POLS 3348: Model Organization of American States

Course Description
This class will teach students about the Organization of American States, relevant research topics and the complexity of the Western Hemisphere. This class will enable students to participate in a simulation. Students will choose between the option to participate in the virtual annual conference of Eugene Scassa Model Organization of American States (ESMOAS) Conference sponsored by St. Mary’s University or completing a 10-page research paper. All students will prepare for a class mock ESMOAS. Students who successfully participate in the competition will be eligible for 3% extra credit on their final grade.

Learning Goals and Outcomes
● to gain an understanding of historical and political development of the Latin America and selected countries of the region.
● to gain a comprehensive understanding of the OAS, its organizational structure, its purpose, and committee system.
● to acquaint students with parliamentary procedure.
● to give students an experience in diplomacy – develop oral and written communication skills for defending and refuting policy and resolutions presented at the ESMOAS.
● to introduce students to the study of the international relations of the Western Hemisphere.

Grading System
Your final grade will be based on the total number of grade points accumulated for each course requirement:
Class attendance and participation .......................................................... 5%
Exam........................................................................................................15%
Committee Topic Briefing Paper ......................................................... 15%
Committee Position Paper ................................................................. 15%
Participation in Mock Sessions (Presentation and Reviews).............. 15%
ESMOAS Participation/Research Paper................................................. 25%
Final Reflection Essays................................................................. 10%

GRADING SCALE
A - 90% B - 80% C - 70% D - 60% F - Less than 60%
General Policies related to this course:

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

Angelo State University Student Handbook

Angelo State University Catalog

Student Disability Services:

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is: Ms. Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services 325-942-2047 dallas.swafford@angelo.edu Houston Harte University Center 112

Title IX

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX
Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Religious Holidays:**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for **Observance of Religious Holy Day** for more information. It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 **Grading Procedures** for more information.

**Student Conduct Policies:**

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the Statement of **Academic Integrity**
**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s [Academic Integrity policy](#) in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).

**Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

**Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.
WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE
The last day to drop a course or to withdraw from the University will be November 10, 2020.

Course Schedule
[The schedule is tentative and may vary depending upon class progress.]
August 17: Introduction
August 19, 21 – Brief introduction to the study of Latin America
Readings: Weeks Chapter 1-4 posted on Blackboard

August 24, 26, 28: Countries
Readings: BBC and Freedom House Profiles posted on Blackboard

August 31, September 2: Organization of the American States
Readings:
Congressional Research Service, OAS Information
September 4: OAS Topics Part I
September 7: Labor Day
September 9 OAS Topics Part II
September 11 OAS Topics Part III

**September 12: Committee Agenda Topic Briefing Paper Due**
September 14: US Relations with Canada
Readings:
Available on Blackboard
September 16: US Relations with Mexico
Readings:
Available on Blackboard
September 18: Review for Exam
September 21: Exam
September 23, 25, 28: Preparing the Country Position Paper/Research Papers
September 30, October 2, October 5, October 7
Parliamentary Procedure Rules and Practice
Readings:
ESMOAS, “Rules of Procedure”
Handout on Mock Parliamentary Session
October 9: Day to work on Position Papers

**October 9: Final Version of Country Position Paper Due**
October 12-November 18: ESMOAS Mock Sessions
November 13-14: Virtual *ESMOAS*

**Research Paper Due November 18 at 11:59pm**

November 23 – *Final Exam Paper*(Reflection essay due through Blackboard at 12:30pm)