

Global Studies Program <2008 Curriculum>

Course Offerings

Core Electives

CHN300 Chinese III
CHN301 Chinese III Practice
COM380 Information Technologies and Society
ECN365 European Politics and Economy
ECN395 US Business and Economic Policy
FRN300 French III
FRN301 French III Practice
GEO220 Geography of North America
GEO240 Geography of East Asia
HIS210 U.S. History
HIS250 Introduction to East Asia Studies
HIS290 Modern History of China
HIS300 Modern History of Korea
HIS310 Modern History of Russia
HIS320 Modern History of Mongolia
HIS350 U.S. Diplomatic History
HUM270 Cultural Traditions of East Asia
HUM371 Theater and Cinema in East Asia
KRN300 Korean III
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MON300 Mongolian III
MON301 Mongolian III Practice
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PLS315 U.S. Presidency
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PLS335 U.S. Political Thought
PLS345 International Law
PLS360 Modern Chinese Politics and Thought
PLS390 U.S. Foreign Relations
RUS300 Russian III
RUS301 Russian III Practice
SOC345 Minorities in the U.S.

SOC355 Social Problems in the U.S.
SOC360 Sociology of Globalization
SOC365 Chinese Society Today
SOC370 Mass Media and Society
SOC375 Taiwan Society Today
SOC376 Mongolian Society Today
SOC380 South and North Korean Societies
SOC385 Russian Society Today
SOC395 Chinese Economy
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Capstone Electives

CHN400 Chinese Language Seminar:
Discourse Practices
ECN435 East Asia Political Economy
ENV420 Environmental Science in Global
Perspective
INT455 International Cooperation and
Development II
KRN400 Korean Language Seminar:
Discourse Practices
MON400 Mongolian Language Seminar:
Discourse Practices
PLS400 North American Regional Relations
PLS410 Foreign Policy of China
PLS420 U.S.-China Relations
PLS423 Japan-U.S. Relations
PLS425 Japan-China Relations
PLS430 Northeast Asian Relations
PLS440 International Organizations and Law
PLS460 Comparative Politics (Japan US and
UK)
PLS470 Peace Science (Conflict Prevention)
PLS475 International News Coverage
RUS400 Russian Language Seminar:
Discourse Practices

Capstone Seminars

GSP490 Seminar in Global Studies (Study Abroad)

GSP491 Seminar in North American Studies

GSP492 Seminar in East Asian Studies

GSP493 Seminar in Transnational Studies

Course Descriptions

Core Electives

CHN300 Chinese III (2 credits)

This course is for students who have completed CHINESE II or have a similar level of proficiency, and who wish to improve their Chinese language communication skills. The aim of this course is to continue building students' integrated foundations in the Chinese language, such as grammatical rules, vocabulary and expressions, and to help students to improve their communication skills. In this class students also have more opportunities than in CHINESE I to practice speaking Chinese by talking about various topics. To monitor student's progress in their Chinese language studies, tests will be given about once a month.

COM380 Information Technologies and Society(3 credits)

Over the last few decades the advent of recent information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as the Internet and mobile phones has made information more important than ever in our social, political, economic, and cultural interactions. We now live in a global information society. In this course we will examine major theories, components, characteristics, and influence of the information society. We will look at the past and present media and ICTs and

examine how they have changed and are changing the ways we behave. We will discuss positive and negative impacts of the ICTs including such topics as virtual identity, information literacy, electronic education, information security and surveillance, protection of privacy, Web 2.0 community, and digital divide. Through these discussions students will gain insight about the information society and develop some prospect for its future.

ECN365 European Politics and Economy (3 credits)

The course begins with focus on the historical development and present structure of the European Union (EU). Prominent political and business leaders from Tokyo will visit class to speak about Japan –EU relations, Japanese firms in the EU, and EU firms in Japan. Other themes to be explored are the new 'E-Generation', the birth and significance of the EURO, the European social model, and the emission reduction trade in the EU etc. Case study analysis will focus on Japanese firms in the EU and on EU firms in Japan. Students will be required to research outside sources to prepare for analysis of 4 case studies. Preparations must be completed before coming to class. The case studies are: ECCO, iittala, Nissan Motores and Marubeni. In addition to a wide range of reading assignments, students will be expected to make substantial use of online and conventional media sources to search for recent news articles that either support or refute the hypotheses put forth in our textbook. The instructor will rely on his long experience as a board member and CEO of European operations of one of Japan's largest trading companies, to give real life to the study of the EU.

