

STAR WARS: THE JEDI COUNCIL

GREETINGS EARTHLINGS,

My name is Genevieve Verville and I am thrilled to be your Grand Master (Chair) for Star Wars: The Jedi Council. Those who attended MSMUN last year may remember me from SOCHUM (can I get a short-necked giraffe please?). This has been my dream committee--literally, ever since the very first Stars Wars that came out in 1977, I have been wanting to run a Star Wars committee (just kidding, I am not that old). Anyway, I know you're probably dying to know what I do apart from being a full time nerd and a part time meme connoisseur (if you're like okay cool, but I don't read these anyway--just save yourself and skip the following paragraph).

I am a junior at the University of Mississippi (go rebels!) where I am double majoring in Biochemistry and General Studies (General Studies = triple minor in psychology, mathematics, and biology). On campus I am involved with undergraduate research in a physical chemistry lab (yes, I get to play with a huge laser and supercomputers), student government as the external executive assistant to our President, the "monarchy" on our Model United Nations team, a Supplementary Instructor for General Chemistry, Alpha Omicron Pi, the Big Event...I'm going to stop there because there's a lot honestly. I also have the privilege and the honor to staff one of the largest collegiate Model United Nations Conferences in the world. I am the Assistant Director for the Commission of Population of Development for National Model United Nations (NMUN) 2019, session B. I was a delegate at NMUN for 2 years before they let me on staff...so this could possibly be you in two or so years.

Anyway, back to Star Wars. I re-planned/re-wrote this guide approximately three or so times and let me tell you, Star Wars is a lot. This will be my seventh-ish year doing MUN and this was probably one of the hardest things I have done. So here's some tips and pointers so that you don't go crazy or freak out because you're possibly just here because a) you've watched all of the movies and the Clone Wars on Netflix (huge Star Wars fan); b) you've watched all of the movies; c) you've seen only the new ones; d) this just sounds fun and exciting so you're trying something new; e) you saw the words "Star Wars" and you know that only shooting stars break the mold. Anyway, here are the tips and pointers as promised: 1) For this committee I would just watch Star Wars I, II, III (it's okay, I'm not a fan of Episode I either) and read *Wookieepedia* for the Clone Wars (or you can watch it on Netflix); 2) Stick to the "**Canon**" material (Episodes I-VI of the Star Wars movies, The Clone Wars Movie, The Clone Wars television show, Novels of MSMUN XXXVIII | RHODES COLLEGE | 2000 N. PKWY MEMPHIS, TN 38112

the Star Wars movies, The Darth Maul: Son of Dathomir comic book mini-series, any Star Wars material that has been released *after* Son of Dathomir, unless it has been explicitly dubbed Legends). It is important to note that Canon does not acknowledge Legends (aka anything that happens in Legends does not influence Canon stuff); 3) Know your character as well as you possibly can--reading *Wookieepedia* and looking in the *Star Wars Databank* is very helpful; 4) If this terrifies you, just treat it as you would a normal MUN committee and approach it the same way--I'm not expecting you to know absolutely everything about Star Wars because I definitely do not. I briefly summarized Anakin Skywalker's main story and some history, but you are welcome/ I urge you to go more in depth with your research. If I would have written absolutely everything about Star Wars up to this point, this background guide would have been a novel and "ain't nobody got time for that."

One of the reasons I chose Star Wars is because I love Star Wars and with Episode IX coming out in 2019, I felt like this would be the perfect time to have a Star Wars committee. While Star Wars is fictional, it also touches on important topics that occur in society today. We are all fighting battles between "good" and "evil," dark and light. We, as people, are constantly forced to make choices that impact who we are today. Sometimes we find ourselves giving into the "dark side" as it can be the easier choice to take. Other times, we find ourselves on the "light side," championing for what is right and taking the high road. I feel that we all can relate to Anakin and his fear of loss, so that's why I chose to focus on the Jedi Council's decision. We are not Jedi, we are emotional human beings who are filled with passion, and often, we make decisions with our hearts as we let our emotions guide us. I encourage you join me on this journey as we venture between the dark and the light sides of the force.

