



Application for the Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA)

**Hosted by the U.S. Military Academy
at West Point, New York**

Wednesday, October 30th to Saturday, November 2nd

"SCUSA 77: Peace Through Strength: Power in the 21st Century"

The theme of SCUSA 77, Peace Through Strength: Power in the 21st Century, seeks to capture the complexities of American power and foreign policy in a time of significant international change and uncertainty. The United States remains the most powerful state in terms of military and economic strength as well as global influence. Yet it seems increasingly clear that other states, from China and Russia to “middle powers”, represent challenges to American dominance that suggest the emergence of a more contested and multipolar world. This tectonic change coincides with often divisive debates within the United States over the core nature, purpose, and application of American power abroad. How should the United States combine military strength, economic resilience, technological innovation, diplomacy, and alliances to maintain peace and deter conflict in an increasingly multipolar world? What precisely are the interests, values, and sources of national power that should shape America’s role in the international arena?

The answer to these questions depends in part on how political leaders align national objectives with the instruments of American power. In what ways should the United States respond to growing constraints on its global and regional influence in a multipolar world? How should military strength, economic resilience, technological innovation, diplomacy, and alliances contribute to maintaining peace and deterring conflict? Should the United States share more responsibility with allies and partners as a means of confronting strategic competitors? Or would a more measured and unilateral approach better support American prosperity and security? These and many other vital questions will be explored through the fifteen roundtables of SCUSA 77 as students debate how the United States can best employ power in pursuit of peace, stability, and its national interests in an increasingly turbulent world.

An application to SCUSA consists of this cover sheet, a resume, and a brief two-page statement of why you want to attend SCUSA, what you will bring to the event, and how you will represent Reed.

It is due to Darcy Tanner by noon on Friday, September 18th, 2026.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Year (circle one): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Major: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Adviser's Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____