



School of Global Studies and Collaboration Aoyama Gakuin University

Course Descriptions for GSC Courses offered in English 2019 Spring ~ Fall

**Academic Affairs Division
Sagamihara Campus Administration Department
School of Global Studies and Collaboration
Aoyama Gakuin University**

Address: 5-10-1 Fuchinobe, Chuo-ku, Sagamihara-shi, Kanagawa, 252-5258, JAPAN

E-mail: exchange@gsc.aoyama.ac.jp

Phone: +81-42-759-6050

FAX: +81-42-759-6035

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GSC Courses

GSC takes an interdisciplinary curricular approach through four clusters (Media/Spatial Information, Sociology, Collaboration, and Business) based on the broad field of the social sciences. Experienced practitioners teach students so they can integrate theories into professional practice for solving today's social problems and improve the global community through project-based learning activities. The following list shows examples of the courses taught in English.

(Courses are subject to change.)

Title	Description	Semester
Writing Research Papers	The aim of this course is to provide students with the basics of writing research papers in the social sciences. Through this course, students will be able to (1) explain the basic structure of research papers; (2) formulate a research question; (3) develop an argument; (4) collect reliable information; (5) take effective notes; (6) create tables and figures; (7) cite sources properly (Chicago Style); (8) explain what is acceptable and not acceptable when writing papers; and (9) communicate ideas in English effectively.	Spring
History of Japanese Journalism	This course reviews the development of modern journalism in Japan since the Meiji Restoration in 1868 when this island nation in the Far East embarked upon modernization project. Students will be invited to examine how print media in the first years, and electronic media to be added in the later years, contributed to the formation of a nation-state in Japan by forging a shared "imagined community." The course also looks into various challenges the nation-state-oriented media has faced throughout the modern history and in this globalized age.	Spring
Global Environment and Resources Management	This course is designed to help students understand the importance of the global environment and resources management for realizing sustainable development, with special focus on climate change and developing world. Covered are basic features and mechanisms of climate change and other global environmental issues, and ways of addressing those issues as well as the international discussions and international cooperation, considering its effects on economic, political, social, and environmental aspects.	Spring
Agriculture in Asia	This class introduces a wide range of subjects relevant to the world agriculture and food, such as poverty of farmers in low-income counties, international trade, agricultural policies of both developed and developing counties, and global and domestic environmental issues caused by agriculture as they are inter-related. Among the subjects, the core themes are why the farmers cannot escape from poverty, and what measures should be taken by whom. Experiences and current issues of some Asian countries are explored as well.	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Corporate Social Responsibility	<p>Companies operate based on their stakeholders' trust and support. If they underestimate their interests and expectations, they would lose their 'license to operate'.</p> <p>This course aims to provide students with a sound knowledge and research framework of corporate social responsibility (CSR) with case studies of global companies, covering the companies' relationships with a wide range of stakeholders such as customers/clients, employees, business partners (supplier, contractors, and agents), communities, environment, shareholders and regulators.</p> <p>This course also provides students good opportunities to practice company research and do presentations on research results in English.</p>	Spring
Tourism in Asia	<p>The number of international tourists in 2017 has reached a record of 1.3 billion. The figure shows that one in every six to seven people on the globe has traveled to a foreign country. Viewing this trend in the global areas, the Asian region has surpassed the Americas as a popular travel destination, with prospects of further growth. Why is Asia becoming the focal point of international tourism? In this course, we will study the status of international travel in Asia, and see what tourism products and factors are making this area strong, through the basic understanding of tourism and the tourism development theory.</p>	Spring
Tourism Management	<p>This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of tourism, with stress on the dynamic benefits tourism development brings to the communities. This study on tourism begins from understanding the four basic elements that create the traveler movement; namely i) tourism destination, ii) tourism information, iii) tourism transport, and iv) the traveler. Tourism management is an act of optimizing the distribution of these elements to maximize the impact of tourism to the community. Many tourist destinations will be used to illustrate the condition of international and domestic tourism development cases.</p>	Spring
Sociology of Gender	<p>This course is an introductory class to the sociology of gender and sexuality. We will examine various forms of social differentiation and social relations related to gender and sexuality, which are socially constructed in specific cultural and historical contexts.</p>	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Cultural Resources and Media	<p>“Cultural Resources (Studies)” is a new term, started to be used around 2000 in Japan. The reason to need new term instead of “Cultural properties (studies)” is to extend areas of study from only treasured historical goods to “forms” (for example, human body) or sounds, common things, popular cultures and so on. This course focuses on the social evaluation of manga and the accumulation of manga as the background of creativity. We will cover the relation between historical literatures and Mangas. Later, the accumulation of amateur contents like “Comic Market” also will be mentioned.</p>	Spring
