

Basic Education <2008 Curriculum>

Course Offerings

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ENG150 Advanced Research Writing

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Course Descriptions

English Language Foundations

ENG100 Composition I (3 credits)

Please note: This is a departmental course description. While continuity across sections is aimed for, reading given outside the textbook may differ from instructor to instructor. If you have questions regarding this matter, please check with individual instructors prior to registering for a particular section.

Composition I offers students an introduction to university essay writing and also introduces Advanced Research Writing. *Composition I* gives students multiple and consistent opportunities to write—both in class and out. Academic writing is generally reading-based, or text-dependent, so *Composition I* requires a lot of reading. Students will be instructed in reading strategies and given opportunities to develop their abilities to discuss what they read in small groups and write about what they read. Students will be required to complete a variety of writing assignments, including free writing, summaries of readings, autobiographical and, personal response papers, and at least 3 formal multi-draft academic essays following specific rhetorical modes chosen by the instructor. They will also be required to maintain writing portfolios of all their writing. Throughout the course, students will be expected to respond to each

other's writing in a peer review process that will be carefully explained. During the course students will view a film, both in class and out of class, which will also form the basis of discussion and writing assignments.

ENG101 Academic Reading Across Disciplines (3 credits)

ENG 101 is a course in which students undertake intensive reading of authentic university-level texts in various academic disciplines in order to improve their reading rate and comprehension. The course offers students regular opportunities to actually read as well as to expand their English reading skills—both in class and out.

Perhaps one of the greatest challenges facing university students as they attempt to be academically successful is the frequently daunting amount and level of reading required in just about every course they take. For students having to read such texts in a foreign language, the challenge can actually be overwhelming. ENG 101 attempts to help students develop confidence in their academic reading abilities through an emphasis on the self-directed learning of reading skills that, in turn, engenders a stronger ability to comprehend and comment on texts. Hopefully, such development will lead to greater amounts of successful reading as well. It is believed that, once students are reading in large quantities and comprehending more of what they read, their overall educational experiences will be more meaningful as well as more knowledgeable. Students will have much more to talk and write about at the university, as reading better will also build up these areas of language use. Finally, ENG 101 will provide students with ways to increase their repertoire of practical metacognitive reading skills so

that they are reading—and thinking—more critically and analytically.

The goals and objectives of ENG 101 will be met through individual work by students as well as through small group and pair activities designed to stimulate awareness of and appreciation for the value of being a “good” reader. As part of the approach in this course, speaking and writing activities will be included to both support and enhance the development of improved reading behavior.

ENG102 Speech Communication (3 credits)

This is an introductory course in Speech Communication. “The field of [speech] communication focuses on how people use verbal and nonverbal messages to generate meanings within and across various contexts, cultures, channels, and media. It promotes the effective and ethical practice of human communication.” Therefore, students will work on improving their communication skills as both senders and receivers of messages in person-to-person, small group, and public situations. To this end, students will be given the opportunity to study theories, develop a repertoire of techniques and strategies by doing exercises and activities, delivering oral presentations, and engaging in small group discussions.

ENG120 Introduction to English Studies (3 credits)

This course offers an introduction to the formal study of the English language. As such, the course will focus on several key factors in coming to know English: its history, its current usage, and its spread in a variety of ways across the globe. In particular, as English becomes more globalized, or internationalized, varieties of localized

English have become reality; this course e0ssues mentioned above lead to a natural discussion of what is “standard” English today and what is a “native speaker”. For a student who is seriously considering a career as an English teacher, it is essential to take into account socio-cultural and political factors that have led English to the main stage in today’s linguistic world. The idea of English as the primary lingua franca will be analyzed. One benefit of this course is that students will be expected to assess their own understanding and “level” of English on several levels—grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, etc.—and discuss ways in which they can develop greater English fluency and proficiency. This course offers a “hands on” approach to learning what English is all about.

ENG150 Advanced Research Writing (3 credits)

Please note: This is a departmental course description. While continuity across sections is aimed for, reading given outside the textbook may differ from instructor to instructor. If you have questions regarding this matter, please check with individual instructors prior to registering for a particular section.

This course provides opportunities for students to strengthen their academic writing and writing skills through intellectual inquiry and research. Students investigate issues and questions that merit serious investigation through a variety of sources beyond those supplied by the instructor or the course textbook, e.g., library resources, the Internet, etc. The course requires students to write three formal academic papers, ranging from 1000 to 2000 words, each consisting of at least two drafts. Throughout the course,

primary emphasis is given to formal inquiry, the synthesis of content from different sources, and learning the APA style of in-text citation and bibliography. Each of these papers requires the development of a student-generated thesis, which is researched, elaborated on and documented. A substantive amount of reading is required for each class meeting, and students will be held accountable for the content of these readings and other assignments in quizzes, reading reviews and/or other in class activities. Extensive small group discussion will be required in many of the class meetings, which enhances facility in academic discourse and gives students opportunities to share their ideas about all aspects of the course content. Accurate language use is also mandatory for students in this course, and grammar review will be among the course requirements.

Social Sciences

ANT150 Cultural Anthropology (3 credits)

This course will introduce students to the discipline of cultural anthropology. In a nutshell, the course is about the different ways people all over the world have of looking at the world in which they live. The course will cross-culturally analyze and compare select themes, beliefs and practices such as marriage, religion, gift-giving, taboo, etc. It will work out the extent to which these themes are universal and the extent to which their meanings and forms vary across cultures. In the process of studying other cultures students shall learn to apply an 'anthropological lens' to their own culture - in effect, seeing the strange in the familiar

because they have previously learned to see the familiar in the strange. An integral part of this course is the examination of how knowledge claims are made in the discipline of anthropology. Thus we will highlight the methods and practices employed by anthropologists in the production of knowledge about other peoples and cultures.

DEM210 Demography (3 credits)

This course seeks to provide students with an understanding of the structure and distribution of the world's population both at global and regional levels, differentials in age and sex composition, and variation in rates and patterns of fertility, mortality and migration. The course examines demographic events by introducing definitions and terms, and the interplay between demography and socio-economic factors. A critical evaluation of some of the main explanations will be further discussed. The course mainly consists of social demography, which explores substantive issues with respect to population policies and current demographic characteristics of modern and traditional societies. In addition, derivation of average life expectancy is introduced through the study of Life Tables.

ECN100 World of Business and Economics (3 credits)

This is the most fundamental course for students destined for the Global Business major and should be taken before any of the other courses in the Global Business curriculum. The first half of the course is an introduction to the world of business focusing on the purpose, basic financial, operating, and legal structures, and major value-creating activities of the typical

company. Topics include: mission statement, stakeholders, legal forms of business activity, leadership, operations, planning, logistics, controller function, treasury, marketing, sales and service, and human resource management. During the second half of the course, students study the fundamentals of macro and microeconomics. Topics include: the 10 principles of economics, thinking like an economist, interdependence and gains from trade; market forces of supply and demand, elasticity and its application, and supply, demand, and government policies. Students will develop the habit of following on a regular basis major sources of business and economic news. In each class, students will be given opportunities to demonstrate how the concepts and theories they are learning in the classroom are evident in the real world of business and economics.

ECN210 Principles of Microeconomics (3 credits)

In this course, we study how scarce resources are allocated within the market system using the price mechanism. We consider actions of, and the interactions among, three economic agents within this system: (i) consumers, (ii) producers, and (iii) government. In this course, students will be introduced to simple and abstract models of decision-making of the three economic agents. Using these models, we will analyze the outcomes when these agents interact in the marketplace. Students will be able to understand the principles underlying the decision-making of economic agents, and how their decision-making may change when the incentives of, and the environment around, those agents become different. Students will also have opportunities to become familiar with a variety of economic

thought, ranging from Adam Smith to neo-classical economists.

EDU150 Education Systems (2 credits)

This course is open to both home and overseas students and conducted in English. It gives students a basic understanding of education systems, education laws and regulations, and everyday issues in education. The topics will mainly be on the Japanese educational system but we will occasionally examine those found overseas for comparison. This course is mandatory for those students wanting to earn a high school teaching certificate in Japan. Therefore, this course gives students opportunities to acquire the fundamental skills needed to work as a practitioner. Although this course is mainly lecture-based, it will try to incorporate presentations and discussions as often as possible, so that the students can share their ideas in class.

