



POSITION PAPER GUIDE [TWLF]

***Note: there are major changes from previous years at BMUN and other committees. Please make sure to read the format and guidelines thoroughly.**

Writing a well-researched and substantive Position Paper is the best way to prepare for any Model United Nations conference. Through the position paper your delegation will express its ideas and policies by defining your character's perspective on the issues at hand. Moreover, it is the means by which you bring all of your research together in a logical and succinct form.

This committee is not using BMUN's standard paper format. Instead, we'll be using the format described below.

Our rubric this year will be based on a scale for each section. This scale will not be numerical to remove the association between numerical scores and letter grades. Instead, it will align with the rubric on the following page.

References

As mentioned in the guidelines, your bibliography should follow the standard MLA format for citations. This applies to both your bibliography as well as your in-text citations. Please remember to cite all external sources of information you use, not just for quotes but also for statistics, maps, and even past solutions and resolutions. Your bibliography will not count into the length of your position paper.

In-text citations should follow the format of (Author, Year: Page Number), i.e. (Author, 2018: 10-14). Where an author is not available, please use a shortened phrase from the title, i.e. ("Syria: The Story of the Conflict", 2018: 9-10).

For more information on how to use in-text MLA citations, visit [Purdue OWL](#).

All position papers will be extensively cross-referenced through various sources, both online and in-print. If there is any evidence of using the work of others without citations, **the delegate(s) will not be eligible for an award**. Any school that has multiple cases of plagiarism may be reconsidered for a School Delegation Award. It is the responsibility of the delegate and the advisor to ensure this does not happen.

Submission

Submission will be through Huxley. In depth instructions are provided on the last page of this guide, after the rubric. Position Papers are due on February 18th to be considered for the *Research Award*, and February 25th to be considered for *any committee award*. Late submissions will not be considered, and submissions will be graded on a rolling basis. It is advised that delegates submit their position paper when they are done instead of waiting till 23:59 PST the day of the deadline to get it in, to avoid technical difficulties.

Format:

- 8 pages maximum, 2 pages minimum (page count does not include Works Cited)
- Double spaced
- 12-point font, Times New Roman
- 1-inch margins

Sections:

1. Biography and Positionality of Character (20%) (~2 pages)
2. Strike Ideology and Proposed Strike Strategy (50%) (~4 pages)
3. Response to Two Questions to Consider (25%) (~2 pages)
4. Works Cited (in MLA), as well as in-text citations

The percentages represent the weight at which the sections will be graded and recommended lengths for each section are provided. The remaining 5% that isn't listed in the sections is for the Chair's Discretion in grading, which is granted to papers that are correctly formatted with professional diction and proper grammar.

SECTION EXPECTATIONS

Biography and Positionality of Character	Strike Ideology and Proposed Strike Strategy	Response to Two Questions to Consider
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This section should thoroughly cover relevant information about your assigned character including relevant biographical details, positions held, and involvement with the strike. • Discuss the impact of your lived experience, as well as social position, on your ideological beliefs and your outlook for committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longest and most important section in the paper. • Outline your character's ideology with regards to the strike (i.e. key values and principles you believe in, non-violence vs. violence as a means of struggle and self-defense, accepting or rejecting the partial achievement of the TWLF's demands, etc.). • Propose a strategy that your character wishes for the TWLF to take in order to achieve a successful strike, with justification of how and why this approach will be effective. • Analyze the feasibility of what you propose and assess any weak points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to TWO Questions to Consider from the perspective of your character (unless specified otherwise in the question). • Clearly identify the two questions answered, and not answer more than two. • Intended to inspire further research and thinking on the topic.

