



PolyX How To: FORMULATING A WINNING MODEL UN TEAM

The Model United Nations is an educational simulation where students learn about international relations. After months of preparation, students attend an annual conference as representatives of a country and solve a problem with other delegates (students) from around the world. The immersive experience strengthens students' critical thinking, research, public speaking, negotiating and writing.

In spring 2021, the team represented the country of Malta at the virtual conference and won Distinguished Delegation. Advisor and Political Science Professor Marc Scarcelli shares the steps for preparing a winning team.

1. TEAM FORMATION

In fall, students apply to be on the team. Selected applicants interview with the advisor and the team's two head delegates. The final team consists of about 20 students from different majors.

2. ENROLL IN CLS 4100

In spring, students spend Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the library, researching the rules and procedures of the UN.

3. WRITE POSITION PAPER

The team breaks up into pairs, and each pair is assigned to a committee. Each committee pair writes a position paper on their country's stance on a topic.

4. ATTEND CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK CITY

Students work in various committees alongside other delegates from universities to draft resolutions and build a strong team of sponsors to pass policies. Teams win awards for excellent public speaking, collaboration, research and writing.

B R O N C O S A T W O R K

Adrian Danganan

'16, communication
FOOD CONTENT CREATOR AND PERSONALITY
BASED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
 @eatwithadrian on TikTok and Instagram



Adrienne Castleton

'11, management and human resources
HAND LETTERING AND
ILLUSTRATION ARTIST
 @studio80design on Instagram



How would you describe your career?

One word: unique. Being able to share my love for food with an audience as a career is far, far away from a 9-to-5 job. But the freedom to work whenever and however I please while having fun is unparalleled.

How did your CPP experience shape your social media presence/career?

My content creator journey began because of a college course. We were tasked with creating a blog, and my blog centered on my love for Filipino food. After the course ended, I decided to continue and use my newfound knowledge to expand my focus to Southern California food trends, as well as to migrate to other platforms like Instagram and YouTube.

How did you gain your large following?

When the pandemic began, I noticed that TikTok was up and coming. I began a series asking whether people would eat certain foods I've had. The trend began to pick up, and because of TikTok's unpredictable algorithm, users decided to stick around for the ride.

What is the key to success in your business?

It is so important to be genuine and honest with your audience. Being your most authentic self allows your viewers to develop an understanding of your presence on social media and decide why they should consider you a staple in whatever field you're in.

Any advice for building a social media following?

Be consistent and be the truest version of yourself. It is so easy to get lost in the numbers game, and constantly checking on likes and followers can really take a toll on your mental health! Being a content creator is exhilarating, gratifying and so much fun; don't ever lose sight of what you're doing and why you're doing this.

How would you describe your career?

Amazing and busy! I love that I can put as much time into it as I want and I am able to work in my dream field while also being a mom. I have been able to push myself as an artist and a person to accomplish things I never thought possible.

What motivates you to be an influencer?

I enjoy sharing my love for art and hand lettering with others and my children. Art is my creative outlet that keeps me mentally and emotionally healthy, so the chance to help other people learn art while connecting with them is awesome!

How did your CPP experience shape your social media presence/career?

I definitely learned how to run the business side from my time at CPP. I gained important skills like how to communicate and work with other people and companies.

What is the key to success in your business?

Be true to who you are! Everyone has their own unique point of view and experiences that shape who they are and creates their own voice that they can share with others.

What type of posts are most popular with your audience?

My audience loves seeing tutorials on hand-lettering and illustration. Process videos and how-to-draw posts do really well and let my audience see how I create something so they can try it. When schools shut down last year and kids had to do school from home, I taught 25 free online classes for kids and adults — it was a great experience!

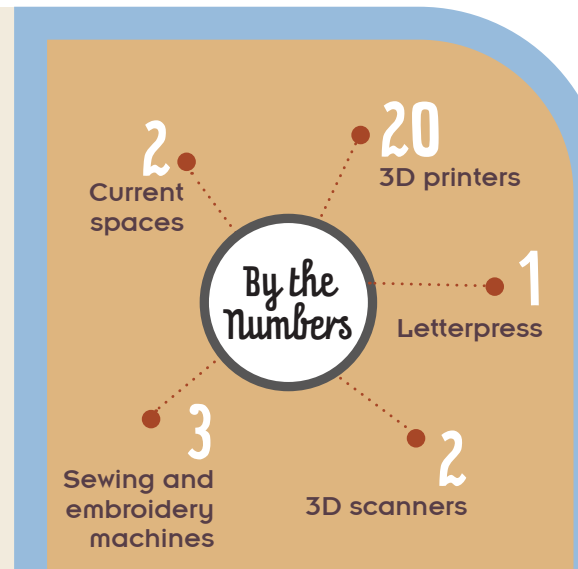
Any advice for building a social media following?

