Spring 2017

ALST 290 Model African Union Thursdays, 4-6 PM, 331 Alumni Hall

Mary Moran Office Hours, M, W 2-4 PM

And by Appointment

**The Model African Union**

The National Model African Union is a simulation exercise which brings together student teams from over twenty colleges and universities across the country to take on the roles of African diplomats at a multilateral organization. Hosted by Howard University in Washington DC, the Model African Union gives students the opportunity to research and formulate resolutions for action to advance the cause of continental integration among the fifty-three member states of the African Union. This half credit course, which meets for the first five to six weeks of the semester, comprises the preparatory work for students wishing to participate in the national simulation. Our regular class meeting is once a week, Thursdays from 4-6 PM. On the week we leave for the model, we will meet **Tuesday** at that time (Feb. 21). In addition, attendance at a series of three lunchtime briefings on our three assigned countries is **required**. In Washington, our trip will include visits to the embassies of the counties we will represent and briefings by diplomats accredited to the United States. We will also have an evening event hosted by Colgate alumni in the DC area. Each student will be assigned to a country delegation and to one of the standing committees of the Model African Union (Economic Matters, Social Matters, Peace and Security, Pan Africanism and Continental Unity, and Democracy, Governance, and Human Rights) or to the Executive Council, which will be tasked with a simulated crisis of continental proportions. The on-campus portion of the course will consist of background lectures on the history and structure of the African Union as a multilateral organization and training in the use of parliamentary procedure. A considerable amount of independent research is required of each student to produce a 10 page position paper and a resolution for submission to the simulation. Most expenses for the Washington trip are covered by the program in Africana and Latin American Studies, but students must be able to leave campus from **noon on Wednesday, February 22 until Sunday evening, February 26, 2017**. **Students are responsible for informing their other faculty about their absence and will be responsible for any missed work in other classes.**

The major assignment for the on-campus portion of the course will be a 10 page position paper, based on individual research, which supports the resolution each student will present to their assigned committee. Students assigned to the Executive Council will produce a position paper detailing the foreign policy position of their assigned country related to the topic of the simulated crisis. All students should also research the topic of the crisis, as their committees will be “tasked” to come up with recommendations by the Executive Council. The final paper will also include a section for individual reflection on the simulation as a learning experience.

**Texts to be Purchased**

Makinda, Samuel, F. Wafula Okumu, and David Michler. *The African Union: Addressing the Challenges of Peace, Security, and Governance.* 2nd edition. Routledge, 2015. (required).

*African Union Handbook, 2014.* African Union Commission and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Available as free down-load from the class Moodle site. (required)

Krabacher, Thomas, Ezekiel Kalipeni, and Azzedine Layachi, Global Studies: Africa, 14th edition. Mcgraw Hill, 2011 (for reference).

Fisher, Roger, and William Ury, *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In.* Penguin Books, 2011 (required).

Robert, Henry M., William J. Evans, Daniel H. Honemann and Thomas J. Balch, Robert's Rules of Order in Brief. Perseus Group, 2004 (for reference)

Delegation and Officers Handbook, National Model African Union, 2016

**Schedule and Assignments**

Jan. 23 3:30 PM Short Organizational Meeting. Finalizing of delegation and committee assignments. Students should have thoroughly read and reviewed the MAU Handbook before the start of the semester.

Jan. 26 History of the African Union and the Organization of African Unity; Understanding the Present Through the Past.

Reading for Week 1: Required: Makinda, et. al., *The African Union,* Chapter 1, pp.12-29. Recommended: Tieku, Thomas, “Explaining the Clash and Accommodation of Interests of Major Actors in the Creation of the African Union” *African Affairs* 103:249-67 (2004) (on Moodle).

**Assignment**: Two paragraphs on ideas for resolution topics; be sure your topics fit one of the agenda items listed for your assigned committee.

Feb. 2 ALST Noontime Brown Bag Country Briefings, NIGERIA, Professor Dominika Koter. 11:30 AM in ALANA multipurpose room, lunch is provided.

The Structure of the African Union and the Model African Union.

Reading for Week 2: *African Union Handbook* (on Moodle), skim entire book for structure and pay particular attention to the sections on the Executive Council and the Peace and Security Council, pp. 18-44; Makinda et. al., *The African Union,* Chap. 2, pp. 30-70.

**Assignment**: Bring to class 1 page draft of resolution **and** bibliography of at least 10 sources from your research. We will break out by committee assignments to discuss resolutions for the second hour of class.

Feb. 9 ALST Noontime Brown Bag Country Briefings, MALI, Professor Jacob Mundy 11:30 AM in ALANA multipurpose room, lunch provided.

Reading for Week 3: *African Union Handbook*, pp. 73-86, 109-132.

**Assignment**: Finalized resolution with five page draft of position paper due in class. Class time devoted to review of rules and practice with mock committee meeting.

Feb. 16 ALST Noontime Brown Bag Country Briefing: DJIBOUTI, Professor Tsega Etefa. 11:30 AM in ALANA multipurpose room, lunch provided

African Solutions to African Problems? How much can the AU do on its own?

Reading for Week 4: Makinda, et. al., *The African Union,* Chaps. 5-7, pp. 136-192. More in-class practice with the rules.

**Final Resolutions must be submitted at this time. We must forward all resolutions to Washington by Sunday, Feb. 19 so this date is not negotiable!! Be sure that your resolution is in the proper format for submission, as specified in the Delegates’ Handbook!**

Feb. 21 (Note, we meet on Tuesday this week) How to Behave at the Model AU

Reading for Week 4: Fisher and Ury, *Getting to Yes*, Chaps. 1-5, pp. 3-95.

Final logistics for the trip and final practice session.

Feb. 22 Leave for trip, bus will be at the HOP/Donovan’s Pub at noon for 12:30 departure. **Bring your revised draft of the position paper in support of your resolution with you for reference at the conference!** Bring Fisher and Ury on the bus with you to read the last section, “What If. . .?” pp. 99-194.

Mar. 3 Final debriefing and dinner, 5:30 PM, 19 West Pleasant St. **Final version of position paper, with reflections on the model, 10-12 pages, due.**