ENV100 Environmental Science(From Ecological and Sociological Perspectives) (3 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the basics of environmental science with emphasis on ecological and sociological perspectives. Environmental science is a multidisciplinary subject consisting of various fields, such as physics, chemistry, biology, geology, meteorology, sociology, political science, etc. For instance, understanding the global warming issue requires not only an understanding of the physical and chemical mechanisms of global warming but also the interconnectedness of global warming with such issues as the conflicts between industrialized and developing countries, globalization, the value judgments adopted by

various cultures, technological innovations, and the lifestyles of people in various societies. Mastery of the basics of the natural sciences is necessary to understand the relationship between the causes and effects involved in various environmental issues. Likewise, mastery of the social sciences is integral to understanding why these issues occur, and how they should be addressed, improved or resolved.

GEO150 Geography (Physical and Human) (3 credits)

Geography is the study of the earth's surface as the space within which the human population lives. The root components of 'geography' come from the Greek word 'geo,' meaning 'earth,' and 'graphein,' to write. The 'earth's surface' is that rather thin shell, only one thousandth of the planet's circumference thick that forms the habitat or environment within which the human population is able to survive. In this course students will study a number of concepts, theories, and topics that broadly constitute the discipline of geography. This course will provide knowledge of both physical and human geography. The class will proceed interactively and will feature occasional discussions, short tasks, presentations, and so on.

HIS110 World History (3 credits)

HIS110 is an introductory survey course of world history from c. 1400 to the present. By covering a wide geographical area and a long period of time, it will examine the political, economic, and cultural development of various regions of the world and show the interaction between major players in history, also touching upon the greatest cultural achievements of Western and Eastern civilizations. Beginning with the Renaissance

in Europe, the course will trace the rise of European super-powers and their long-term impact on the rest of the world, the decline of European power, the rise of the United States, the Soviet Union, and non-Western powers, and on-going globalization in recent decades.

HUM150 Comparative Cultural Studies (Great Spiritual Teachings of Asia and Japanese Culture) (3 credits)

The course is designed to familiarize students with the major trends in Comparative Cultural Studies, giving a broad panoramic view of the great spiritual teachings of Asia from ancient times to the 21st century with focus on East Asia. Problems of anthropology, sociology, religion, ethics and aesthetics are incorporated into the course, allowing students to develop a deeper understanding of history and various cultural phenomena. Special accent is placed on intercultural communication, conflicts of cultures, religious clashes and major globalization trends, which in turn facilitate rational comprehension of the changing world.

LAW160 Japan's Constitution and Law (3 credits)

The main subject matter of this course is the actual constitution of Japan, in effect from May 3, 1947. It is, as is any other constitution, deeply embedded in its historical context: in its case, the Surrender of 1945 and the subsequent US Occupation. Article 9, entitled "renunciation of war", is the most salient feature of the postwar constitution and one of the targets of constitutional revisionism. This course helps students to form their own opinions on constitutional questions. Examination of constitutional provisions often

leads us to issues of other branches of the Japanese law, such as criminal procedure law or social welfare law.

PLS150 Political Science (3 credits)

In this course we will examine the theories of contemporary political science by taking a broad view of the theoretical systems that underpin this field of study. The first introductory lecture, entitled "Politics and Political Science", outlines the basic preliminary points needed to study political science, the objectives and methods of contemporary political science, and the special features of contemporary social science. The lectures of the first half of the semester provide an analysis of the basic concepts of political science, including "social and political systems", "political cultures", "power and authority", "state and nation" and a look at the actors in the political system, such as the roles of "political parties" and "bureaucratic organizations". The lectures of the second half of the semester, utilizing the knowledge based in the lectures from the first half of the semester, examine the various democratic theories of the contemporary world, such as "the theory of Polyarchy" developed by R. A. Dahl and "the theory of Consociational Democracy" proposed by Arendt Lijphart. Our aim is to understand methods to solve problems and conflicts of the contemporary world by learning these theories of democracy.

PSY150 Psychology (3 credits)

This course is designed to explore a general overview of the field of psychology, with special focus on the areas related to developmental psychology. The topics include lifecycles, learning, intelligence, personality, social behavior and psychological disorders.

We will also learn how these diverse areas can be integrated. In addition, the history, the experimental methods of psychology, issue of multiculturalism in psychology we discussed.

SOC150 Sociology (3 credits)

This course introduces students to sociology, the interpretive study of the structures and patterns of collective human existence. Students are provided with a survey of the leading theoretical frameworks and main analytic concepts of the discipline; accordingly, they are furnished with a basic sense of what questions sociologists typically address and, more critically, the trademark manner in which sociologists do so. The relevance of sociology in the Twenty-first Century depends on the ability of the discipline to offer its unique perspective on two phenomena increasingly shaping the fate of human groups all over the world: intensifying global interconnectedness (a.k.a. "globalization") and emerging environmental crises (e.g. looming fossil energy shortages and prospective catastrophic climate change). More so than might normally be the case in an Introduction to Sociology course, then, this course will pay special attention to the global system as a unit of analysis in the sociological enterprise, to transnational subject matter, and to the social dynamics and consequences of human transformation of the natural environment.

SOC250 Ideas and Theories in the Social Sciences (3 credits)

Theories determine consciously or unconsciously our perception of reality. They explain human behavior (e.g. egoistic or idealistic, reasonable or irrational), institutions (e.g. why do family structures exist in every society), and human interactions. We can

therefore increase our knowledge of the social world by applying different theories to a certain social problem, because we will be able to see the problem from different perspectives.

This course introduces students to the main analytical tools of sociology and the related social sciences. The major classical and contemporary sociological ideas and theories will be discussed. Students are provided with a necessary understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of the major theoretical perspectives of the discipline. We will examine their background assumptions, logical consistency, and empirical testability. A substantial part of the course will be related to the practical application of these theories to relevant contemporary social problems.

SOC260 Principles of Social Policy (3 credits)

Simply said, social policy is about delivering welfare and well being to people. It is about how to make people's lives safe, fulfilling, healthy and productive. What is integral to social policy is the different ways in which we conceptualize the term welfare. Welfare and well being can be grouped into different issues such as health, education, poverty, justice, crime, gender and racial equality, housing, transport, material needs, etc. Social policy typically starts with the general concepts related to a particular issue and then quickly proceeds to the practical aspects of policy as well as an analysis of successes and failures of past policies in different countries and settings.

SOC270 Korean Culture and Society (3 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the main aspects of traditional

Korean culture and contemporary Korean society, including those pertaining to values, religion, the family, industrialization, gender, aging, and political system. The course will specifically focus on topics and issues that figure prominently in the lives of the Korean people, such as Confucian values, patriarchy, modernization, education frenzy, urbanization, authoritarianism, and anti-Americanism. Each of these issues will be examined through sociological, historical, comparative, and balanced perspectives.

Arts and Humanities

ART200 Japanese Art History in the World Context (3 credits)

This course introduces students to Japanese Art History explaining the development of styles and subjects from the Jomon period to modern art. Japanese Art is never appreciated like European Art or Chinese Art, but this course offers the idea of the value of the works of this country from a comparative point of view. The text book for the course, an English text recently published by Akita International University Press, in conjunction with art slides will give the student a greater understanding and appreciation of the importance of Japanese Art.

ENG110 English Literature (3 credits)

This course will focus on the basic principles for reading, understanding, and appreciating poems. It will touch upon some of the great poets who shaped and modernized the English language—Shakespeare, and Wordsworth, for example—but the course will emphasize the finest poets writing in English today. Poetry lies at the heart of literature. Even the earliest known fiction, in the sense of “story telling”, was spoken

or sung in verse. This course is offered as an introduction, so poems are deliberately chosen to be accessible to students who are just beginning the study of poetry.

Students will consider poetry in a variety of ways, as both written and as living, continuously evolving, oral texts. The class will watch the film *The Dead Poets Society*, which explores the power of poetry to discover, express, and celebrate the nature of human experience, particular that of youth. It will also examine the role of poetry in current popular culture, through films like *Slam*, and poetry performances, called “slams”. Another aspect of the course will introduce students to the relationship between poetry and other arts, especially performance art. Students will be expected to participate in and lead small group discussions, keep a reading journal and either write a final paper or take a final exam (students’ option).

Finally, poetry is a way to tremendously improve a student’s understanding of the language in which it is written, as well as training the reader’s imagination and powers of abstract reasoning.

HUM140 Japanese Traditional Performing Arts (3 credits)

This is an introductory course to Japanese traditional performing arts: gagaku/bugaku, noh/kyogen, bunraku, kabuki and folk/festival ceremonies. Trends in contemporary art and dance in Japan will also be presented. Readings include some classical works in the history of the field such as Zeami’s treatises on the noh play and some recent monographs concerning some contemporary trends. Historical, literary, aesthetic, as well as spatial patterns and circumstances of each form will be discussed. This course is designed to help students understand the

cultural aspects of a variety of performance traditions and the ways in which each have been informed by the society in which they developed (and persist). Focusing on both historical roots and contemporary representations, the course charts the development of Japanese culture through the stage.

