

WINTER 2016

LAS 320-01

Model Organization of American States (MOAS)

Professor Andrew Schlewitz

Tue/Thu 2:30-3:45pm, LHH 101

Are you interested in a course that will allow you to experience international diplomacy rather than just read about it? If so, then consider signing up for LAS 320. This course prepares a delegation of GVSU students to participate in a simulation of the Organization of the American States—a week-long international event in Washington, DC in which students role-play an OAS member state, negotiate and deliberate inter-American policies on topics such as terrorism, community economic development, environmental sustainability, human rights, and democratization.



The DC trip includes a meeting with the embassy staff of the country Paraguay, the country GVSU students will be representing in 2016, a formal gala, and time for sightseeing. Students who have taken this course and participated in the simulation (2009, 2010, 2012, and 2014) have reported overwhelmingly that this experiential learning was of great value. For student testimonials about the Washington MOAS experience, visit <http://las320moas.blogspot.com/> (2012 Delegation) and <http://las320moas.blogspot.com> (2014 Delegation). Please also visit the Washington MOAS site at <http://wmoas.org>.

There are pre-requisites—LAS 210, and either PLS 211 or PLS 284—but Professor Schlewitz has routinely waived them for students who have other relevant coursework or experience (such as Model UN, Model EU, or Model Arab League, etc.).

The Latin American Studies program will cover the costs of registration, travel, lodging at a fine Georgetown hotel (the Fairmount), and a celebratory dinner at the end of the week. MOAS students are asked to pay \$125 (by the add/drop date) to defray costs, but also to demonstrate commitment to the course and the simulation. Students will also cover their own dining expenses. For students in need of financial assistance, the Office of Undergraduate Research provides grants for such travel, and LAS minors may apply to the LAS Mini-Grant Fund.

This course counts towards the Latin American Studies minor and the International Relations major or minor.

For more information or if you require special accommodations, please contact Professor Schlewitz at schlewia@gvsu.edu or the Area Studies office at areastudies@gvsu.edu or 331-8110.