I challenge you to consider this issue from a variety of different perspectives. All are welcome in this Star Wars committee. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I hope you are as excited for Star Wars: The Jedi Council and MSMUN 2019 as I am!

May the force be with you,

GENEVIEVE A. VERVILLE (AKA GEN SOLO OR KYLO GEN)

ghalingt@go.olemiss.edu

THE JEDI COUNCIL IS FACED WITH A DECISION:

WHETHER TO GRANT ANAKIN THE TITLE OF JEDI MASTER OR NOT.

BACKGROUND GUIDE:

*BBY = battle before Yavin (destruction of the Death Star at the end of Episode IV: A New Hope)

THE JEDI COUNCIL

The Jedi High Council serves as the ruling body of the Jedi Order. The Jedi Order is a peacekeeping organization, connected to each other through their unified observance of the force and allegiance to the light side. The Jedi have served as protectors of peace and justice for the Galactic Republic. It is important to note that they are known for their lightsabers and ability to channel the Force.

The Jedi Council is located on one of the four towers of the Jedi Temple on Coruscant. Coruscant is home to the Jedi Temple, where Jedi Knights live and train. Moreover, the Jedi Temple houses the Jedi Archives-- the order's repository of knowledge, filled with remnants of old texts once stored in the Great Jedi Library of Ossus. The Jedi Council consists of twelve Jedi Masters whose job is to oversee and govern the Jedi Order. Although the Jedi Council supports and swears allegiance the Galactic Republic, they have the power to govern the Order without interference from the Galactic Senate, as they are largely distrustful of politicians. The Jedi follow the Jedi Code. The Jedi Code is as follows:

"There is no emotion, there is peace.

There is no ignorance, there is knowledge.

There is no passion, there is serenity.

There is no chaos, there is harmony.

There is no death, there is the Force"

THE GALACTIC REPUBLIC

The Old Republic was brought to its decline due to its conflict with the Sith. The Sith consists of an order of dark-side force users, and was founded by rogue Jedi during the Hundred-Year Darkness. These Jedi believed that the only way to harness true power comes from allowing yourself to channel the dark

side and utilize it to achieve true potential. The Jedi High Council did not agree with this, and a divide was formed. The rogue Jedi was left out, and this Jedi formed a new order, which eventually became the Sith. The Sith Code is as follows:

"Peace is a lie, there is only passion.

Through passion, I gain strength.

Through strength, I gain power.

Through power, I gain victory.

Through victory, my chains are broken.

The Force shall free me."

Another noteworthy aspect of the Sith is the Rule of Two Doctrine: *"Two there should be; no more, no less. One to embody power, the other to crave it."* This was the considered a guiding principle of the Sith and replaced the idea that Sith had to be equal. This rule states that there should be only two Sith at a time--a master and an apprentice. Moreover, the only way that a Sith could become powerful was by taking their masters life. *While this information may not seem useful, it is important keep in mind for future events.* Nonetheless, several wars happened between the Sith and the Jedi, which eventually lead to the Sith's demise. After their downfall, many star systems formed together, and the Galactic Republic was born (1032BBY).

The Galactic Republic serves as the democratic union of the sovereign star systems that governs the galaxy (galactic republic). The Republic is governed by a Senate filled with legislators from different planets and the Supreme Chancellor--the democratically elected head of the Senate. Sheev Palpatine was the last elected Chancellor in 32 BBY. The Republic is protected by Jedi Knights in the Jedi Order. It is important to note that the galaxy existed without war or large scale conflicts, which allowed the Republic to maintain peace and order in the galaxy for approximately a millenium. However, during this time, the Republic never had an official army, so they relied heavily on peacekeeping Judicial Forces. Judicials were trained at the Judicial Academy and served both on land and in space, and were led by Jedi Commanders as they helped maintain peace in the galaxy.