HUM155 Civilization and Philosophy (3 credits)

This course offers a general introduction to Civilization Studies and Philosophy and seeks to present global perspectives on the development of various ways of thinking about the individual person and the larger context formed by society, culture, and civilization. The course draws upon contemporary interdisciplinary research, including perspectives from history, archeology, ethnography, anthropology, social studies, philosophy, cognitive science, ethics and aesthetics. Studying the history of mankind through the prism of various civilizations and alternative philosophies opens new horizons for analyzing and understanding ideas, laws, religious practices, decision-making, political changes and progress in the arts & sciences as seen in various parts of Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas. Introductory general explanations of the major concepts of Civilization provide a comparative vision of the human condition and ways of understanding the sources of conflict and the hope for the resolution of conflicts. The course traces various pathways of world civilizations and alternative approaches to philosophy from antiquity to the 21st century, forming a bridge between the past and the present stage of humanity, which now faces enormous changes and challenges on a

global scale.

HUM170 Film Studies (3 credits)

The course will focus on directors, actors, and studios that are leaving a lasting mark on cinema history. It will also focus on how regional cinema aesthetics differ from what we now know and the Hollywood Norm. The aim of this course is to introduce students to thinking about motion pictures as more than just entertainment and, as such, will also examine cinema as a window into the culture and sensibilities of their creators. We will be viewing one feature film per week in the main. Much of the class will revolve around in-class discussions of the works viewed and the books read.

HUM180 Introduction to Tohoku Culture (3 credits)

The culture of the Tohoku region is often considered different and independent from the culture of the central regions of Japan because of its remote geographical location in the Northeastern part of Honshu. However, it would be an error to assume that because of this independence Tohoku has become culturally underdeveloped. To the contrary, it has its own rich, original cultural tradition very much worth exploring. This course is intended for students who are interested not only in the culture of Tohoku, but also in Japanese culture in general. Students will explore characteristics of Tohoku culture by learning new ways to observe and to study this rich and diverse cultural region. Through this course they will have an opportunity to visit temples, shrines, towns, and to view art works representative of Tohoku.

HUM185 Introduction to Akita Culture (3 credits)

Akita is one of the prefectures in the Tohoku region. Like other prefectures in the Tohoku region, Akita is rich in local culture. Akita's local culture is still evident in special events, customs, lifestyles and forms in the area. Students begin their study by trying to answer the question 'what is culture?' This course provides an introduction to Akita culture through the study of various aspects of culture that are maintained by local people. On field trips, students will see the cultural heritage that locals have inherited from their ancestors and which they still keep alive today to pass down to future Akita generations.

HUM220 UK, US Contemporary Popular Culture (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to critical issues and approaches in the study of popular culture. We will explore the ways in which each of us is both a user of and is used by elements of our own cultural makeup. Pop-culture has come to represent the way in which modern urban humans live, influencing how we think, how we feel, how we vote, and how we live our lives in countless ways. This course will use your own expertise as consumers of popular culture as a take-off point for exploring the various roles played by mass-mediated popular culture in our lives.

HUM230 History of Science (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the history of science through an examination of several major developments in scientific thought from the ancient world to the 21st century. The study of the history of science deals with both the history of ideas and social history. The scientific developments we will focus on will be looked at especially in relation

to the changing philosophical background (ideas about knowledge & values) to science as science evolved, however we will also seek to examine how science is always a part of a more general social context. This is not a course in science but a course about science. Yet, through the course, you will learn about some of the concepts and effects of science that have become a part of the general cultural knowledge that we use to understand the news or in considering controversies in contemporary society. The themes or episodes in the history of science to be studied include: the ancient formal sciences of geometry & arithmetic, the great transformation to modern science in the Scientific Revolution of the 17th century, Newton, Darwin's theory of evolution, the discovery of DNA and the new foundations for genetics, the new genetic sequencing methods and how race came to be seen as a myth, as we discovered our common ancestors. Finally, we will look at the scientific revolutions of the 20th century and of science today.

MUS150 History of Music (HISTORY OF ROCK: 1920s-1980s) (3 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to American/British rock music and its subgenres which culminated during 1950s-70s. The class also covers other musical genres, such as blues, R&B, and pop from 1920s to 1980s, which have influenced the evolution and development of rock music. Students are expected to understand not only the musical esthetics, but also the historical and social background of these genres. For this purpose, we focus on the relationships between music and contemporary social issues, centering on various key words: race, representation of race by media, cultural

hegemony, authenticity, sexuality, gender, counterculture, politics, and economy. To deepen our understanding we employ various audio and visual materials.

To facilitate our comprehension in classes we also spend time on learning entry-level music theory and forms. Employing popular songs, we learn about structure of a song, instrumentation, rhythms, scales, and chords.

MUS200 Music Performance (3 credits)

From the unique perspective of a performing artist on stage, the instructor will explore and analyze numerous masterpieces from the Baroque to contemporary music periods with the class. She will demonstrate different styles of music and highlight changes in performance practices that have occurred over time. The students will have an opportunity to attend the instructor's live, lecture-concert session at a public concert hall. At the university, she will often play solo violin or duo pieces with a pianist to allow the students to listen, stop, and ask questions during such performances. There will also be focus on the relationships which exist among literature, philosophy and music by using the literary works of Proust and Tolstoy and the musical works of Janacek, Beethoven, J. S. Bach, etc. Students will be encouraged to explore the relationship among composers, performers, audience and critics in the performing arts. This year, a well known Japanese composer has been invited to the class to speak (over two days) on classical and modern music from the perspective of a composer.

MUS201 Music Practice (Suzuki Method Ensemble)(1 credit)

Music is the universal language. Having the

ability to play an instrument gives a person a great way to communicate with others. This skill will provide AIU students a valuable tool after graduation.

This course is not designed specifically for music majors, but is rather open to music lovers at all skill levels who want to play with the AIU Chamber Music Ensemble. Instrumentalists who want to join the Ensemble and play violin and other instruments will utilize one of two study methods: SUZUKI and VIOLINLAND. The author of the latter is the instructor, Ms. ABE. While this course may include some lectures and discussions about basic theory and philosophy of the Suzuki Method, the focus is to playing. The goal of the course is to play together as a group.

MUS202 Music Practice (Gospel Choir)(1 credit)

Students participate in a gospel choir of the African-American tradition to experience one of the musical styles of non-classical origin. Repertoire includes traditional and contemporary gospel music, spirituals, and anthems. Students are expected to learn both musical aesthetics (e.g., vocal technique, diction, stage presentation, rhythmic and melodic attributes, song structure, and basic repertoire) and the gospel culture as a whole (e.g., its historical, racial, religious and social backgrounds). For this purpose, short readings and visual materials will be introduced to the class. A concert, accompanied by a full band, will highlight this rare experience at the end of the semester.

PHI150 Western Philosophy (3 credits)

This course covers the themes and thinkers that form the core of the Western philosophical tradition from the ancient Greek

philosophers to philosophy in the 20th & 21st centuries. Attention is given to ways that Western religious tradition, as well as the arts and the sciences, have interacted with Western philosophy. Philosophers and topics to be discussed include: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Descartes, Spinoza & Rationalism, J. Locke & Empiricism, Kant, Nietzsche, W. James & Pragmatism, Heidegger, Sartre & Existentialism, the rise of Analytic Philosophy and Phenomenology, and philosophy today. We aim to understand Western culture more fully by understanding the central place of philosophy in that culture.

PHI160 Asian Philosophy (3 credits)

The purpose of this course is to offer a basic understanding of Asian philosophy. The emphasis will be given on the differences of Asian philosophy from its Western counterpart. Today, many young Japanese have only a limited knowledge of Asian intellectual tradition. The principles of Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism and Shinto will be reviewed and explained. The influence of Chinese philosophy in a contemporary world where western philosophy has been the predominant influence will be discussed.

Math and Natural Sciences

BIO100 Introduction to Biology (3 credits)

Students study the fundamentals of biology in this class. What is Life? This is the main theme of the class. Students are expected to study and understand the mechanisms of life by using the textbook and various materials obtained from multi-media. Understanding the basic mechanism of living creatures will change your point of view about the world

around you.

BIO105 Biology Laboratory (1 credit)

We should understand the relationship between human beings and other living creatures on the Earth. In order to understand these situations, we should know the mechanisms of these living creatures. We will learn these mechanisms through some representative biological experiments and Field Trip Observation. The instructor will ask students to do some pre-research on the Internet or on their own, so no text is required. At the conclusion of these experiments and field observations, students will notice some important principles of life.