RUBRIC

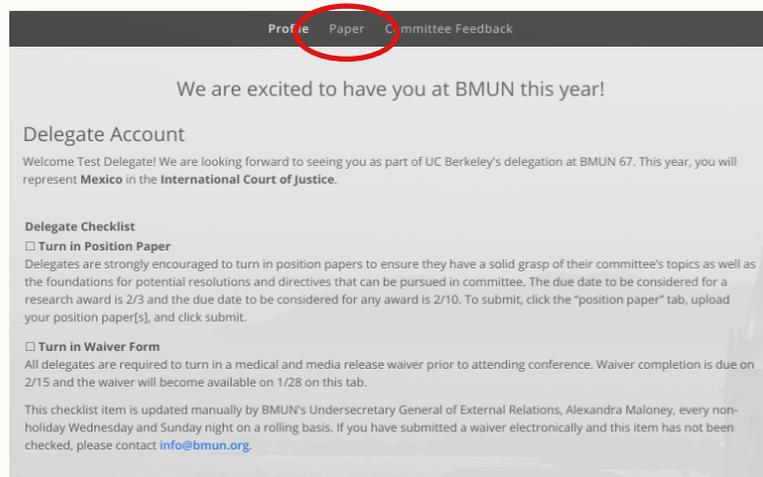
Section	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Attempts to Meet Expectations	Needs Improvement	Missing Section
Biography and Positionality of Character (20%)	Paper does an exceptional job of thoroughly covering your character's social position and involvement within the strike. Does not just summarize the synopsis/character profiles, but provides critical analysis of what forces and experiences have shaped your character and how it manifests in committee. Uses reputable sources.	Paper does a good job of covering your character's social position and involvement within the strike, using reputable sources. Does not just summarize the synopsis/character profiles, and offers some analysis of your character's social position and ideology.	Paper attempts to cover your character's social position and involvement within the strike, but is not thoroughly explained. Is close to a summary of the synopsis/character profiles, uses few reputable sources.	Paper briefly covers some relevant aspects of the strike, but makes little mention of your character or their involvement. Mostly summarizes the synopsis/character profiles. Uses little to no reputable sources.	Section is missing entirely.
Strike Ideology and Proposed Strike Strategy (60%)	Paper does an exceptional job of thoroughly covering your character's ideology and proposed strategy. It engages deeply with the strategic dilemmas outlined in the synopsis and/or introduces original considerations for the strike, and makes concrete/specific proposals for strike strategy. Uses reputable sources and/or strong reasoning to support its arguments.	Paper does a good job of covering your character's ideology and proposed strategy. It engages well with the strategic dilemmas outlined in the synopsis, and makes somewhat specific proposals for strike strategy. Uses reputable sources and/or reasoning to support its arguments.	Paper attempts to cover your character's ideology and proposed strike strategy. It engages in baseline terms with the strategic dilemmas outlined in the synopsis, but does not take a clear position and describes proposed strike strategy vaguely. Attempts to support its arguments with some reputable sources and/or reasoning.	Paper briefly discusses your character's ideology and proposed strike strategy. It restates the synopsis and does not take a clear position or provide specific details for strike strategy. Supports its arguments with little to no reputable sources and/or reasoning.	Section is missing entirely.
Response to Two Questions to Consider (15%)	Paper responded to two clearly-identified questions to consider. Responses were well thought out, well researched, and well written. Shows a deep understanding of and engagement with the topic, and demonstrates strong initiative to do research beyond reading the synopsis.	Paper responded to two clearly-identified questions to consider. Responses were reasonably well thought out, well researched, and well written. Shows fair understanding of and engagement with the topic and demonstrates initiative to do research beyond reading the synopsis.	Paper responded to two questions but somewhat poorly, or did a good job with only one response. Responses attempted to answer question(s), but fell somewhat short. Shows an okay understanding of and engagement with the topic, but does not demonstrate significant research done beyond reading the synopsis.	Paper responded to two questions but poorly, or did a somewhat fair job with only one response. Responses attempted to answer question(s), but fell short. Shows a somewhat surface understanding of the topic, and does not demonstrate any research being done beyond reading the synopsis.	Section is missing entirely.
Chair's Discretion (5%)	Paper is perfectly formatted, perfectly cited, and only has minor grammatical errors if any at all.	Paper is nearly perfect in formatting, is cited well, and has a few minor grammatical errors.	Paper has minor formatting errors and issues with citations with some grammatical errors.	Paper has major formatting errors and issues with citations with many grammatical errors.	Format entirely not followed. No citations and major grammatical errors.