Peace and order in the galaxy eventually came to an end in 22 BBY. An internal crisis occurred, sending the galaxy into turmoil, as conflict erupted between the old democracy and the Seperatist Alliance. The Seperatists are an unrecognized and democratic government that existed during the Clone Wars. During the Clone Wars, the Republic built up a massive army, which became known as the Grand Army of the Republic. Millions of clone troopers were sent off all across the galaxy to defeat the

Seperatists. Towards the end of the Clone Wars, Senator Palpatine ended up enacting Order 66--a top secret protocol that allowed for clones to betray and eventually execute their Jedi Masters. 19 BBY marked the end of the Jedi Order, but not before the Jedi discovered Senator Palpatine's true identity--Darth Sidious. Darth Sidious was a Dark Lord of the Sith, who sought to gain complete power by overthrowing the Republic. Without the Jedi, the Sith ruled the galaxy and the Galactic Empire was born. Prior to the Galactic Republic, the Sith were believed to have been destroyed; however, that was not the case as the Sith returned and brought upon the Clone Wars. *For the purpose of this committee, we will be considering events up to, but not including or anything after Anakin is allowed to join the Council, but is not granted the title of Jedi Master.*

Anakin Skywalker: Background History and the Jedi Council's Dilemma

Anakin Skywalker had no father--he was believed to be conceived by midi-chlorians. Midi-chlorians were microscopic life forms that reside in the cells of all living creatures. The Force spoke through these midi-chlorians, which allowed beings to use the Force. Anakin Skywalker was born to Shimi Skywalker and no father, and possessed the highest count of midi-chlorians in the galaxy, even more than Jedi Master Yoda.

Young Skywalker lived in the desert land of Tatooine along with his mother and worked in his master's shop. Even at a young age, Skywalker was talented and showed promise. He was an exceptional builder as he built C-3PO and showed promise as a pilot. It was not until Skywalker was nine, however, that his life began to change drastically. Jedi Master Qui-Jong Jinn found a nine year old Skywalker and freed him from slavery. Although Skywalker was hesitant to leave his mother behind, he eventually ended up leaving Tatooine with Jinn in hopes of a better future. Once they returned to Coruscant, Jinn met with the Jedi Council and expressed his desire to train Anakin. He believed that Anakin was the "Chosen One" and would be the one fulfill the prophecy and restore balance to the force. Jinn revealed his discovery about the midi-chlorians in Skywalkers blood and convinced the Jedi Council to see Skywalker before making a decision. Skywalker appeared before the Jedi Council and then was tested by Mace Windu. A blindfolded Skywalker was able to successfully name all of the images on the screen; however, when asked about his feelings about his mother, Skywalker questioned the relevance of his question. It is important to note that Yoda sensed a great deal of fear in Skywalker. While the council acknowledged his power, they refused to train him because of his age, so Jinn offered to take Skywalker as his apprentice.

However, the situation in Naboo was more pressing, so therefore, this would have to be dealt with at a later time³⁴. In the meantime, Skywalker was allowed to join Jinn.

Anakin fought in the First Battle of Naboo and destroyed the Droid Control Ship, which inactivated the Trade Federation's ground forces and saved the Grand Army from complete demise. However, Qui-Jong Jinn was not so fortunate and was killed by Darth Maul. It was at Jinn's funeral where Obi-Wan Kenobi offered to fulfill Jinn's final wish and train Anakin as a Jedi.

Obi-Wan Kenobi trained Anakin as a Jedi and Anakin was incredibly skilled, but arrogant. He built his own lightsaber at the age of 12. Despite his skills, he found it difficult to make friends and considered leaving the Jedi Order. However, before Anakin could decide, Yoda sent Obi-Wan and Anakin on a rescue mission. Following this mission, Anakin decided that he wanted to stay in the Jedi Order and proceeded to continue training.