CHM100 Introduction to Chemistry (3 credits)

The aim of CHM 100 lectures is to provide you with an introduction to the fundamentals of Chemistry. Emphasis will be placed on introducing key areas of the subject whilst also highlighting the essential role that Chemistry plays in all aspects of our daily lives. In order to place Chemistry in a more global context, the issues surrounding the burning of fossil fuel and industrial pollution will also be discussed.

Since Chemistry is an experimental science, demonstrations will be used to visually illustrate the topics we will cover in the classroom; the aim being to make the sometimes abstract nature of the science more approachable. To make the course more interactive, students will each be asked to give a short presentation on a relevant topic of interest and are encouraged to ask questions of others. For example, are biodegradable materials really such a great idea in a World that is aiming to reduce carbon emissions? What about fossil fuels?

Is nuclear power a better alternative? Another potential area for discussion is the interface of Chemistry and Biology, for example we might talk about the chemical called DNA, which carries your genetic code.

CHM105 Chemistry Laboratory (1 credit)

The CHM 105 lab class is designed to demonstrate experimentally many of the concepts covered by CHM 100. Due to the potential hazards of designing your own chemistry experiments (whoops! - where did the lab go?), the range of freedom given in this area will be necessarily limited. However, at the same time, the experiments you will perform in the lab will not always be typical of those found in a course like this. Many of the labs will reinforce the importance of Chemistry in our daily lives.

PHY100 Introduction to Physics (3 credits)

The course presents physics as a cornerstone of the sciences. Mastering the fundamentals of physics permits understanding of many aspects of nature, not only the surrounding world of everyday experience, but also the mysteries of the universe at the macro-scale level and that of the elementary particles at the micro-scale level. The ultimate goal of physics is to answer the fundamental questions: How did the universe begin? How and of what is it made? How does it change? What rules govern its behavior? The course will address these questions and provides the outlines of possible answers. This introductory physics course provides an overview of the fundamental concepts of physics. Focus is placed on the concepts of, and critical thinking in, physics rather than learning

mathematical formalisms and abstract calculations. The course emphasizes the beauty, symmetry, and simplicity of physics in its actual practice. Students are acquainted with a selection of topics from classical and modern physics together with an introductory account of contemporary issues in physics and technology.

PHY105 Physics Laboratory (1 credit)

Fundamental laws of physics are constructed based on experimental facts. PHY105 is a real laboratory course where you will make physical experiments, which will allow you to verify or discover physical laws and regularities. Experimental experience will help to understand the meaning of laws of nature and the way in which they explain physical phenomena. It is hard to understand what are the scientific facts and what are the limitations of their study without actually making experiments and sorting out what is true: the most important role of natural science in general. A correct interpretation of physics, or more generally natural science, is indispensable for the deep and essential understanding of important social issues such as pollution, energy crisis in the world, etc.

MAT100 Math for Liberal Arts (3 credits)

This course is designed to develop multiple intellectual skills related to mathematics. These skills are selected based on their importance for the Liberal Arts education rather than for the purpose of advancing technical proficiency in the use of mathematical methods of an increased level of difficulty. Thus, the course places emphasis on the understanding of the general methods of mathematical reasoning

illustrated by the most basic mathematical formalisms, applied to a wide range of simple, but non-trivial problems from various domains of theoretical study or practical activity. Students learn about methods of abstract thinking, formulated in terms of mathematical logic and set theory; they develop an understanding of the distinction between inductive and deductive reasoning, learn the methods of these two types of inquiry, and learn how to use these two forms of reasoning for the purpose of analysis of spatial or temporal relations; they acquire the rudiments of probability theory and learn how to use its applications to make decisions under the constraints of limited information. The course can be selected as one of the two courses that have to be completed in the category of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in the Liberal Arts Distribution of Basic Education.

MAT150 College Algebra (3 credits)

This is an introductory level course in college mathematics with an emphasis on algebraic concepts and methods. The course materials include all standard topics in algebra necessary for a subsequent mathematical education in courses such as calculus, linear algebra, or for continuing study in a wide variety of courses using mathematical formalisms or models. The topics include: sets as foundations for mathematical theories; development of the concept of numbers (from natural up to complex) and operations on them; equations and inequalities in one and many variables, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their graphic representation. Many concepts in this course may seem familiar to students with a good high school background, but the approach,

focused on a good understanding of the conceptual framework and of the methods used in problem solving, will provide quite a new experience and knowledge. As a component of the Liberal Arts program, the course develops skills in thinking at a high level of abstraction and with an increased level of precision. For second language learners, the course is an opportunity to learn English terminology for mathematical sciences.

MAT150 College Algebra (3 credits)

This is an introductory level course in mathematics with emphasis on algebraic methods. The material of the course includes standard subjects necessary to solve real life problems, from areas such as business, economics, life and the social sciences. The topics include sets and functions, natural, real, complex numbers, trigonometry, matrices, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic functions, linear, quadratic and other polynomial equations, graphical representations of functions, and matrices. This course emphasizes the logical and conceptual aspects of mathematics rather than merely focusing on developing computational skills in mathematics. Development of students' understanding of mathematical/abstract concepts will be supported by appropriate examples and practical applications.

MAT200 Statistics (3 credits)

This is an introductory college level course in probability and statistics with an emphasis on practical applications and on the use of statistical software. The course is designed to provide students with a general understanding of statistical methods but without direct reference to the elements

of formalism that require a knowledge of calculus. The course materials include all standard topics necessary for subsequent education in more advanced courses in statistics. Students learn all the methods of descriptive and inferential statistics necessary to carry on basic research. The topics in descriptive statistics include frequency distributions, data display, measures of central tendency and of variability of data, and linear correlation and regression in one dimension. In inferential statistics the topics covered are: sampling distributions, z-tests, t-tests, introduction to ANOVA, chi-square tests, and other non-parametric methods.

MAT250 Calculus (3 credits)

The course introduces students to fundamental methods in the differential and integral calculus of real-valued functions of single real variable. This limited framework allows for some necessary mathematical rigor in exposition, without decreasing accessibility of the course to students who have never studied calculus. The emphasis is on understanding basic concepts of the limit of a function, continuity, and the operations of differentiation and integration. At the same time, students are introduced to methods of mathematical thinking. For the majority of students, it is the first opportunity to learn the rules of a mathematical proof and the developing of a mathematical theory through successive stages of new theorem proofs, based on those already proven. However, this aspect of the course is balanced by frequent illustrations of the application of theoretical results to solving problems of practical significance. The knowledge and intellectual skills acquired in this course give students a solid foundation for further study of the analysis of a wider class of functions,

either in their continuing education or through individual work based on literature. At the same time, they acquire a useful tool applicable to solving limited, but still a quite extensive range, of problems in their education and professional activities.

Interdisciplinary Studies

COM250 Intercultural Communication (3 credits)

This course provides students with the basic concepts and theories of communication between people of different cultural backgrounds. Intercultural communication is broadly defined in this course as communication between individuals who are unlike on the basis of national culture, ethnic group, gender, age, occupation, or other factors. The course will cover a variety of topics including the importance of intercultural communication; basic concepts and theories of communication; functions and elements of culture; examination of various cultural patterns; verbal and nonverbal communication in intercultural interactions; cultural influences on communications in business, education, health care, and other contexts; problems and challenges in intercultural communication including stereotyping, prejudice, ethnocentrism, culture shock; and theories in developing and increasing competencies in intercultural communication. Commonalities and differences in communication across cultures are examined throughout the course to identify the culture-bound rules that govern communication behavior. The course focuses specifically on the cultural differences and similarities between Japanese culture and other cultures.

ENG121 Popular Culture in Language Learning & Teaching (3 credits)

This course enables students to become familiar with the contemporary pop culture of English speaking countries and to examine the role pop culture can play in language learning and teaching. While the focus is primarily on American pop culture due to its global dominance, the course also explores Japanese pop culture trends and icons that have had a worldwide influence. The course begins by defining pop culture, situating it within the academic field of cultural theory, and considering the international popularity of Japanese pop culture. This is followed by an examination of the role pop culture can play in language learning and teaching as a source of learner motivation, content, pedagogical techniques, and learning strategies. In the course students look at a wide variety of pop culture artifacts and consider specific ways in which they can be used to enhance classroom and out-of-class language learning. The course concludes with a focus on the politics of pop culture.

