

Debate and Model United Nations Clubs in Secondary Schools



GENERAL INFORMATION

Trainer: Alex Mitchell



Number of participants: 5-25 people

Language: English

Highlights:

real-world issues; lessons on how to teach these skills.

COURSE CONTENT

Description:

In this practical course, teachers will get hands-on experience with two valuable programs: Debate and Model United Nations (MUN). Participants will learn how each program works, take part in training sessions, and practice key skills in simulations that follow EU Debate rules and a Model UN conference focused on real-world issues. By understanding these methods, teachers will be ready to help students build important skills like critical thinking, public speaking, and diplomacy—abilities that are respected by both universities and employers. This course will give teachers the confidence to set up and lead Debate and MUN clubs in any secondary school.

Aims and objectives:

In this hands-on course, teachers will learn how to run Debate and Model United Nations (MUN) clubs, two programs that help students build important skills for the future. Through practical activities and simulations, participants will gain confidence in leading these clubs and teaching students to:

- Communicate clearly and speak confidently in front of others.
- Think critically and analyze arguments from different perspectives.

- Understand global issues and respect different cultures.
- Work as a team and develop leadership skills.
- Solve problems using structured approaches and strategic thinking.
- Learn by doing and reflect on what they have learned to improve.

By the end of the course, teachers will be prepared to create engaging, skill-building Debate and MUN programs that prepare students for success in school and beyond.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Set up and manage Debate and Model United Nations (MUN) clubs in a secondary school setting.
- Guide students in preparing for structured debates, including teaching them how to develop arguments, speak persuasively, and respond to counterpoints
- Lead MUN simulations that encourage students to engage with real-world issues, fostering global awareness and cultural sensitivity.
- Teach critical thinking by helping students learn to evaluate arguments, analyze information, and consider multiple perspectives.
- Encourage teamwork and leadership by facilitating activities that build collaboration, confidence, and resilience.
- Apply experiential learning techniques, using “learning by doing” and reflection to help students improve and retain skills.
- Equip students with problem-solving frameworks, teaching them to approach complex issues systematically and strategically.

Target group:

Secondary school teachers

Required language level of the participants: B2 English

Duration: 35 lessons, 7 days

Schedule*



SUNDAY	• Get to know each other with trainers and the other participants and location of the course, warm up
MONDAY	• Introduction to Debate: format, rules, and preparation
TUESDAY	• Debate preparation; Debate simulation
WEDNESDAY	• Introduction to Model UN: format, rules, and preparation
THURSDAY	• MUN preparation
FRIDAY	• MUN simulation
SATURDAY	• MUN simulation wrap-up and reflection • Compulsory relationship building program

* Notes:

- the schedule describes likely activities but may be modified in accordance with the requests and needs of the participants;
- presentations of the participants' schools may be divided up and take place after the breaks on each day of the course.

Readings, materials, learning resources and useful links:



- <https://www.debatingskills.eu/>:
The style of debate used in European secondary schools
- MUNprep - Learn Model UN Today!: An overview of Model UN

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Certificates awarded:

Certificate of Attendance, Europass certificate and/or Learning agreement complement

Price: EUR including course, Erasmus+ documentation and a cultural activity

Location:

Date:



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