Ten years after the Battle of Naboo, Anakin, now 19, was assigned to protect Padme Amidala, following an assassination attempt on her life. Skywalker went on to Naboo to protect her, while Obi-Wan was off on his solo missions. During this time, Skywalker found himself falling for Padme, which led him to experience an inner-conflict because Jedi are forbidden from forming attachments. Both Skywalker and Obi-Wan were reunited at the first Battle of Geonosis as they fought alongside each other. However, this battle left them both injured and Skywalker lost his right forearm.⁴⁰ Following the battle, Anakin returned to Naboo with Padme and Obi-Wan returned to Coruscant. Upon their return to Naboo, Padme Amidala and Anakin Skywalker secretly married.⁴¹

Within the first year of the Clone Wars, Obi-Wan became a Jedi Master and ascended to a seat on the Jedi Council; Anakin on the other hand became a Jedi Knight and a General in the Grand Army of the Republic. Skywalker went on to fight several battles during the Clone Wars and even mentored a Padawan, Asoka Tano. Nearing the end of the Clone Wars around 19BBY, both Skywalker and Kenobi returned from fighting to save Chancellor Palpatine from the forces of General Grievous. After rescuing the Chancellor, Skywalker sensed that they had fallen into a trap and it was not long before they fought Count Dooku--a Sith. Skywalker managed to defeat Count Dooku and murdered him per the Chancellor's request. While Skywalker doubted his decision to kill Count Dooku because it is not a Jedi's way of life, the Chancellor insisted that he had done the right thing. This marked the beginning of Skywalker's relationship with the Chancellor.

Following his return to Coruscant, Anakin met up with Padme, where she revealed her pregnancy. That same night, Skywalker began having nightmares about his wife's death. Skywalker struggled with

these nightmares as he feared he would lose her. Meanwhile, the Jedi Council was growing incredibly concerned with regards to the Chancellor and his hunger for increasing power. It was at this time that the Chancellor appointed Skywalker to sit on the Jedi Council as his representative. The Council agreed with this appointment; however, they were faced with a dilemma--whether to grant Anakin the title of Jedi Master or not.

Your role as Councilors will be to determine whether or not Anakin is worthy of such a title. It is important to carefully examine Skywalker's past and his actions. It is also necessary keep in mind what we know has happened in the future and consider the impact that this decision had and could potentially have on Skywalker's future and the future of the Galactic Republic. Give the gravity of this decision, it is crucial to consider the different possible outcomes and carefully examine the current stage of the ongoing Clone Wars. Additionally, note that the Council agreed with Anakin's appointment, so that Anakin could spy on the Chancellor on behalf of the Council. Keep this in mind while coming to a consensus regarding this decision. In order to achieve these goals, the Council would look favorably upon suggestions and possible changes, while ensuring that any decisions made reflect the Jedi Code while trying to bring the Clone Wars to an end.

CHARACTER LIST

Please note: While there are only supposed to be 12 members, this council will be composed of all members that have served from the Invasion of Naboo to its disbandment. There will also be additional characters present.

Grand Master (Role of the Chair): This is the title granted to the oldest and wisest member of the Jedi Council. Yoda held this title during the Clone Wars, but for the sake of this committee, Yoda will not be holding this title.

Master of the Order (Role of the Co-Chair): The elected leader of the Jedi Council. Mace Windu served as the Master of the Order, but for the sake of this committee, Mace Windu will not be holding this title.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Plo Koon: Kel Dor Jedi Master from Dorin. He wears a breathing mask and goggles in certain atmospheres. He is responsible for finding Asoka Tano and is one of the generals during the Clone Wars. He played a large role in the Battle of Abregado and in the Battle of Felucia.

Mace Windu: A Force-sensitive human male who is one of the oldest and most respected members of the Jedi Order. He served as Master of the Order and a Jedi General in the Grand Army of the Republic during the Clone Wars. Moreover, he also serves as command of the Clone Army and an Advisor to Chancellor Palpatine.

