMEU starts, you will be logging about 40 hours as the GS on Wednesday, April 6-Saturday, April 9. After SUNYMEU ends, we will meet to discuss our experience organizing SUNYMEU. After you turn in your reflection paper discussing your experience serving on the SUNYMEU planning team, this class ends for the semester.

Textbooks:

McCormick, John. McCormick, John. 2020. [Understanding the European Union: A Concise Introduction](#). 8th ed. Bloomsbury. This is a general introduction to the EU, which will give you a good understanding of the EU's historical development, how it works, and the major policies it develops and implements.

The IEUSS Guide to the SUNY Model European Union, 16th edition (2022). “Bluebook.” You want to have this with you at all times during SUNYMEU.

Other Readings:

French Presidency Programme, Trio Programme, EU Strategic Priorities for 2019-2024 (these are all linked in the e-version of the Bluebook).

Week 1 - 2/2

Introductions, Pass out Bluebook, Recruitment from SUNY campuses, Blackboard space for communication, assignments, etc.

Week 2- 2/9

Prof: Purpose of SUNYMEU (what does it produce?); How the simulation works – day by day review of the program, Duties of the General Secretariat – as participants in the meetings and as conference organizers, arbiters of disputes.

Member State Alter Egos - Alter Egos and Council Configurations, Difference between the European Council and the Council of the European Union

- a. Presidency of the EU
- b. Trio Programme
- c. President of the European Council
- d. High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs & Security Policy
- e. Foreign Affairs Council
- f. EcoFin
- g. Coreper 2

Press Corps purpose & volunteer to staff and recruit; Should there be a Friday evening event for SUNYMEU students?

GD: Social media & assignments, Recruitment Update, Crowdfunding, Finalizing swag, Viewing Social Hall

Week 3 – 2/16

Prof: What is the Council Presidency? What is the European Council? Relationship between European Council “Conclusions” ending a six-month presidency and SUNYMEU’s purpose. What are the agenda items? What is the General Secretariat’s role?

GD: Alter ego spreadsheet – illustrate how to create and fill in on google docs

Recruitment update, other business

Week 4 – 2/23

Prof: The SUNYMEU Budget – how to create a budget, examples of grants supporting SUNYMEU. What are the objectives of SUNYMEU with respect to the Jean Monnet Module of the Erasmus+ Programme?

GD: Recruitment update, other business

Week 5 – 3/2

Prof: The agenda items for SUNYMEU. The GS will review, discuss, organize, and send to the students playing the French Presidency, the President of the European Council, the High Representative, and the President of the European Commission.

GD: Role assignment –

- Wednesday’s morning meeting government officials, tour of downtown Buffalo
- Wednesday afternoon Niagara Falls
- Ideas for Wednesday event for students who have arrived early?
- Volunteers to lead walking tour of Elmwood Village and BSC (including Burchfield Penny?) on Thursday morning.
- Volunteers for staff conference registration/conference desk on Thursday throughout the simulation.

Recruitment update, other business

Week 6 – 3/9

Prof: Qualtrics – how to create a survey in Qualtrics. Sample SUNYMEU evaluation survey. Volunteers to work on SUNYMEU survey (for launching at the end of SUNYMEU on April 9th)

GD: Recruitment update, other business

Week 7 – 3/16

Prof: Robert's Rules of Order (Parliamentary procedure) – training in Robert's Rules of Order; SUNYMEU rules of procedure

GD: Recruitment update, other business

Week 8 – 3/23

Run through of SUNYMEU from Wednesday April 6 – Saturday evening April 9th.
Responsibilities, staffing

Sheet with responsibilities.

Week 9 – Spring Break (no class March 30th)

Week 10

Wednesday, April 6

Be available if you are volunteering for anything during the day. You also want to be available to guide students who arrive Wednesday evening. Dinner suggestions, etc.

Thursday, April 7

Be available all day from approximately 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday, April 8

Be available all day from approximately 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, April 9

Be available all day from approximately 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Week 11

Wednesday, April 13 Reflection on the experience playing the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union (last class meeting)

FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Reflection Paper posted to Blackboard by April 17.

COVID-19

Coronavirus Information for Students

<https://coronavirus.buffalostate.edu/students>

Regarding Use of Face Masks

In accordance with updated guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Erie County Department of Health, **Buffalo State College will again require all campus community members and visitors—regardless of vaccination status—to wear face masks while indoors on campus.**

Face masks are not required when faculty or staff members are alone in their personal offices or when students are inside their private residence hall rooms, or for individuals who are actively eating or drinking in a campus dining area.

Unvaccinated individuals will be required to wear face masks in all outdoor settings. Face masks will also be required for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in all large outdoor group settings of 200 or more people.

Regarding Seating Plans

As per the campus reopening plan, students will have assigned seats in face-to-face classrooms to facilitate contact tracing if needed. Faculty will arrange assigned seating during the first class sessions.

Regarding Video Recording or Live Streaming of Instruction

Recordings and live streaming of lectures and other class content may occur to facilitate learning by remote or absent students, or for video playback. While every effort will be made in the classroom to place the recording device in a way that will capture only the instructor, it is possible that you may inadvertently appear on the video. If you have concerns that you may appear on the video, please notify the instructor and seating changes can be made. Your voice may also be captured during class discussions. For online synchronous sessions, if the session is recorded, and you have concerns you may appear in the recording, you should notify your instructor. Discuss with your instructor additional options to participate (i.e chat, poll, whiteboard), if you do not feel comfortable utilizing your camera or microphone during the recorded session. Video Recording or Live Streaming will not be shared with anyone outside of the class roster.

Regarding Services Provided by the Dean of Students

The Dean of Students Office helps students navigate the college experience, particularly during difficult situations such as personal, financial, medical, and/or family crises. If you or someone you know is in need of support, services are available. For a list of support services and information, please visit <http://deanofstudents.buffalostate.edu/>, 716-878-4618 or stop by 311 Campbell Student Union during business hours.

Other resources:

Student Conduct and Community Standards Office: Phone: (716) 878-3051

Weigel Health Center: Phone: (716) 878 – 6711

Weigel Health Promotions: Phone: (716) 878-6711, *Health Promotions also provides in class presentations. You can find out more at: <http://weigel.buffalostate.edu/node/254>*

The Counseling Center: Phone: (716) 878-4436

Student Resources Page: <http://deanofstudents.buffalostate.edu/resources-students>

Sexual Violence Prevention information and resources:

<https://deanofstudents.buffalostate.edu/sexual-violence-prevention>, *Sexual Violence Prevention also provides in class presentations. You can contact Nina Pierino for more information, pierinn@buffalostate.edu or, at (716) 878-3069*

The Milligan's Food Pantry is an excellent resource for students on campus. Milligan's provides students who are food insecure with the opportunity to get non-perishable food from a campus source.