ECN395 US Business and Economic Policy (3 credits)

The course offers an overview of three closely related institutions -- business, government and society -- in the United States. The U.S. has been well known as the experimental laboratory of capitalism since its birth, and its businesses have developed and cherished to the most advanced level in the world, leading the global economy. As a result, societal concerns about the economic and social performance of big companies are growing today, and critics of business and business system seek and demand the intervention of government in order to control and restrict business activity. Thus the primary focus of the course is to examine many actual cases of the interaction between business, public policy, and society.

FRN300 French III (2 credits)

This is an intermediate course for students who wish to improve their reading and writing as well as French conversation skills. The course is intended for, students who finished French II, or who have the same level of competency in French (that is, approximately "A2" level of Common European Framework of Reference - can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance, such as very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, etc.).

GEO220 Geography of North America (3 credits)

Regional geography deals with a wide range of subjects and tries to find regional characteristics. This course is designed to help students understand the geographic character of Canada and the United States by studying both physical and human features

of the area. First, we will consider the natural environment of the North American continent, and divide it into parts. Then we will look at what kind of regional characteristics or universality has been formed in such an environment. Both historical and contemporary issues will be discussed.

GEO240 Geography of East Asia (3 credits)

Regional geography deals with a wide range of subjects and tries to find regional characteristics. This course is designed to help students understand the geographic characters of East Asia by studying both physical and human features of the area. First, we will consider the geographic division of Asia and then look at what kind of regional characteristics or universality has been formed in each division Both historical and contemporary issues will be discussed.

HIS210 U.S. History (3 credits)

This class will explain the characteristics of the United States of America by analyzing the historic changes in politics, economy, society, thought and culture. Especially, this class focuses on images of "America" and their expression in domestic and international scenes. From this focal point, this class is designed to show the interrelations of internal changes and international development of the United States.

HIS250 Introduction to East Asia Studies (3 credits)

This introductory level course focuses on the historical and social development of the traditional Chinese world including Taiwan, Hong Kong and overseas Chinese communities in Southeast Asia as well as the Korean peninsula, a region sometimes

referred to as the Confucian Culture Area. Basic information about the region's political systems, political cultures and socio-economic structures will be provided in lectures. Also to be discussed are key current international issues such as Japan-China relations and the Korean peninsula's problems. This is a required course for all students concentrating in East Asian Studies.

HIS290 Modern History of China (3 credits)

This is a survey course of Chinese history from the 19th century to the present. It will examine all major aspects of the Chinese history of the time period, including domestic politics, foreign relations, and socio-economic and cultural development. It will especially focus on China's suffering under imperialism and its drive for survival and modernization, the power struggle between the Communists and the Nationalists, the Sino-Japanese conflict and WW II in the 1930s and early-40s, and China under and after Mao.

HIS300 Modern History of Korea (3 credits)

Students will be introduced to the history of modern Korea, both North and South, since the middle-19th Century. The emphasis will be on acquiring familiarity with key political, economic and international developments and issues that have made Korea the center of turmoil in East Asia for more than one century. We will also explore the historical background behind Korea's division, the Korean War, South Korea's emergence as a leader in the world market, North Korea's struggle to emerge from poverty, and the tensions that trouble Japan's relations with both Koreas.

HIS310 Modern History of Russia (3 credits)

This course is designed as an overview of major stages in Russian history from the end of the 19th through the beginning of the 21st Centuries, with a general introduction to early Russian history, religion and culture. The roots of the Russian revolution are tracked through the concepts of the 19th Century populists and leftist extremists that brought the Empire to collapse. Lenin's social initiatives and Stalin's authoritarian rule are reconsidered in the context of world history with a special focus on the ideology of totalitarianism. The postwar crisis of the Soviet regime is shown as a prerequisite for Gorbachev's Perestroika reforms, eventually leading to the fall of the USSR and the emergence of the new democratic Russian Federation. Scrutinizing analyses of Putin's current policies brings the course to a conclusion.

HIS320 Modern History of Mongolia (3 credits)

This course provides a basic knowledge of North Asia and Mongolia. Mongolia is climatically so dry and cold that the land is not suitable for agriculture. Instead of cultivating fields, people in Mongolia have pastured domestic animals since ancient times. Students will learn the characteristics of Mongolian nature and geography along with studying the nomadic pastoralism that arose in the region. Based on such information, this course will provide students with a short history of the Mongols, which dates back to the mythological age up to the present. Today, the Mongols live mainly in Mongolia, China, and Russia with political and ethnic difficulty. Students are required to discuss those issues and more during the

course of their work.

