



School of Global Studies and Collaboration Aoyama Gakuin University

Course Descriptions for GSC Courses offered in English 2024 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

Last updated on: February, 2024

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
Practical Essay Writing I	According to the development of the Internet and social networks, we have much more opportunities to write essay externally. But even if you want to write an attractive and conveyed essay, it is difficult to actually write an interesting essay. Because writing an interesting and conveyed essay requires some skill and experience. Also, unless you practice writing essays repeatedly, you will not be able to write interesting and conveyed essays. In this course, we will teach you how to write interesting essays while actually writing essays based on various points.	Spring
Practical English Workshop I	Leadership is one of the key components of universally recognized management skill. With the globalization of business, it is not uncommon to manage teams with different cultural backgrounds. From now on, leadership skills will be required not only for managers but also for managers of excellent projects and organizations. How can you be a good leader? How do you develop your own abilities to become a leader? Through methodological lectures and workshops, this course will experience and learn the skills to take on the role of team leader in any organization.	Spring
Sociology of Gender	This course explores critically concepts and theories of gender and sexuality in order to understand how gender norms, roles, and practices are shaped through social structures, institutions, and power relations. Theoretical frameworks to explain the gender system will be reviewed. Subsequently, group works will be organized with a variety of case studies around the world, additionally, student-led discussions about the relationship between gender and main sociological themes such as family, education, health, work, violence, nation, etc. will be opened. This course will enhance students to learn that what is considered natural or universal for femininities/masculinities is in fact defined by socio-cultural factors including race, ethnicity, class, religion, etc.	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Cross-National Comparison	<p>This course seeks to enhance students' understanding of each nation's domestic systems and foreign relations through comparative perspectives. The course starts with the study of each nation's domestic political, economic, and social systems and then examines the influence of international society on each nation's domestic systems and foreign relations. In this process, the course mainly deals with the issues of security, economy, and human rights. The course also teaches comparative research methods.</p>	Spring
International Cultural Relations	<p>The course aims to provide students with a basic understanding of the issue surrounding culture as dealt with in international relations, and to re-examine international relations from a cultural perspective. By understanding the historical background of the relationship between nations and cultures from imperialism, decolonization, to globalization, students will gain a deeper understanding of the issues in contemporary international society. Students will be able to understand how international relations and culture relate and influence each other by learning through specific assignments how the different cultures of different ethnic groups and societies relate to each other.</p>	Spring
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

Title	Description	Semester
Tourism in Asia	<p>The year 2020 ended with historic changes in international travel and tourism, bringing with it significant challenges to destinations, industries, and travelers. With our changing social fabric, communities reassert a central role where human relations take the forefront, creating novel and successful ways to sustain livelihoods.</p> <p>Responsible travel and sustainable tourism are more than ever important core elements for all destinations today so that tourism can contribute to communities as a crossroad of positive impact for both travelers and local residents.</p> <p>This course will share current tourism trends and insightful case studies of Asian destinations, including how Japan can cope with challenges to build better experiences through tourism. In each session, students will acquire basic marketing knowledge and demonstrate an understanding in tourism destination marketing.</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 tourist movement; namely i) tourism destination, ii) tourism information, iii) tourism transport, and iv) the tourist. 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
Special Lecture M (III)	<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

Title	Description	Semester
Global Media and Communications	<p>This course will provide a means for understanding the relationships between technologies, media, and global 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.</p>	Spring
Practical Essay Writing II	<p>The course aims to provide students with the skills necessary to write effective social science essays in English. Students will develop their abilities through studying key topics such as argumentation, transitions, and citation methods. By examining examples and undertaking their own projects, they will become able to produce more rigorous and convincing papers.</p>	Fall
Practical English Workshop II	<p>This course is designed for students to develop specific practical English skills and knowledge. It will focus on global issues in today's society and aims to help students understand these issues and be able to express their own ideas and thought in English through practicing readings, discussions and presentations. Specifically, we will be dealing with global topics such as globalization, cultural friction, food, and the environment.</p>	Fall
Global Opinion Trend	<p>This course deals with various editorials and opinions carried by major media in the world. By reading these editorials and opinions, students will explore past and current issues of great importance and understand how the outlook on a certain issue varies from country to country or from medium to medium. Students are also expected to analyze the reasons behind such difference and exchange their own opinions on the issues through group discussions and individual presentations.</p>	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Interculturalism	<p>This course introduces students to intercultural studies, considering how cultures interact with one another. The course employs a historical perspective to consider in what ways cultures have influenced each other, as well as the roots of cultural conflict past and present. Students will become familiar with the various components of intercultural exchange – language, technology, religion, art, and so forth – as well as the theories and methods to make sense of them.</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
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 introduces 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
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
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

Title	Description	Semester
Approaches to International Cooperation	<p>This course aims to provide students with the practical knowledge for designing and managing international cooperation projects including development projects and humanitarian assistance.</p> <p>In the first several classes, students will obtain the basic knowledge about the history, the regime transition of international cooperation and various types of assistance contrived. The course will also cover the basic methods of designing projects and factors to be considered such as significance of local initiatives and participation of beneficiaries.</p> <p>Based on the knowledge that students have obtained in the first several classes, students will actually design international cooperation projects under certain simulated situations and implement such projects. Specific types of assumed projects are (i) rural development including projects for water supply, primary education, and other basic human needs (ii) humanitarian assistance for natural disaster and conflict affected people.</p>	1st half of Fall
Global Media and Communications	<p>This course will provide a means for understanding the relationships between technologies, media, and global 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.</p>	2nd half of 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>	2nd half of Fall