



Course Descriptions for GSC Courses in English

Fall 2017 ~ Spring 2018

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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. | 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 |
| Cultural Resources and Media | "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. | Spring |
| Sociology of Gender | 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. | Spring |
| Corporate Social Responsibility | Companies operate based on their stakeholders' trust and support. If they underestimate their interests and expectations, they would lose their 'license to operate'. 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. This course also provides students good opportunities to practice company research and do presentations on research results in English. | Spring |

| Title | Description | Semester |
|---|--|----------|
| 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 ways of addressing the 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 |
| Tourism in Asia | The number of international tourists in 2016 has reached a record of 1.2 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. | Spring |
| Asian Development Strategies I | In the late 20th century, many developing countries in Asia changed or were imposed to change their macro-economic management systems from socialistic planned economy to market-oriented economy. This course will examine the main economic development strategies and policies which have been applied by the major emerging countries in Asia for their economic development and poverty reduction. This course will also study the main challenges for the major emerging countries in Asia to make their economies more competitive and sustainable under economic globalization. Some Asian countries such as Vietnam, Thailand and Philippines will be taken up as case studies. | Spring |

| Title | Description | Semester |
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| Sociology of Environment | <p>Some of the environmental issues facing our planet are long-standing issues. 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, using a multi-tiered structural analytical approach. 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 |
| Contemporary History of Asian Economies | <p>Why does the Chinese GDP growth rate have been slowing down in the last few years? Why does India have been showing its higher GDP growth rate than China in the last couple of years? What kind of industrial policy will have to be taken by Thai or Malaysian government under the new Asian Economic Community (AEC)? This course welcomes any students particularly those who are not able to answer to these questions. This course is designed to provide students with detailed historical economic backgrounds of major Asian countries together with the characteristics of their economic structures.</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</p> | Fall |

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| | perspectives of various stakeholders including consumers, producers, shippers, logistic service providers, investors in transport infrastructure, and governments. | |
| International Business and Strategic Management | <p>When global companies build their mid-/long-term business strategies, consideration of global mega trends is inevitable. Many of them take advantage of the trends to increase their revenue. However they could lose their competitiveness unless they manage the trends appropriately.</p> <p>This course outlines global mega trends such as climate change and energy; water scarcity and quality; population growth and urbanisation; poverty and social inequality; human health; human rights; systemic risks and corporate governance enhancement, and provides students tips to analyse the companies' mid-/long-term business strategies.</p> <p>This course also provides students good opportunities to practice company research and do presentations on research results in English.</p> | Fall |
| Hospitality Management | <p>This program is designed not only for students from overseas but also for Japanese students. This class is divided into three parts. In the first part we study the principles of Hospitality. In the second we study and analyze the specific hospitality business like hotels, restaurants and airlines. In the third part we examine the differences of cross-cultural hospitality businesses between South-east Asia like Thailand and Japan. I would like to manage the class by the seminar style in order to exchange views of mutually in the class.</p> | Fall |
| 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> | Fall |

| Title | Description | Semester |
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| Special Lecture B (II) | 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. | Fall |
| Asian Development Strategies II | This course undertakes a comparative study between China and India in respect of the economic development policies in order to understand the main challenges for their competitive and sustainable economic development under economic globalization. In the early 1950s, when China and India commenced their economic development, both countries were facing almost the same serious problems for economic development. Subsequently, the two countries applied different economic policies for development and shown different economic performance from 1990s to 20010s. This course will compare the two Asian emerging countries, China and India, so that students will be able to understand what kind of economic development policies are more appropriate for facilitating competitive and sustainable economic growth under globalization. | Fall |
| Introduction to Social Inquires and Methods | This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of academic research. Enrollees will explore how a research project is conceived, designed, and conducted while developing practical tools and techniques for use in their own work. | Fall |
| Interviewing: Principles and Practices | The interview is a foundational element of journalism. The course offers an overview of interviewing principles, practices and techniques essential for successful interviewing. The course focuses on interview preparation, information gathering and persuasive interviewing techniques. Gaining experience as both an interviewer and an interviewee (in Japan and online globally) will help students understand interview dynamics and cultivate effective interviewing skills. This course will examine attitude, empathy and non-verbal communication in the context of interviews. This class will often provide students opportunities to conduct interviews at the broadcasting station on campus. | Fall |

| Title | Description | Semester |
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| Interculturalism | 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. | Fall |
| Special Lecture S (I) | <p>Values, moral, and religion are central aspects in comparative cultural sociology. Based on the historically unprecedented high level of economic prosperity and the emergence of a welfare state in most advanced industrial societies, Inglehart expected already in the 1970ies a value change from materialist to postmaterialist value orientations. This value change implies that achievement orientation has declined in younger cohorts. At the same time, however, value change is also connected with an increase of in tolerance toward minorities or with regard to sexuality. In line with sociologists like Max Weber, morality is expected to change too. Formerly strict rule obedience (ethic of conviction) becomes more and more replaced by an ethic of responsibility, which requires that people become also responsible for the consequences of right actions. Whereas the main focus of Inglehart's early work was on the micro-level (individuals), in the later years he became more interested in macro-level relationships (countries). By referring to Karl Marx and Max Weber the question arises to what extend economic conditions and culture are able to shape attitudes and values of people living in different countries.</p> <p>In the first part of the course, the focus is on micro-level (individuals) change in single countries. Besides introductions into the theory, the course will also include practical exercises. After a short introduction into the statistic program SPSS, participants will become familiar with simple table analyses and regression analyses as major tools for empirical comparisons. Example analyses and their interpretation will be given. The participants will have the opportunity to carry out pre-structured exercises in small groups. The second part of the course addresses relationships on the macro-level (countries). Besides macro-level regression analyses and possibilities to visualize relationships, the limits of such macro-level analyses will also be discussed.</p> | Summer Vacation Class |