Be genuine. Don't be afraid to take risks and try something that seems scary because it's new. You never know where it might take you!



Student Innovation Idea Labs

The Student Innovation Idea Labs (SIIL) enhance the PolyX experience by creating spaces that foster creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. The Maker Space in the University Library and Innovation Orchard at Ganesha High School in Pomona, as well as three future spaces, allow students to collaborate with their peers on projects, research and creative ventures.



A Brief History ITALY STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

For landscape architecture students in the College of Environmental Design, Castiglion Fiorentino is practically a rite of passage.

This Tuscan hill town of 13,000 hosts the Italy Study Abroad Program and has welcomed more than 700 Cal Poly Pomona students since 1993. It is arguably the longest-running study abroad program at Cal Poly Pomona. Each fall, students spend 12 weeks in rural east Tuscany, their days occupied with field trips to significant sites, exhibitions, sketching verdant landscapes, and visits to Rome and Venice.



1993

Professor Philip Pregill establishes the Italy Study Abroad Program, partnering with the Santa Chiara Study Center, a resident research institution and a cultural liaison. Housed in a renovated 15th-century convent, the center has student dormitories, dining and study spaces. Its famous courtyard overlooks the Val di Chio, one of several lush valleys at the foothills of the Apennine Mountains.

2017

Amici di ENV (Friends of ENV) is launched to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Department of Landscape Architecture. Open to 20 non-student guests, the nine-day tour highlights the rural delights of the region: food, wine, print-making with local artisans, cooking, even truffle hunting.

2018

The program finds a new base in Agriturismo Sorgente. The program itself is unaltered.

2020

COVID-19 is declared a national emergency, and university travel is suspended. The department also pauses Amici di ENV.

2022

The Italy Study Abroad Program hopes to resume in spring 2022, pending public health guidance.

Catch a glimpse of Castiglion Fiorentino at <https://vimeo.com/289578492>



Expert Q & A ARE TWO CENTRIST SENATORS REALLY SO POWERFUL?

Ahead of the 2022 elections, the Biden administration and Democrats are working hard to advance major agenda items. Neilan Chaturvedi, associate professor of political science and author of "Life in the Middle: Marginalized Moderate Senators in the Era of Polarization," explains power dynamics in the U.S. Senate, the influence of centrist Senators and whether the filibuster might become history.

What is the role of centrists?

The story is really polarization. Centrists give you the votes you need to get things done, but they are not powerbrokers. Some Democrats say, "I wish we could get rid of Joe Manchin." Okay, well you're going to lose the Senate forever. You need people like Manchin to get things done, unless you restructure the Senate.

Republicans needed Susan Collins, for example, to get Brett Kavanaugh on the U.S. Supreme Court. You may not particularly like that Collins is on your team, that someone is shooting 40 percent of the time for the other team, but you need them because they are the best you can get. Republicans wouldn't trade that for a Democrat.

Are Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema the center of power?

No. If they were to vote against major party legislation, that's basically handing their party a significant blow. It brings the party brand down and hits them pretty hard, too. That doesn't give them much power.

Where centrists do vote against the party, it's specifically in votes that are inconsequential. This doesn't make them powerful as much as it makes them scared of their mixed constituencies.

Ahead of Collins' vote in Kavanaugh's confirmation hearing, people

were saying she might vote no. But her vote was necessary to get him on the court. She voted yes, because it would have been such a huge blow to Trump and the party to vote otherwise. That's just how moderates operate.

Why aren't there more moderate Senators?

There aren't any truly moderate states. There are states that are moderate in the aggregate. For example, Maine has that rural constituency that's very, very conservative and a more liberal northeast region that is amenable to liberal policies. To represent them, if you stay right in the middle, you're going to piss off most of the voters every time. So, Collins has to straddle both sides instead of representing the middle.

Manchin is a Democrat representing deep red West Virginia. It's kind of impossible to do, but he does a pretty good job of it. He has to straddle that line and demonstrate the independence to represent West Virginia and not the Democratic party.

None of those are really positions of power.

Any predictions for 2022?

If Republicans win the Senate, it would be by a small margin. Then the situation becomes flipped. Instead of Manchin and Sinema being the deciding votes, it's Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski, mainly Collins because Maine is more moderate than Murkowski's more independent and conservative Alaska. If Republicans take control, Collins will be the one looking like Manchin, protecting the filibuster because she doesn't want any extra pressure on herself.