ENV240 Climate Change and Society (3 credits)

This course is designed for students to study issues associated with climate change. Students need to understand a basic premise that the issues are inherently multifaceted. That is to say, we argue endlessly over what causes it, what its impact would be, what if anything can or should be done to deal with climate change. In addition, how people perceive the issue depends on where they live, to which organization they belong, and who they are. We may not be able to come up with a panacea on which everyone can agree; therefore we will explore different viewpoints on the issues. We can, then,

integrate various thoughts and wisdoms to tackle the issues. In this class, students will explore factors influencing global climate change, the mechanisms of global warming, dynamic interaction between ocean/ice bound seas and global warming, renewable energy in the ocean, energy policy, measures to reallocate carbon dioxide, the politics of climate change and its social and economical implications.

HUM250 Religion and Bioethics (3 credits)

The cutting edge of bio-medical technology is raising unprecedented ethical issues in our society. The world's religious traditions are not equipped to provide concise answers to these complicated issues. We will study the current situation of bioscience and then, examine the ethical dimension of particular issues. Students will also be trained to express persuasively their personal views through debate practices and power-point presentations. It is crucial for young generations to be current in the field of bio-medical science, as they will undoubtedly be exposed to diverse options of advanced technologies sooner or later. Students should take seriously complicated moral issues around available bio-medical science, and be prepared to make their own decisions about what to do in crucial moments of their life. However, this course is designed to aid students with little knowledge in understanding difficult topics with the use of appropriate handouts and films. Finally, creative group projects are integral to this class.

IGS200 Introduction to Global Studies (3 credits)

This is a required Basic Education course.

The concept of "globalization" and "globalism" has become an increasingly popular term to describe a wide variety of worldwide trends. A team of instructors from different academic disciplines (history, economics, political science, international law and sociology) will introduce the class to the various meanings of "globalization" and "globalism" via a series of lectures.

INF260 Information Science (3 credits)

The course introduces students to the concepts and methods of information study, analysis, and management, and acquaints them with a wide range of information related issues in a variety of contexts, including the cultural and social role of information. An introduction into the concepts and methods of information science will provide a solid foundation for the more advanced future study in many possible areas of applications. The skills developed in the course together with the acquired conceptual framework will allow students to comprehend the literature of information-centered disciplines (e.g. artificial intelligence, complexity, neuro-psychology, genetics, etc.). Classroom activities and discussions will give students an opportunity to test their competency in information analysis and to deepen their understanding of the subject. The course emphasizes an integrative role of information science in the study of various manifestations of information across a wide range of disciplines.

INT210 International Relations I (3 credits)

This course considers the factors that determine continuity and change in the international system. Emphasis will be placed on periods of conflict and change in

the international milieu, with case studies ranging from the Peloponnesian War to the contemporary post-Cold War system. Is it true that international relations remain resistant to fundamental change, as “realists” argue? Or can we observe a progressive change in the evolution of relations among states, as “liberals” contend?

INT230 International Cooperation and Development I (3 credits)

This is an introductory course of development studies designed to examine basic issues surrounding the logic of development and the development process of developing countries. The course will introduce common socioeconomic characteristics and development in developing economies, followed by an analysis of poverty. Development and growth theories and models will be examined, together with discussion of the evolution of development strategies. Further discussions of key issues of development, internal and external, including contemporary debates on development will follow. Through this course, students will become acquainted with key development issues and problems and learn how to address them for policy implications. It will also help students identify the areas of interest for their further study of development.

INT240 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the range of methods with which social scientists work as they attempt to systematically understand social phenomena. It provides firsthand experience with the specific procedures through which social science knowledge is developed. It emphasizes the interaction between theory and research

and makes explicit links with relevant ideas in the history and philosophy of science that have substantially illuminated the theory and methodology of contemporary social science. Thus, emphasis will be on general procedures and epistemological issues as well as on concrete techniques. Students will be expected to work in groups and carry out a small-scale research project, or work with data already available from surveys, historical, and census materials. Teaching will take the form of a mixed lecture workshop and seminar format that is project driven rather than content driven. This means that students are expected to select a topic and a method early on in the course and work on it throughout the term. There is a predetermined corpus of issues and theories that will be taught in the course, however the sequence and order in which any particular issue will be covered each week will depend on the immediate relevance to the particular stage of the project that the groups happen to be working on.

INT250 Comparative Philosophy (3 credits)

This course is an exploration of several key philosophical issues in the contexts of several distinct cultures, past and present, by investigating the intellectual or cultural background of the philosophers and issues studied. Themes typically addressed: knowledge and rationality, concepts of reality and the question of cultural relativism, mind and selfhood, concepts of the good and the ideal society, human rights, and the role and appreciation of works of art. Examples of themes investigated: experience, self & personal identity in Locke and Buddhist philosophers, the concept of the Good in Ancient Greek and Indian philosophies,

the distinct spiritual roles of the poetry of Whitman and of Rumi, concepts in East & West about our responsibility for nature and environmental problems.

INT270 Conference Interpreting I (3 credits)

The following 5 points will describe this course, and offer some advice for those who want to enroll.

1. Using recorded material from authentic speeches/discourses, the course will provide basic training for consecutive interpreting between Japanese and English (simultaneous interpreter training will only be given when adequate skills of consecutive interpreting have been acquired.)
2. Each participant will regularly be requested to perform interpretation during the class and will receive critique, comments and suggestions for improvement.
3. Since interpreting requires high level of comprehension and production in L2 and L1, emphasis is always placed on accuracy and speed in these skills.
4. Through the study of class and related materials, participants are always required to increase their knowledge of related subject areas.
5. To polish skills of delivery both in L1 and L2, participants are always encouraged to improve their presentation skills.

INT290 Practical Listening and International News (3 credits)

Globalization has reached a new phase when CNN became an international household term. Since then world public opinion is often swayed, for better or worse, by influential English-speaking media including CNN, BBC, and The New York Times. Given such circumstances, it is entirely essential

for anybody interested in English-oriented professions to be acquainted with issues and topics hotly debated in English-speaking media.

This course is designed to explore a variety of issues and perspectives offered in current international news in major English-speaking media. Students are expected to develop both analytical and practical ability to comprehend current international news in broadcast, print, and web journalism. Basic listening and reading comprehension drills will be followed by occasional background briefings highlighting some indispensable concepts in political science, economics, and sociology. Lively discussions are much encouraged, and students will be asked to offer an alternative perspective to ideas and opinions presented.

Attention is also paid to discussing given news topics in terms of its implication for the Japanese context.

World Languages and Linguistics

CHN100 Chinese I (2 credits)

This is a beginning-level Chinese language course for students who have never studied the Chinese language. The purpose of the course is to improve students' communication skills in four aspects: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will also learn the cultural background of the language. It is strongly recommended that students take CHN101: Chinese I Practice, a 1-credit self-study course, with this course in order to increase vocabulary and improve listening skill.

CHN200 Chinese II (2 credits)

This is an elementary-level Chinese language course for students who have completed

CHINESE I. The purpose of the course is to improve students' communication skills in four aspects: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will also learn the cultural background of the language.

KRN100 Korean I (2 credits)

This is a basic conversation course. This course is designed for students who have no knowledge of Korean. The aim of this course is to develop students' basic communicative skills in various situations, such as personal, social and academic situations. Through this course students will be able to gain the confidence to start conversations with native speakers. As this course focuses on conversations in Korean, students will be expected to actively participate in class. Also students will be required to do homework assignments for each class. In order to improve students' listening and speaking skills, all classes will be conducted in Korean.

KRN200 Korean II (2 credits)

This is an elementary-intermediate conversation course. This course is designed for students who have completed Korean Language I or Korean Language II or the equivalent level of proficiency. The aim of this course is to develop necessary communicative skills in practical everyday situations, such as personal, social and academic situations. Through this course students will be able to express their thoughts and feelings to some extent and will be able to gain self-confidence in communicating with native speakers. As this course focuses on conversation in Korean, students will be expected to actively participate in the class activities. All classes will be conducted in Korean.

MON100 Mongolian I (2 credits)

This is an introductory course in modern Mongolian grammar. The structure of Mongolian grammar is similar to Japanese, Korean, or Manchurian in syntax and morphology. This course will provide students with a basic knowledge of colloquial Mongolian so that they can read and speak in easy Mongolian sentences. In each class students will learn several Mongolian phrases that they will then be required to recite in the next class.

MON200 Mongolian II (2 credits)

This is an intermediate course in the Mongolian language for students who have completed Mongolian I. This course will provide students more complicated locutions and advanced knowledge of Mongolian grammar. In order to accomplish this target students are required to read various kinds of Mongolian documents and stories.

