



School of Global Studies and Collaboration Aoyama Gakuin University

Course Descriptions for GSC Courses in English Fall 2016 ~ Spring 2017

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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
Introduction to Leadership Studies I (Seminar)	This course focuses on introducing leadership competency (facilitation, communication, conflict management, problem-solving, evaluation) for managing group diversity on university campuses. The course also aims at practicing culture building activities for integrating diversity into the learning teams. The participants will be able to raise their awareness of their own leadership styles, and contribute to manage cultural diversity in the learning team.	Fall
Introduction to Leadership Studies II (Seminar)	This seminar focuses on studying interpersonal interactions across cultures by using Japanese culture as a reference. The seminar's goal aims at understanding issues and solutions related to building a bridge across "Cultural Differences" at the interpersonal level. The seminar also assists the participants with understanding their own cultures and their identities more objectively. The participants will be able to not only prevent interpersonal conflicts from occurring but also developing skills for a mutual cooperative relationships across cultures.	Spring
Introduction to Social Inquires and Methods	This course focuses on developing students' knowledge and skills for social research designs: qualitative, quantitative and mixed method approaches. It is designed for students who have little or no experience in social-science research projects, although it requires them to have a basic familiarity of completing academic assignments in English at the high-school level. The students will be able to define and describe social research designs and methods.	Fall
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 East Asia embarked upon its modernization. Students will be invited to examine how print media in the first years – joined by electronic media 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 modern history and in this globalized age.	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Cultural Resources and Media	This course focuses on the relation between accumulation and creation of cultural products such as literature (writing), music and video/film. A rich collection of existing cultural products as cultural resources are needed to create outstanding new works, and the accumulation is more important in the Internet era from the viewpoint of business. We examine media and cultural resources through several examples from printing in the early modern period to the Internet in the present.	Spring
Sociology of Gender	This course is an introduction to the study of gender from a sociological perspective. It focuses on gender as a major organizing principle of societies, from the individual level through groups and organizations, social institutions of families, work, school and so forth, to macro-social structures. Students will learn basic concepts and approaches of the sociology of gender and examine the ways it is socially constructed and influences social life and organization.	Spring
Interviewing: Principles and Practices	The interview is a cardinal element of journalism. This course offers an overview of interviewing principles, practices and techniques, with an emphasis on interview preparation, information gathering and persuasive interviewing techniques. Gaining experience as both an interviewer and an interviewee in Japan and globally online will help students understand interview dynamics and cultivate effective interviewing skills. This course also examines attitude, empathy and non-verbal communication in the context of various interviews.	Fall
Sociology of Environment	The aim of this course is to help students develop the ability to explore the complexities of global environmental issues and solutions for them, using a multi-tiered structural analytical approach. Focus is placed on the issue of deforestation and reforestation in tropical regions. Specifically, two types of approaches will be used to examine this issue. The first approach is to review each development in multiple domains consisting of the international arenas (e.g., the United Nations), the governments in developing countries and their rural villages, and then to consider the connection and disconnection among each development. The second approach is to use a temporal perspective to perform the analyses (i.e., examine current problematic situations and possible solutions by considering both history and the desired future).	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Asian Development Strategies I	In the last 30 years, the most important factors that have deeply affected the development of emerging Asian economies have been: (i) the 1985 Plaza Accord and (ii) the end of the Cold War in 1991. In the next 30 years, the most important elements affecting emerging Asian economies will be: (i) the middle-income trap and (ii) state-owned enterprise reform. This course reviews the past forces that have offered ASEAN countries competitive opportunities, and it outlines future expectations regarding remedies and economic development strategies they will undertake to compete in global markets.	Spring
Asian Development Strategies II	Two Asian countries, China and India, are expected to become the world's largest economies by the mid-21st century. However, a study reveals that they must first overcome significant challenges. This course clarifies the development challenges those countries must confront and strategies they must adopt before these two giants can achieve sustainable economic development.	Fall
Agriculture in Asia	The course starts from the overview of world agriculture and food, followed by the examination of individual issues necessary for in-depth understandings of facts and news taken up by the media. The issues include peasants and the poverty trap, trade and its rule-making, agricultural policies, commodity markets, economic development and the roles of agriculture, agri-environment (land and water), etc., with a focus on Asia. Through the lectures and class discussions, students will understand the facts from multiple perspectives and are expected to gain a way of thinking on how the issues should be tackled on the ground and in the arena of policy-making.	Spring
Hospitality Management	The course is designed for both Japanese and international students. The class is divided into three parts. In the first, students study the principles of hospitality. In the second, they study and analyze the specific hospitality business like hotels, restaurants and airlines. In the third part, they examine the differences of cross-cultural hospitality businesses between Southeast Asian countries like Thailand and Japan. The class will be a seminar style so that views can be exchanged.	Fall
Tourism Management	This course introduces the fundamental concepts of tourism, with an emphasis on the dynamic benefits that tourism development brings to communities. This study begins from understanding the four basic elements that create the traveler movement; namely, (i) tourism destinations, (ii) tourism information, (iii) tourism transport and (iv) the travelers. 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.	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Special Lecture B (II)	<p>Special Topics in U.S. Policies toward Asia</p> <p>This course explores America's political, economic and security relations with Asian countries, particularly with Japan and China, after World War II. Using an international relations conceptual framework, students will learn how U.S. foreign policies changed after the Cold War and will also understand future prospects for peace and conflict in the region.</p>	Fall