Yoda: Of the Jedi Council, the most senior member. Threat to the Jedi Order, Skywalker is. (How this is written, you must notice. Hmmmmm)

Ki-Adi-Mundi: Cerean Jedi Master from Cerea. He was skeptical when Mace Windu announced the potential return of the Sith. He serves as a Jedi General in the Grand Army of the Republic during the Clone Wars. He had four wives and seven daughters. It is important to note that he was the only Jedi Master allowed to follow the polyamorous marriage because of the low Cerean birth rates.

Saesee Tin: Iktotchi Jedi Master from Iktotch. He took part in the Battle of Geonosis against Count Dooku. He managed to survive this battle and now serves as a Jedi General in the Grand Army of the Republic during the Clone Wars. He is a very skilled pilot and fighter.

Yaddle: Jedi Master who is from the same species as Yoda. She is known for her kindness, patience, and kindness. She served on the Jedi Council during the final years of the Galactic Republic, but left the council prior to the beginning of the Clone Wars. However, for the sake of this committee, she will still be on the Council.

Even Piell: Jedi Master from Lannik, who is well known and respected for his courage. He is a great warrior and highly skilled with a lightsaber. During the Clone Wars he played a vital role, leading several missions. Although he died during Obi-Wan's attempt to rescue him from prison during the Battle of Lola Soyu, he will be alive and remain a member of the Jedi Council for a sake of this committee.

Adi Gallia: A Tholothian Jedi Master known for being incredibly focused and stern. During the Battle of Saleucami she helped Obi-Wan and Anakin rescue Eeth Koth from General Grievous. Although she was killed in 20 BBY on Florrum while confronting Darth Maul and Savage Opress, she will be alive and remain a member of the Jedi Council for this committee.

Eeth Koth: Iridonian Zabrak Jedi Master who was around when Jinn brought Anakin Skywalker to the Jedi Council. He fought in the Battle of Geonosis and was captured by General Grievous during the Clone Wars. He was rescued by Adi Gallia, Obi-Wan, and Anakin.

Shaak Ti: Torgruta Jedi Master who fought in the Battles of Geonosis, Kamino, and Coruscant during the Clone Wars. As a General for the Grand Army of the Republic, she oversaw the training of the clone army on Kamino.

Coleman Trebor: Vurk Jedi Master from the Sembla. Trebor helped Mace Windu rescue Obi-Wan Kenobi from the Confederate Systems. He tried to kill Count Dooku during the battle of Geonosis, but ended up dying at the hands of Jango Fett--a skilled, but incredibly dangerous bounty hunter.

Kit Fisto: Nautolan Jedi Master who served as a Jedi General for the Grand Army of the Republic during the Clone Wars. He fought in the Battle of Geonosis and took part in several missions such as the Mission to Vassek 3 and the Battle of Mon Cala. He trained Nahdar Vebb and nearly died during the Clone Wars in a rescue mission alongside his Padawan.

Coleman Kcaj: Ongree Jedi Master from the planet Skustell. He served on the council during the trial of Asoka Tano and he is present when Anakin is granted a position on the council. While not much is known about councilman Kcaj, his long history on the council can greatly impact the council's decision during committee.

Agen Kolar: Zabrak Jedi Master who fought during the Battle of Geonosis. He served on the Jedi assault team responsible for rescuing Padme Amidala, Obi-Wan, and Anakin from execution at the hands of the Separatists. He is known for being a skilled dualist.

Stass Allie: Tholothian Jedi Master who served as a Jedi General for the Grand Army of the Republic during the Clone Wars. She is the cousin of Adi Gallia and served on Jedi assault team responsible for rescuing Padme Amidala, Obi-Wan, and Anakin from execution at the hands of the Separatists.

Sifo-Dyas: Jedi Master responsible for creating the Grand Army of the Republic over a decade prior to the Clone Wars. He served on the Jedi Council before the invasion of Naboo and his creation of the Army, led to his removal from the Council. However, for the purpose of this committee Sifo-Dyas will remain on the Jedi Council.