FRN100 French I (2 credits)

This is an introductory course for students who expect to acquire elementary skills in French. The course aims to provide students with basic communicative competence which enables them to understand and use simple expressions related to everyday situations such as shopping, introducing yourself, expressing likes and dislikes (approximately "A1" level of Common European Framework of Reference). The course also assists students in developing good pronunciation so that they can make themselves better understood to French-speaking people. In this aspect, besides the dialogs, we also try singing songs and the recitation of short literary texts.

FRN200 French II (2 credits)

This is an elementary course for students who wish to improve their conversation skills in French. The course is intended for students who have finished French I or who have the same level of competency in French (that is, approximately "A1" level of Common European Framework of Reference - can introduce him/herself, can ask and answer questions such as where he/she lives, what he/she likes to do, what he/she did or will do, etc.). From a grammatical viewpoint, students will learn how to use various past and future forms as well as conditional and subjunctive modes so that they can describe experience or deal with different situations in traveling or in everyday life.

SPN100 Spanish I (2 credits)

This is a 60-hour course in Spanish for students with little or no previous knowledge of the language. It shall be taught using the communicative approach. The themes to be taught in this course are: how to express oneself and one's surroundings using simple phrases, how to describe people and things and daily routines, how to express likes and dislikes, how to reply and react to simple questions in day to day situations, how to write simple phrases, etc. The general objective of the course is to equip students with the necessary knowledge and strategies to attempt to communicate basic ideas and topics in a Spanish-speaking environment.

SPN200 Spanish II (2 credits)

This is a 60-hour course in Spanish for students with a basic or elementary grasp of the language. It is intended to be a continuation of the Spanish 1 course. It shall be taught using the communicative approach. The themes to be taught in this

course are: how to interact in daily activities, how to talk about one's personal life, work, hobbies, etc, and those of others, how to describe actions that happened in the past, how to comprehend things to do with topics of personal interest, how to grasp the principal ideas in simple written texts and messages, how to scan for specific information in written texts, how to write brief texts related to one's own personal sphere, how to write personal letters expressing one's immediate needs, etc. The general objective of the course is to equip students with the necessary knowledge and strategies so that they can communicate basic ideas and topics with relative ease in a Spanish-speaking environment.

JLT180 Introduction to Japanese Studies (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to Japanese language studies. It provides students with opportunities to objectively analyze Japanese language and expressions that they tend to use unconsciously as native speakers. Through group work and class discussions, students will explore Japanese grammar and discourse and consider the fundamental knowledge needed to teach Japanese as a foreign language.

JLT210 Japanese Phonetics (3 credits)

This course is an introductory course of Japanese phonetics. Students will first learn how to write Japanese consonants and vowels in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and then learn the acoustic characteristics of Japanese sounds as well as prosody such as accent and sentence intonation. The last half of the course will be devoted to learning how to analyze speech

sounds by computer. Students will record their utterances and analyze them, examining the length of vowels and consonants, vowel devoicing and pitch patterns. No prior knowledge of acoustic analysis is required. Through this course students will be able to improve their standard Japanese pronunciation.

JLT230 Teaching Japanese as a Second Language (3 credits)

This course is designed for students who want to become familiar with the methods of teaching Japanese as a foreign language. Because of the nature of the class, native or near-native fluency in Japanese is required. The class will be conducted in Japanese, although some technical terminology may be introduced in English. Students will often be asked to write homework assignments in Japanese and classroom discussion will be in Japanese only. Topics covered in this course include:

- 1) Techniques and methods in teaching Japanese
 - Differences between English and Japanese
 - Analysis of common errors that international students make
 - General teaching methods for second language acquisition
 - Learning how to design a drill session
- 2) Grammatical issues on Japanese as a second language
 - Learning Japanese grammar as a second language
 - Understanding the difference between classroom Japanese and daily-use Japanese

ENG180 Introduction to Linguistics (3 credits)

Linguistics is comprised of several formal

areas of study. The structure of language (exemplified for this module by modern English) is examined at the level of sounds (phonetics and phonology), grammar (morphology and syntax) and meanings (semantics and pragmatics). It also includes the study of how knowledge about language is applied in social situations in different cultures (sociolinguistics), how languages change (even die) over time, and how people learn language (language acquisition). We will study each of these aspects of language. This course offers students an introduction to language by viewing similarities and differences among a variety of languages from a scientific point-of-view. A study of the uniqueness of human language also means looking at the human mind and the relationship of cognition to language. In this course, we will explore questions like: What is language? What does it mean to know a language? In what ways do people acquire their first language? How do they acquire additional languages? How might languages influence identity? This course is also a good “companion course” while studying other subjects in a second or foreign language: students may gain insights into their own language in comparison to other languages. Linguistics 180 will not be limited to studying a few “popular” languages, but will consider a variety of languages from around the world. In this sense, the course serves as an introduction to the diverse range of languages and language types spoken across the globe. Due to the fact that human languages are so diverse, and language is, itself integral to the construction of culture, it follows that linguistic knowledge is essential for students majoring in “global” areas of study.

ENG181 Sociolinguistics (3 credits)

This is an introductory course in sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is a broad field, which includes many types of research and research methodology. However, in a general sense we can define sociolinguistics as the study of how societies and languages interact and the linguistic behaviors and attitudes that develop or are challenged as a result of this interaction. In other words sociolinguistics looks at how language functions socially, how individuals and groups actually use language and what this “says” about them/us. This course will introduce students to some of the topics and concerns within sociolinguistics, such as gender, geography, social class, ethnicity, and national origin, and it will provide students with opportunities to consider their own language use in different contexts.

ENG200 Introduction to Applied Linguistics (3 credits)

This course offers an introduction to the major research findings about the ways in which a person learns another language. As such, the course will serve as a starting point for those who wish to teach a foreign language. Current research in second and foreign language acquisition (S/FLA) will be considered, analyzed, and discussed throughout the course, with special attention given to the application of theory to formal classroom learning (and teaching). Included in the course is a focus on the differences between learning one’s first language (L1) and learning a foreign language (L2, or FL). Because the FL learning context is different from a second language (SL) context (where the target language is used both within and outside the classroom), special attention will be given to describing and defining

the local FL context in Japan. Finally, this course will look at individual differences in language learning. In this course students will consider findings from sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and literacy-based research.

ENG250 Eurasian Linguistics (3 credits)

This course is designated, in relation to the Korean, Chinese, Mongolian, Russian, etc. language courses taught at AIU. The Eurasian world situated in the north of Japan is formed on the background of Altaic, Sino-Tibetan, Indo-European languages. This course gives an outline of these languages in the fields of basic linguistic units: phonemes, scripts, grammar etc. in connection to the cultures behind them.

Health & Physical Education

HPE100/101 Recreation I (New Team Sports) (1 credit)

Recreation experience can be defined as any voluntary socially acceptable activity conducted during free time for fun. Recreational activities often increase opportunities for communicating with others, thereby assisting in building good relationships with others. It also plays an important role in improving quality of life. This course will improve communication between students and contribute to their physical and mental health by introducing physical recreational activities for them to engage in.

HPE110 Health & Physical Education Activities I (Team Sports Activities) (1 credit)

It is widely recognized that appropriate engagement in exercise and sports reduces the risk of certain diseases in adults and

provides a positive influence on the mental health of participants. This course offers exposure to various sports which can be practiced regardless of skills, physical strength, or gender. It offers students opportunities for continuing the practice of sports throughout life by acquiring basic skills and learning different sporting rules. Students are expected to improve their physical and mental health through participation in this course. This course mainly provides students with various team sports activities, such as futsal, slow pitch softball, volleyball and ultimate. Students can also enjoy the rewards of working together as a team.

HPE110 Health & Physical Education Activities I (Individual Sports Activities) (1 credit)

It is widely recognized that appropriate engagement in exercise and sports reduces the risk of certain diseases in adults and provides a positive influence on the mental health of participants. This course offers exposure to various sports which can be practiced regardless of skills, physical strength, or gender. It offers students opportunities for continuing the practice of sports throughout life by acquiring basic skills and learning different sporting rules. Students are expected to improve their physical and mental health through participation in this course.

HPE130 Health & Physical Education Activities III (Walking) (1 credit)

It is widely recognized that appropriate engagement in exercise reduces the risk of certain diseases in adults and provides a positive influence on the mental health of participants. This course offers “walking” as a means to improve physical and mental health.

Walking is a very good aerobic exercise that can improve cardiovascular fitness and prevent metabolic syndrome. In addition, this course offers light fitness exercise to improve muscle strength. Students will acquire basic knowledge of aerobic exercise and strength training and improve their fitness levels.