Interculturalism	<p>This course will introduce students to the basic issues of interculturalism and intercultural communication. Students will consider the major themes of intercultural studies, with particular emphasis on the complex relationships of culture, language, and identity. Students will develop theoretical knowledge of these underlying factors while developing practical skills to facilitate effective communication in intercultural contexts.</p>	Fall
Infrastructure for Asian Connectivity	<p>With the increasing globalization of economic activity, the private sector has been developing strategic and efficient world-wide logistic networks that integrate product sourcing, production, and distribution. The global logistics serving for the corresponding global value-added chain or supply chain management is becoming a key to strengthen international competitiveness in the world market.</p> <p>Government individually develops and implements transport policies to promote its own economic development and enhance national competitiveness. It is also noted that there are many collective efforts among governments in a region to strategically formulate the regional transport connectivity within the context of the regional development.</p> <p>The aim of the course is to provide students with a general overview of the opportunities and challenges of transport and logistics in Asian region from the perspectives of various stakeholders including consumers, producers, shippers, logistic service providers, investors in transport infrastructure, and governments.</p>	Fall
International Business and Strategic Management	<p>International business has dramatically been changed by the digital transformation. INTERNET broke the existing national border and also up-to-date technology like block chain broke the country currency. This course introduce the new international business trend and required capability for creating the new international business. In this course you can learn not only future business strategy but also great methodology laid by Great predecessors.</p>	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Hospitality Management	<p>This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of hospitality, hospitality management and hospitality industry from both local and global perspectives.</p> <p>It also provides an overview of organizational behavior in the hospitality industry with an emphasis on management philosophy, policy formulation, communication, motivation and organizational change.</p> <p>Student will be expected to discuss the effect of hospitality on their own country, and how hospitality can have strategic developmental function.</p> <p>This course will help students to acquire a holistic understanding the hospitality, including the tourism and hospitality industry and develop their general intellectual capacities for daily life, such as communication skills, interpersonal skills and problem solving skills and so on.</p>	Fall
Sociology of Environment	<p>Some of the environmental issues facing our planet are long-standing and complicated issues. Why are some global environmental issues complex? Why do some issues continue to be problematic despite the efforts of international societies to deal with them? A probable answer to this question lies in the interaction of three structural factors: the evolution of socioeconomic perspectives and nature views within the modern global community; a less integrated and less systematic response to their evolution by international societies; and the continuing socioeconomic gap between developed and developing countries.</p> <p>The aim of this course is to help students develop the ability to explore the realities of complicated global environmental issues. Focus will be placed on the issue of deforestation and forest management in tropical regions. Specifically, two types of approaches will be used to examine this issue. The first will be to use a temporal perspective to perform the analyses (i.e., order the issue by considering time profile). The second will be to review each development in multiple domains consisting of the international arenas (the global), the governments in developing countries (the national), and their rural villages (the local), and then to consider the connection and disconnection among each development.</p>	Fall
Special Lecture B (II)	<p>The aim of this course is to examine U.S. security, political, and economic policies toward Asian countries in particular. By using some major international relations theories, the course looks at how U.S. foreign policy and America's behavior have changed in the post-Cold War era.</p>	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Approaches to International Cooperation	This course aims to provide students with the practical knowledge for designing and managing aid projects/programs which are designed to help developing countries in solving various development issues. After overviewing the diversity and dynamics of international environments in which developing countries are situated, students will be introduced to the basic methods of management for planning, managing and evaluating development projects. In the workshops, specific cases of international development cooperation, including those of the Japanese government, will be used to help students understand the significance of local initiatives and leadership, the desirable participatory approaches to people and communities, the facilitative roles of external actors such as aid managers and specialists, and the issues of absorptive capacity for self-sustainable development.	1st half of fall
Global Media and Communications	This course will provide a means for understanding the relationships between technologies, media, and social connectivity. Media encompasses tools, platforms and strategies which we all use to obtain, create, and share knowledge about the world, through communication and interaction. In this course, students will develop critical thinking skills for evaluating and distinguishing various types of media, including formats and platforms. Students will also learn to become active participants and producers in the new digital society.	2nd half of fall
Cross-National Comparison	The aims of this course are to understand the necessity of cross-national comparison and to study issues and methods. Nations have their own culture and institutions. However, each nation is not isolated; rather, nations are interweaved in the international relations (IR). Therefore, it is necessary to study international relations to understand the dynamics of each nation properly. This course especially focuses on the issues of inequality and social policy.	2nd half of fall