

## Shippensburg University – Applied Diplomacy / Model OAS Application – 2024

### Description:

The Washington Model OAS (WMOAS) is a unique opportunity for students to learn about Western hemispheric issues and politics. The simulation mirrors the work of the Organization of American States in promoting peace, prosperity, stability and democracy. The simulation takes place from April 8-12, 2024, in Washington DC.

Each participating university represents a different member country at the simulation. Universities from across the Caribbean, North, Central, and South America participate in the WMOAS. Thus far, there will be universities from seven different countries participating in this year's Model. Each delegation, to aid in their preparation, is invited to the embassy and/or mission of the country they represent. The briefing at the mission is an excellent opportunity for students to interact with high-ranking officials of foreign governments. During the briefing, students receive the latest position of the government on key issues and problems facing the Western Hemisphere. Usually, students have the opportunity to ask questions and collect information from the briefers. During the 2024 WMOAS, Shippensburg University will represent the government of Panama.

The course associated with the 2024 WMOAS, PLS348: Applied Diplomacy, will prepare students to represent Panama. It is a non-traditional course in which students will conduct independent research, write reports, and organize a delegation under the supervision of the instructor. There are no books assigned for the course; however, students are expected to make use of resources available on campus and through interlibrary loan.

### Course Fee:

There is a fee of \$500 to take this course, due on or before February 1, 2024. The fee is to help defray the cost of the hotel stay. Students are eligible for the Mayer International Education Fund Scholarship to help defer a substantial portion of the cost (see next page).

### Applications:

**Applications are due by November 1, 2023, at 12pm (noon).**

There are two parts: (1) complete an online application, which is available at: <https://forms.office.com/r/Z8UaTkm2tC>.

On the application there are two longer questions that we suggest you write ahead of time and, then cut-and-paste into the application:

1. Shippensburg University will represent Panama at the 2024 Washington Model Organization of American States. If accepted, are you willing to conduct yourself diplomatically and professionally in a way that will reflect positively on Shippensburg University and Panama? What do you think that will mean before, during, and after the Model? (no more than 100 words)
2. What aspect of Panama's government, resources, or population makes it an interesting and challenging country to represent during the Model OAS? (No more than 250 words)

You might want to consult some of the following resources:

- Washington Model OAS webpage: [www.wmoas.org](http://www.wmoas.org).
- CIA Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/panama/>.
- Organization of American States: <https://www.oas.org/en/>.

A committee in the Political Science Department will evaluate the applications. This is a unique opportunity and it should be treated as such. Applicants will be judged on seriousness of purpose and on

the ability of the applicant to capitalize on the opportunity. Because there are a limited number of positions available, we will not be able to accommodate all who apply.

For more information or questions, please contact Dr. Sachleben at [mdsachleben@ship.edu](mailto:mdsachleben@ship.edu), or visit his office at Grove 419.

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## **Application: Donald and Judy Mayer International Education Fund**

Dr. Donald F. Mayer, Jr. served as a faculty member in Shippensburg University's political science department from 1968 to 2005. During these years, he was fully devoted to his students and to enhancing the campus's teaching and learning environment. He also taught in and coordinated the MPA program at the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he interacted with senior military officers and civilians to prepare them for senior leadership assignments and responsibilities.

Mrs. Judith Mayer earned a B.S.Ed. in Education from Michigan State University and a M.Ed. in Reading from Shippensburg University in 1986. Mrs. Mayer's twenty-eight-year career as an educator shows her devotion to students. Her work with the Shippensburg University Foundation as part of its Steering Committee for the *Charting the Course Lighting the Way* comprehensive campaign is further evidence of her support of the University's mission.

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Participants in the Washington Model Organization of American States (WMOAS) are eligible to compete for funds from the Donald and Judy Mayer International Education Fund. For Spring Semester 2024, the maximum award amount has been set by the Department of Political Science at \$350 to cover travel costs for participation in the 2024 WMOAS in person.

To apply for these funds, students must meet the following conditions:

- ❖ Must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program administered by Shippensburg University's Political Science Department;
- ❖ Must have satisfactorily completed fifty-four (54) credits, with at least twenty-four (24) of these credits completed at Shippensburg University;
- ❖ Must have a minimum 2.8 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale);
- ❖ Must have completed at least three political science courses at Shippensburg University toward an undergraduate major or minor in political science or an advanced degree in political science; and
- ❖ Must demonstrate good character and citizenship.

Interested students need to submit a 250-word essay on the electronic application that (1) discusses their interests in international education and (2) discusses the importance of leadership within student organizations. (We urge you to write the essay ahead of time and cut-and-paste into the application.)