HPE140 Health & Physical Education Activities IV (Alpine Skiing & Snowboarding) (1 credit)

One historical Norwegian adventurer stated that skiing was the king of sports. Although everyone can easily enjoy it regardless of gender and age nowadays, for many skiing still holds the allure of being “the king of sports”. One of the attractions of skiing is that it invites people to explore nature. Snowboarding is another excellent way to explore nature and during the past decade has become popular as a winter activity. This course provides students with basic or advanced skills for Alpine skiing and snowboarding. It offers students opportunities to continue the practice of skiing or snowboarding throughout their lives. Through their participation in this course students are expected to improve their communication skills, as well as their physical and mental health.

HPE150 Health & Physical Education Lecture (Social Science Perspective of Sport and Leisure) (1 credit)

Today, many, if not most, people who live in developed countries believe that physical activity, such as sports and exercise, is one of the best ways to maintain their health. However, the physiological impact of sports is just one aspect of sports. Sports affect people and their lives in many ways. For example, the prosperity of professional sports leagues

provides opportunities for people to watch sports as a leisure activity. Viewers may receive psychological benefits from watching these games. However, whereas sports leagues may bring about positive economic impacts, they may also bring about negative social impacts on their home towns. In order to evaluate the impacts of the professional sports leagues, an understanding of social science perspectives, such as sociology and psychology, are very crucial. This course offers students opportunities to consider from the social science perspective aspects of sport that influence us and our society.

Computer, Career Design, Study Abroad

CCS120 Computer Literacy (3 credits)

This course is designed to help students become acquainted with the basic concepts related to computers and develop skills in using computers as a useful tool in education, professional activities and personal life. The guidelines for the course are based on the globally recognized training and certification program IC3 (Internet and Computing Core Certification). Students will gain knowledge about computer hardware and software through hands-on experience. At the end of this course, students will be able to manage computers on a regular basis and will be familiar with the fundamentals of Microsoft Office XP applications, including MS Word, MS Excel, and PowerPoint. Students will also learn how to enrich their communication skills using computer aided presentations, creating and publishing their own webpage, as well as processing simple images.

CCS140 Career Design (2 credits)

This course lasts 15 weeks and will be provided twice every week. You can choose

to attend either of the two classes offered each week, as the same lecture will be provided in each. You will be required to proactively join in class discussions and other class activities as much as you can. Basically, when you finish each class you will be required to submit a report on a certain theme or topic that will be designated at the end of every class. This course consists of three main parts. Lectures, including outside lecturers, group work, and off-campus activities designated by the lecturer. You will be required to manage your schedule to join in each. In some cases lectures will be given in Japanese, if it is deemed necessary.

CCS160 Study Abroad Seminar (1 credit)

The purpose of the course is to prepare students for one-year study abroad. The course is divided into 15 sessions – one session each week for 15 weeks. The first session is a general overview of study abroad provided by the president of AIU. The following sessions cover such topics as how to make a study plan, how to register for courses during study abroad, travel, health insurance, risk management, illegal drugs, job hunting, housing, scholarships, credit transfer, and how to make a pre-departure check-list. Some sessions will be led by the AIU's dean of Academic Affairs. Other sessions will be led by various administrative staff members of the Office of Academic Affairs. On occasion, AIU students who have already completed study abroad will be invited to present an overview of their experiences. This course is compulsory for all AIU regular students and attendance will be strictly monitored.

CCS200 Internship (3 credits)

The course is a component of AIU's internship program called 'Global Career Challenge (GCC)'. In this course, students with sophomore status or higher experience actually work in private companies, municipal agencies, NGO's or NPO's, or other organizations. Duration of the internships is from 2 weeks to 3 months, and the selection of a host organization and students who have given prior notice to a Career Development Officer (CDO) can arrange the working hours for the host organization. Students themselves shall take the initiative to find a host organization for their internship with the help of AIU faculty/administration staff as well as of a CDO. Before implementing GCC, students will receive some guidance, including an individual interview with a CDO and a lecture regarding business manners and etiquette. In order to obtain credit students must submit daily reports, GCC reports written in English, and an evaluation by the host organization representative must be sent directly to AIU. Credit is given on a pass/fail basis and is based on the evaluation of all these materials and on an oral presentation made by the student before the members of the Career Committee within a reasonable time after successful completion of the internship.

Japan Studies

JAS110/111 SADO: Tea Ceremony (2 credits)

The tea ceremony, Chanoyu, is one of the oldest cultural traditions in Japan. It brings together Japanese literature, flower arrangement, calligraphy, painting, tearoom design and handicrafts made from lacquer, bamboo, ceramics and irons. These

traditional arts are still practiced in Akita. We will study Chanoyu through lectures, practicing the tea ceremony, and participating in field trips. A folk tale will be shared and used as the thematic background for a tea ceremony. You will study and gather information about it in order to plan and create a tea gathering.

JAS120/121 SHODO: Calligraphy (2 credits)

Enjoy practicing the art of calligraphy and learning about the heritage of Shodo and its history in Japanese culture. Calligraphy works have always been considered pieces of art comparable to works of painters. When one views a work of calligraphy, they take in not only the Monji's meaning, but also feel the impact of the creator's creativity and originality.

JAS130/131 KADO: Flower Arrangement (2 credits)

This is an experience-based course on Japanese culture the contents of which are the practice of Japanese flower arrangement, lectures on flowers, field trips, a guest instructor, and student demonstrations. This course is designed to acquaint students with aspects of Japanese culture through the study of Japanese flower arrangement in both English and basic Japanese. The aim of this course is to provide students with a basic comprehension of flower arrangement as part of Japanese culture. Students are encouraged to master the basic skills followed in Ikebana.

JAS145 Japanese Expression (3 credits)

This course is conducted in Japanese. Improve your oral expression of standard

Japanese in a variety of circumstances. Students will review the phonotactic, and accent rules of spoken standard Japanese - as well as the proper use of keigo and phrases appropriate to any given situation. Classroom activities include reciting poetry, a one-minute self-introduction, presentations, interviewing, literary review, business telephone etiquette, group-based interview, and general discussion. Students will evaluate one another's performance as well as monitor their own progress through DVDs recorded during class activities. You will also be required to write a review of a book on speech communication.

JAS155 Japanese Religion (3 credits)

The best channel to understand a culture is by studying its religion. Japanese religion is a fascinating topic to study, because it is so diverse and colorful. We will cover the key elements from the ancient time to the present by introducing religious traditions. Lectures and films will go beyond contemporary stereotypes and give a deep appreciation of the spiritual background of Japanese culture. There will also be training about how to express your personal views through debate practice.

JAS200 Japanese Literature (3 credits)

A comprehensive overview of classic Japanese literature from the Nara period to the early 20th century will familiarize students with famous authors, their masterpieces, and cultural background. A comparative approach revealing numerous parallels with Chinese and Western traditions unveils the complex nature of Japanese aesthetics as seen in relation

to cross-cultural contacts. Such unique phenomena as the early medieval novel, lyrical diaries, tanka and haiku poetry, Noh and Kabuki drama will each be shown in the larger context of the world literary heritage. Video materials featuring historical sites, writer's biographies, classic the performances of Noh, Kabuki and Bunraku will be featured.

JAS210 Introduction to Japanese History (3 credits)

The following themes will be covered: (1) The formation of early Japanese civilization, (2) The era of warriors, (3) Japan's modern experience and (4) Japan after WW II. JAS210 is an introductory survey course from antiquity until recent years and designed for both Japanese and International students. Students are expected to: (1) Gain basic factual knowledge and (2) Develop their ability to assess and discuss historical issues.

JAS220 Japanese Politics (3 credits)

We will examine systematically cultural, institutional, and operational aspects of contemporary Japanese politics and political society, focusing especially on major political events since the end of World War II. We begin our study by examining special characteristics of Japanese society and the Japanese way of thinking. Then we analyze the institutions of the Japanese political system, and discuss the Japanese Constitution, parliamentary system, and local government. We then turn our focus to the various actors – politicians, political parties, bureaucrats, and pressure groups – within the political system. Our discussion will include the political process of Japanese politics and an analysis of the results of elections, the process of policy-formation, and the legislative process. Finally, we

examine the policies in Japanese politics, especially the “Rapid Growth of Economy Policy” and “Welfare State Policy.”

