**Sam ID:**

**Name:**

**Have you taken any course in International Relations or Comparative Politics before?  
If yes, please list the course(s) and semester(s):**

**What do you know about Model United Nations? What would you like to know about this program? (100–200 words recommended)**

**What would you do if your group members were not collaborating effectively during a team assignment or committee session? (100–200 words recommended)**

**What social media platforms are you familiar with? In addition to Facebook and Twitter, do you use other social media?**

**Model UN Essay:**

* Your essay must adhere to the topic and should fully answer the question.
* Your submission must adhere to the word limits (between 500 and 800 words), and must be submitted by 11:59 pm PT on Friday, October 17th.

Pick ONE from the following questions to write your essay!

1. **"America First" and Multilateral Diplomacy:**

President Donald Trump’s "America First" foreign policy marked a shift in U.S. engagement with international institutions. Analyze how this policy affected the United States’ role in multilateral organizations such as the United Nations. What were the consequences for U.S. leadership in global governance, and what diplomatic lessons can be learned for future administrations?

1. **The Paris Agreement and U.S. Global Climate Leadership:**

In 2017, President Trump announced the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Accord. Discuss how this move impacted international cooperation on climate change. How did other countries and international actors respond, and what does this event reveal about the challenges of maintaining global environmental agreements?

## Application:

Deadline to Apply: Friday, October 17, 2025 – by 11:59 PM

Up to 12 student delegates will be selected for the 2025–2026 SMUN team

Submit your completed application and essay electronically to both:

Prof. Dennis Weng – [dennis.weng@shsu.edu](mailto:dennis.weng@shsu.edu)

Professor Christopher Patane – [c.patane@shsu.edu](mailto:c.patane@shsu.edu)

## What is Sam Model United Nations Program (SMUN)?

The Sam Model United Nations (SMUN) program is Sam Houston State University’s competitive Model United Nations delegation. It is supported by the Department of Political Science and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Each spring, the program is offered as a course: POLS 4081: Problems in Political Science – Diplomacy in Action (Hybrid). This course provides an interactive environment encouraging students to explore international diplomacy, global governance, and political negotiation through direct participation in Model UN conferences.

Students accepted into the SMUN program will represent SHSU at the prestigious National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference in New York City, April 6–10, 2026.

## Requirements:

* Political Science major or minor preferred
* Must be in good academic standing (GPA of 3.0 or higher)
* Must be enrolled in POLS 4081: Problems in Political Science – Diplomacy in Practice (Hybrid) in Spring 2026
* Must attend all mandatory training sessions (dates TBD)
* Willing to serve as a staff member at the Houston Area High School Model UN Online Conference in January 2026 (qualifies as community service)
* Must be available to travel to New York City from April 6–10, 2026

Note: The SMUN program provides funding to cover delegate registration fees and travel expenses for all selected participants.

## Qualifications:

* Demonstrated interest in global affairs, diplomacy, or international relations
* Excellent communication, writing, and collaboration skills
* Responsible, motivated, and professional demeanor
* Willingness to improve public speaking and negotiation skills
* Ability to work effectively in a team environment

## Contact Information:

SMUN Faculty Advisors:

Prof. Weng, [dennis.weng@shsu.edu](mailto:dennis.weng@shsu.edu)

Professor Patane, [c.patane@shsu.edu](mailto:c.patane@shsu.edu)