HUXLEY SUBMISSION GUIDE

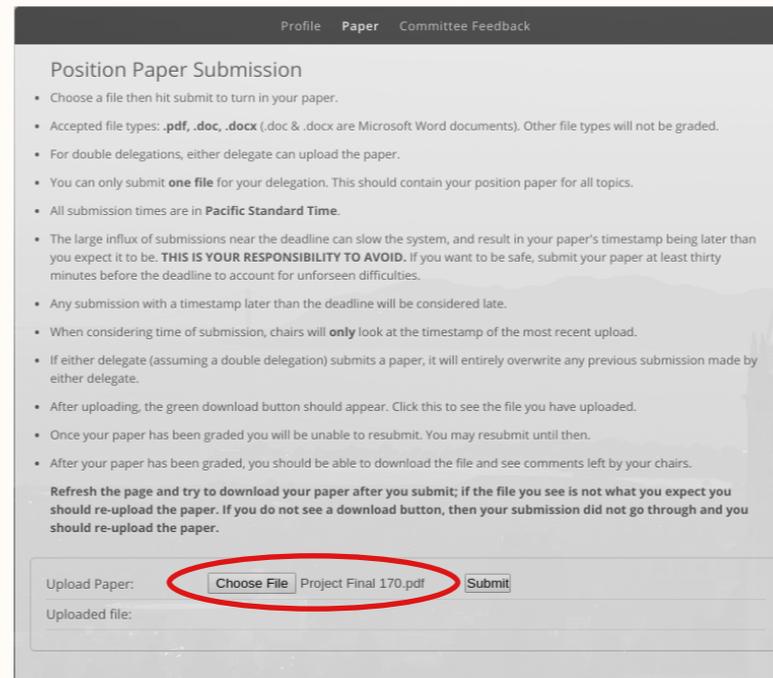
1

When you have completed your position paper, you will be submitting it through our online position paper system known as **Huxley!** First, you will need to log into your account at huxley.bmun.org. The first tab (shown below) shows your “Profile” page that has a checkoff list of things you need to do prior to conference.

To submit your paper, click the “Paper” tab on the top black bar of the screen. That will redirect you to the tab shown to the right. On this, **it is vital that you read all of the instructions before submitting.**



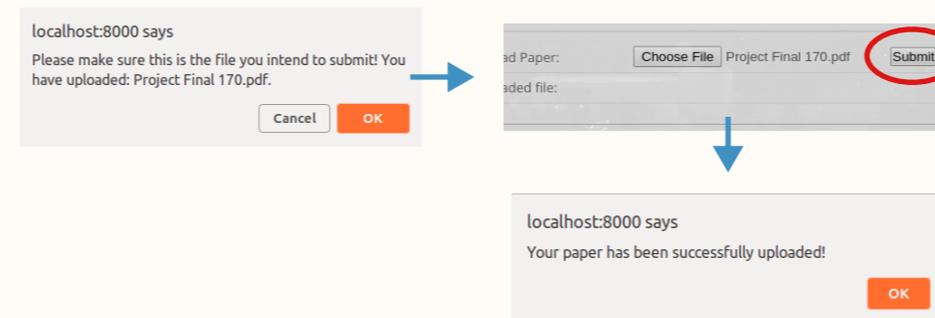
2



After you have read through all of the requirements, click the “Choose File” button. This will allow you to choose any document on your computer that is .pdf, .doc, and .docx. Reminder, you can only submit one file, so for committees with two topics, both position papers must be in the same document.

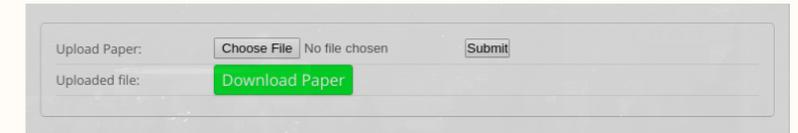
Once a file is selected, a pop-up should appear like the image on the right. Click “OK” on the pop-up and select “Submit” next to the file you just uploaded.

After this, you should get a pop-up confirming a successful submission!



3

You should see a large green button that says “Download Paper” (seen below).



Lastly, on the “Profile” page, there should be a check in the box by “Turn in Position Paper”! Then, you are good to go!

