

Model Parliament



To culminate the Politics course at the end of the semester, we are going to have a Model Parliament session, involving all of the processes of the federal government in creating and passing legislation. Every student will be assigned a role of one of the key figures in Parliament and will be responsible for carrying out his or her duties according to Parliamentary rules and traditions.

The Parliamentary session will consist of four parts.

1. Background Lessons

- a. the organization of a parliamentary day
- b. who the parliamentary players are
- c. how Parliament makes laws
- d. distributing roles

2. Pre-Simulation Activities

- a. learn about the role you are going to play in Parliament
- b. research the issues and prepare scripts that will be used
- c. understand parliamentary procedures and legislation

3. The Simulation

- a. Opening of Sitting
- b. Routine Proceedings: Introduction of a Bill
- c. Government Orders: Second Reading
- d. Question Period
- e. Consideration of a Bill in Committee
- f. What Happens to a Bill after Committee

4. Post-Simulation

- a. debriefing
- b. evaluation of notes and participation
- c. quiz on content
- d. personal response

Everyone in the class will be placed into one of four groups of Parliamentary players and everyone within each group will be assigned specific roles to play. The four groups of Parliamentary players are:

- Cabinet
- Government Backbench
- Official Opposition
- Third Party