**JAS230 Japanese Economy
(3 credits)**

Applied course in economics focused on contemporary Japanese economy that will examine the roots of recent instability in the financial system, the Koizumi Reform, and the effectiveness of current government economic policies. In order to understand the current economy, the post-war Japan model will be critically examined. After historical review, topics such as an aging population, the social security system, the burden of government debt, competition policy, and deregulation, including financial deregulation, will be discussed. Other topics include corporate governance, government-business relations, trade disputes, foreign direct investment, ODA policy, environmental issues, and Japan’s civil society. You will be expected to discuss current economic and financial news in each class. If class size permits, the course will be conducted in seminar format.

**JAS240 Foreign Policy of Japan
(3 credits)**

Relations between Japan and the U.S., Europe, the Middle East, China, Russia, South Korea, North Korea and Southeast Asia will be studied. They will be introduced not only to their political relations but also to their economic relations. We will also look at Japan’s multilateral economic diplomacy and multilateral political diplomacy.

JAS250 Introduction to Japanese Society (3 credits)

In the first part this course introduces Japanese socio-cultural concepts such as

tatemae/honne, giri, wabi/sabi, and ryosai kenbo in order to become familiar with general constructs influencing the inherent logic of Japanese society.

In the second part, Japanese society from a cultural-anthropological perspective is introduced with an attempt to present a variety of views about Japan. The emphasis is placed on multi-cultural facets rather than on the homogeneity of Japanese society. The following topics are covered: sources of Japanese tradition, house/family system, community and neighborhood, social status and stratification, gender, religion, education and career, life cycle and festivals, entertainment.

**JAS260 Japanese Business Culture
(3 credits)**

A broad overview of the fundamentals and special characteristics of Japanese business institutions and management practices will be covered. Topics include industrial structure, industrial groups, hierarchical or subcontracting production systems, personnel management (recruitment, training, promotion, remuneration, decision-making, product development and design, distribution and marketing. We will examine the strengths and weaknesses of Japanese business institutions and the challenges Japanese firms face in an area of globalization and rapid transformation into an information and technology - intensive economy.

JAS270 Manga Mania (3 credits)

Designed as a survey of important examples of Japanese comic and animation art as historical moments, aesthetic movements and as Japanese popular cultural properties. We will explore anime and manga through

media theory and artistic directions, helping students gain an understanding of the media involved. Examine significant examples of the art (both in print and on screen) and look at the national/global impact and consider how the Japanese perspective on cartoons has come to affect the way the whole world's media now looks at 'cartoons and comics'. The course is designed to be interactive, and regular participation in seminar and screening/manga review will be required. However, this course is not simply an excuse to read comics and watch movies and it will, if properly and seriously approached by the student, help them develop a rigorous understanding of manga and anime history, artists, and its important bodies.

JAS340 Japanese Business in China (3 credits)

The speed of China's emergence as a major economic superpower is without precedent. China is one of the most dynamic business environments in the world. Rapid change in its political environment, legal system, demographics, and conflicts in values between Chinese and non-Chinese, can quickly erode the effectiveness of any good business model. Today, no international business education is complete without knowledge of the contemporary developments in China. Required reading will cover China's history, political, legal, and economic systems, and national culture. Along with this broad perspective, you will develop microeconomic perspectives of China through the experiences of several senior business practitioners, who will come to class to share with us their stories of doing business in China.

JAS350 Language and Diversity in Japan (3 credits)

Historically, Japan has been considered both monolingual and monocultural. Theories of 'nihonjinron', i.e., Japanese uniqueness, often cross borders between myth and science. This course explores contemporary points of view, both local and international, that dispel many myths and challenge people to think 'outside the box.'

JAS351 Cultural Background of Language I (3 credits)

Course activities in Japanese. Designed to introduce the pragmatics of Japanese language, in particular cultural contexts of its use and with typical patterns of thinking that may be unfamiliar to both International and Japanese Students. Based on experience gained in class activities and from discussion among classmates representing different cultures, students will identify, discuss, and compare contextual issues involved in exemplary situations. Similar assignments will be given to analyze authentic situations or examples from one's own experience. International Students will receive some assistance in understanding readings and other assignments. However, the focus will not be on grammatical or vocabulary issues, but on the pragmatic aspects of language. Class activities will include discussions and presentations of individual work assigned as homework. Field trips will provide opportunities for making direct observations of communication patterns in authentic social environments.

JAS360 Sociological Analysis of Nihonjinron (3 credits)

The topic of this course is a comparison of the Nihonjinron (theories about the uniqueness

of Japanese and Japanese culture) and Western sociological theory. Such a comparison is interesting from a sociological point of view, because nihonjinron is the only complex of social theory, which was developed in a non-Western context. Key concepts of nihonjinron are taken from the Japanese language completely independent of the 'universal' scientific concepts that have their roots in the Western European tradition. By comparing these theories we are not only challenging our ideas and stereotypes of Japanese culture but also the Western belief that we can explain everything with our ethnocentric Western theories.

The major concepts and theories of nihonjinron will be introduced and compared with Western sociological theories which discussed similar topics. We will for example talk about the "ie-society" (family-based society), "uchi-soto dichotomy" (inside vs. outside), and the "amae-concept" (happiness in dependent relationships). We will furthermore analyze the historical development of nihonjinron in the last 100 years.

(PS: This is not a Japan-bashing course.

We will discuss the theories of nihonjinron seriously. To accuse a complex of theories as ideological is not a scientific method, since the critic cannot prove that his or her own judgment is not itself ideological!!)

JAS415 Asian Martial Arts and Spiritual Ascent (3 credits)

Study about the history and philosophy of Asian martial arts. The heritage of Indian, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Japanese martial arts will be analyzed from different angles as a sophisticated Yoga of fighting, a way to optimal physical fitness and spiritual self-perfection. Informative video materials

featuring the past and present of the ancient martial arts will be shown.

JAS430 Epistemic and Technological Traditions (3 credits)

An interdisciplinary study of East-Asian traditions that explores physical reality in two complementary dimensions: development of knowledge and development of practical methods of utilizing the natural environment. Emphasis is on cross-cultural comparisons in terms of differentiation between the roles of knowledge and practice and on the cultural values that determine the relative weights given to these roles, as well as on psychological and environmental factors.

JAS435 Exploring Tohoku Culture (3 credits)

This team-taught course presents the Tohoku region from multiple perspectives including history, traditional and modern culture, economy, natural resources, and cultural and natural resources for the development of tourism. The emphasis is on the characteristics of Tohoku, which are frequently forgotten or overlooked, in the regional studies of Japan perpetuating its image as an underdeveloped and uncultivated province of marginal importance for modern Japan. Instead, we will show how the well-preserved cultural and natural assets of Tohoku make it an attractive place to live and work for the Japanese and for foreigners to visit. Several field trips give students an opportunity to experience the natural beauty and rich cultural heritage of Tohoku for themselves.

JAS451 Cultural Background of Language II (3 credits)

Course activities will be carried out in

Japanese.

Designed to acquaint both International and Japanese students with the pragmatics of the Japanese language, in particular with cultural contexts of its use and with typical patterns of thinking among the Japanese. Based on experience gained in class activities and from discussion among classmates representing different cultures, students will identify, discuss, and compare contextual issues involved in exemplary situations. Similar assignments will be given to analyze authentic situations or examples from one's own experience. International Students will get some assistance in understanding readings and assignments; however, the focus will not be on grammatical or vocabulary issues, but on the pragmatic aspects of language. Activities include discussions and presentations of homework assigned. Field trips are included to provide opportunities for making direct observations of communication patterns in contexts and in authentic social environments.

JAS499 Japan and World Debate (3 credits)

This course serves as a forum where groups of international students and Japanese students come together to debate issues highly controversial in nature that involve Japan's relations with other countries. The course is led by one of Japan's foremost authorities on the theory and practice of English debate. Issues range from the historical to the contemporary, including Japan's role in world peace-keeping operations, revision of the Japanese constitution, Japan's non-nuclear weapons policy, official visits to Yasukuni Shrine by Japanese prime ministers, the North Korean kidnappings, Japan's bid for a seat on the

UN Security Council, the Japanese Ministry of Education's involvement in the screening of textbooks, and other controversial issues facing Japanese society and its political leadership. The first few weeks of the semester will prepare students with an introduction to the fundamentals of debate, including preparation and research methods, Socratic dialogue, multi-perspective analysis, speech and cross-examination techniques, logic organization, the hexagonal principle, triangle and hexagonal logic, the 'why-because game', burden of proof, value debate, policy debate, and other important debate skills. During the remainder of the semester, lectures will continue related to the development of debate skills, and students will form teams and engage in classroom debate competitions. In some instances international teams will debate Japanese teams. In other situations, international students and Japanese students will be mixed on a single team.