

Don't Be Just Another Freshman!

Join SMCHS Model United Nations (MUN)



What is MUN?

MUN stands for Model United Nations. Students travel to other schools in Orange County, California, the US, and overseas to compete in academic competitions. These competitions are simulations of the United Nations and the students play the role of delegates representing countries from all over the world. These competitions are one to three days in length and are held on the weekends. The MUN program is integrated into the Social Studies curriculum for those students who are interested in this unique experience. Students must take Cultural Geography / Model United Nations their freshman year to be involved with the MUN program.



Why join?

- You are looking for challenging yet rewarding courses to take at SMCHS.
- You enjoy researching, debating, and public speaking.
- You enjoy meeting people from other schools, states, and countries.
- You want to take a course that looks good on college applications.
- You want a chance to develop your leadership skills and to be a student leader.
- You want to travel to places like Prague and London.
- You are interested in international affairs.

What's the commitment?

- Freshman Cultural Geography / Model United Nations is a yearlong course as opposed to the regular Cultural Geography class which is a semester long.
- **MUN students need to take Health class either during the summer or as an elective.**
- Students are required to attend four weekend conferences.
- MUN is a four-year program. While students are not required to be in the program all four years, you may not join unless you have taken Cultural Geography / MUN.
- There is a \$450 yearly program fee to participate in MUN.

Can you handle the challenge?

We hope so! If you have questions about Cultural Geography / Model United Nations please feel free to email the MUN director Mr. John Remmell: remmellj@smhs.org

Visit the website at: <http://www.smhs.org/mun>



MUN Freshman Conference Requirements

Must attend four conferences during the year.

Academic grade is effected by conference participation.



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Freshman Required Conferences (4)

SOCOMUN (Sept. 28)

Tustin Novice (November)

Edison Novice (January)

Huntington Beach Novice (April)

Freshman Optional Conferences

Cerritos (October)

Mira Costa Novice (December)

Mission Viejo (January)

Laguna Hills (February)

MUN FAQ for Incoming Freshmen

Q: What is Model United Nations (MUN)?

MUN is a simulation of the real United Nations. Students act as delegates and represent different countries at a mock meeting of the U.N. Other delegates from other schools represent different countries. All of the students come together to discuss different issues facing the world. Some of the issues might be deforestation, HIV/AIDS, conflict in Israel and Palestine, and many more. Students write position papers, make speeches, and work in small groups as part of the process. These simulations are called conferences and the conferences are held on the weekends. MUN conferences for freshmen are typically Saturdays from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Q: What are the requirements for joining MUN?

An interest in international politics and a desire to learn more about MUN is the biggest requirement. A composite score of 550 on the HSPT (high school placement exam) is required. You will take an entire year of Geography/MUN instead of a semester of Geography and a semester of Health. That means you will have to take Health during the summer or as an elective.

Q: Do I have to take Health class during summer school?

Yes. You will take an entire year of Geography/MUN instead of a semester of Geography and a semester of Health. That means you will have to take Health during the summer or as an elective. You do not necessarily need to take it this summer but you need to complete the class before your Junior year. It is a California state graduation requirement.

Q: How do I sign up for summer school?

You can sign up online starting in April. The MUN teachers are not involved with the Health class. The best person to help you with this would be your counselor. <https://www.smhs.org/academics/summer-school>

Q: Do I have to do MUN all four years?

No, you do not need to take MUN for all four years. You are only signing up for Freshman year. You can decide after your Freshman year whether or not you want to continue in MUN for your Sophomore year or not.

Q: Is MUN an honors class?

Yes, it is an honors class. You should sign up for MUN because you are legitimately interested in the course not just for the honors credit. Students that take MUN just for honors credit tend to be the least enthusiastic MUNers and regret their choice.

Q: I am taking many honors classes will this be too much work?

Most MUNers are enrolled in many honors classes. MUN is not going to be the most difficult honors class you take. If you are worried about overloading your schedule, you should eliminate one of your other honors courses.

Q: What if I do (any activity), can I still do MUN?

You only need to attend four conferences during the school year on Saturday. If you have four open Saturdays in your schedule, you should be fine. Most reasonable students can handle MUN in their schedule. You will need to check your activity schedule and identify any potential conflicts. Your MUN teachers are always willing to help you out with schedule conflicts.

Q: What if I am afraid of public speaking?

Most people are afraid of public speaking. As long as you are willing to work on getting better and try it, you should be fine. However, you WILL have to get up and speak in front of people as part of this course. This is not negotiable. If you refuse to speak in front of others, this is not a course for you. If you are uncomfortable, but want to get better, we can work with you.

Q: What makes someone good at MUN?

Do any of these words describe you? Hardworking, motivated, self-starter, proactive, outgoing, argumentative, driven, leader, social, ambitious, reliable, punctual, planner, organized.

Q: Can I travel with MUN?

Not during Freshman year, but starting with Sophomore year you can travel. Once you get to be a Junior you can start traveling with MUN to colleges on the East Coast or internationally.

Q: What does it cost to be in MUN?

There is a yearly fee of \$450 per student. This covers cost of all local conferences.

Q: What about the MUN Summer Sessions?

There is a special summer camp for MUNers that want to get a head start learning about MUN. This is optional and not required to be in MUN. The cost for the summer camp is \$150. These are the 2018 dates: Session 1 June 18-20; Session 2 July 10-12; Session 3 July 16-18. This might be an opportunity to explore whether or not your student would want to take this class for a whole year.



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Totally Optional

For Incoming Freshmen

If you are interested in MUN, get a jump start on the school year by enrolling in this special MUN BOOT CAMP!!! The camp will be run by SMCHS MUN director, Mr. John Rimmell. He will give you his expert MUN advice on how to become an award winning delegate....And you will get a chance to meet other students that will be future MUNers as well. This is a totally optional program intended to give our incoming freshmen the best start possible in MUN!!!

2019 Dates: ** includes laptop training, students will get SM laptops at MUN camp **

(limit 32 students per class, enrollment ends June 28th)

- Session 1: July 16-18 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
- Session 2: July 22-24 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Session 3: July 29,31, Aug 1 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

All sessions are the same so you only need to sign up for one
Registration online Tickets.smhs.org

COST: \$150

LOCATION: B110



Get in the picture!!