Depa Billaba: Jedi Master from Chalacta. She served on the council when Jinn presented Anakin to the Jedi Council. She continues to serve on the Council during the Clone Wars and very skilled with a lightsaber.

Yarael Poof: Quermian Jedi Master who is skilled with Jedi mind tricks and illusions. He served on the council when Jinn presented Anakin to the Jedi Council. He died on a mission during the Battle of Geonosis; however, for the purpose of this committee he will remain on the Jedi Council.

Jocasta Nu: Jedi Master who served as the head librarian of the Jedi Archives during the Clone Wars. She is a valuable asset to the Jedi, as she helps them find valuable information in the archives. She is incredibly confident in her records and believes that if an item cannot be found in the archives, then it does not exist.

Oppo Rancisis: Thisspasian Jedi Master who trained under Yaddle. He was offered the throne of his home planet, but respectfully declined it so that he could continue training and learning the ways of the Jedi. He served on the Jedi Council during the Invasion of Naboo and continues to serve on the council through the Clone Wars.

Obi-Wan Kenobi: Jedi Master from Stewjon who defeated Darth Maul during the Battle of Naboo. He was trained by Jinn and helped rescue Anakin from slavery. He took over Anakin's mentorship and trained him in the ways of the force. He served as a Jedi General for the Grand Army of the Republic and joined the Jedi Council during the Clone Wars.

Anakin Skywalker: Anakin was rescued from slavery by Jinn and Kenobi. He was believed to be the "Chosen One" who would bring balance to the force. While he was incredibly powerful and compassionate, he feared loss.

OTHER CHARACTERS:

Asoka Tano: Togruta padawan of Anakin Skywalker from the planet Shili. She trained as a Jedi apprentice during the Clone Wars and is considered a hero of the Clone Wars. She was accused of bombing the Jedi Temple on Coruscant. She was expelled from the Jedi Order and nearly executed for her alleged crimes. She was acquitted at the last minute by the confession from Barriss Offee, who was responsible for the bombing. She was invited to rejoin the Jedi Order; however, she declined. For this committee, she will be present as a member of the Jedi Order.

Padme Amidala: Padme Amidala is a political leader who served as Queen and Senator of Naboo. During her reign as Queen, Chancellor Palpatine came to power as the Chancellor. During the Clone Wars, she was a leading member in the Senate. The Jedi Council assigned Anakin Skywalker to protect her during the Separatist Crisis to ensure her safety. She secretly married Anakin Skywalker following the Battle of Geonosis, which took place during the Clone Wars.

Chancellor Sheev Palpatine: Chancellor Palpatine came to power by manipulating Queen Amidala and convincing her to have Chancellor Valorum removed. Chancellor Palpatine spent the following years building a favorable reputation. He formed a close relationship with Anakin Skywalker and appointed Skywalker to sit on the Jedi Council near the end of the Clone Wars.

WORKS CITED

- "Jedi High Council." Wookieepedia. Accessed July 01, 2018. http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Jedi_High_Council.
- "Jedi Code/Legends." Wookieepedia. Accessed July 01, 2018. http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Jedi_Code/Legends.
- "Code of the Sith/Legends." Wookieepedia. Accessed July 01, 2018. http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Code_of_the_Sith/Legends.
- "Separatist Council." Wookieepedia. Accessed July 01, 2018. http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Separatist_Council.
- "Anakin Skywalker." Wookieepedia. Accessed July 01, 2018. http://starwars.wikia.com/wiki/Anakin_Skywalker.
- "Anakin Skywalker." StarWars.com. Accessed July 06, 2018. <https://www.starwars.com/databank/anakin-skywalker>.
- "The Jedi Council: Who's Who." StarWars.com. November 12, 2014. Accessed July 06, 2018. <https://www.starwars.com/news/the-jedi-council-meet-the-masters>.
- "Databank." StarWars.com. Accessed July 06, 2018. <https://www.starwars.com/databank>.