HIS350 U.S. Diplomatic History (3 credits)

This course will survey the historical development of US foreign relations since the end of the 19th century. The binding theme will be continuity and change in US foreign policy, past and present. We will analyze key foreign policy periods, issues and events in the context of international relations and major U.S. domestic political, economic, and social variables.

HUM270 Cultural Traditions of East Asia (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the East Asiatic cultures and arts. The course explains the development of Chinese Art History from the beginning to the modern age. Michel Sullivan's book, "The Art of China" shows us a beautiful panorama of Chinese art throughout history. In the course we will compare Chinese art with Japanese art and examine how they are different in style and content.

HUM371 Theater and Cinema in East Asia (3 credits)

This is an introductory course to East Asian (primarily Chinese, but also covering Taiwanese, Korean, and Japanese) theatrical forms and cinema traditions, which has been designed to help students gain a broader understanding of the region in general. The course is primarily designed to help students understand the cultural aspects of a variety of performance/film traditions and the ways in which each have been informed by the society in which they developed (and persist). As though it had been previously arranged,

the movies of China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong simultaneously attained remarkable transformation at the beginning of 1980s. As a result they have successfully received international attention. What caused the change of the movies of the "three Chinas"? The movies reflect the historical, political, and social situations of the societies in which they were produced. And the societies that gave birth to those movies are thus inevitably reflected in them. The movies are inseparably connected with the societies that produced them. The most dominant factors that brought about those changes of the movies in the three Chinese societies lie in historical changes: The end of the Cultural Revolution and the beginning of the reformist policy of Den Xiao-ping in China, the belated start of political modernization by president Jiang Jing-guo in Taiwan, and the apocalyptic concern of Hong Kong residents aroused by the handover of the British colony to China. The course observes how the movies reflect the changes of the societies. Through these movies we will examine the historical changes of the three Chinas.

KRN300 Korean III (2 credits)

This is an upper elementary-intermediate conversation Korean language course. This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Korean Language 1 (basic grammar course) or Korean Language 2 (basic conversation course), or for those students who have an 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 freely 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.

PLS230 U.S. Constitution (3 credits)

This is an introductory course on the government structure established by the U.S. Constitution, its evolution, and rights that are protected by the Constitution. Emphasis will be on the relationship between the structural aspects of the Constitution and the protection of individual rights. The first part of the course will cover the structure of government under the U.S. Constitution and discuss major periods of change. We will then discuss constitutional rights, especially how and to what extent they are protected.

PLS280 U.S. Political System (3 credits)

The U.S. has marketed itself to the world as a leader of democracy. How does a democratic political system function? What are its successes and shortcomings? This course introduces the student to the roles of various political institutions and actors in the U.S. political system and considers their influence on democracy. We will study both the formal institutions established by the Constitution (Congress, President, and the Court) as well as institutions that developed informally over time (political parties, interest groups, and the mass media).

PLS315 U.S. Presidency (3 credits)

This course is intended to show the specific function of the US presidency in political and social fields of the United States. As a part of the federal government, US Presidents

have certain power and function in relation to other governmental organizations. At the same time, a President can exercise wider influence than just one section of the government. The Presidential election in 2008 should show this wide influence of the Presidents in the US society.

PLS325 U.S. Judiciary (3 credits)

In this course, we will learn about the U.S. legal system and think about the influence of law in U.S. society. First, we study the structure of the U.S. legal system; various actors and their roles; and unique aspects such as the jury system that allows popular participation in the judiciary. Second, we study public law, which is the relationship between the government and the people. In the process we consider the effectiveness of legal decisions on issues that divide society such as abortion. Third, we study private law, which is the ordering of day-to-day interactions between people by law. We will consider controversies surrounding the current state of law in areas such as mass torts and digital copyrights.

PLS335 U.S. Political Thought (3 credits)

This course will examine American political thought through the viewpoint of early American political conditions and modern American political problems. We will discuss each topic based on the ideas of Alexis de Tocqueville, an important political thinker, who observed early American democracy. The goal of this course is to give students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the connections between the content and method of early American political thought and current U.S. political thought. Our discussion will include a variety of issues: the

separation of powers; freedom and equality; inequality; individualism; materialism; the tyranny of the majority; democratic armies; citizen participation; the election system; the position of business; and the national security system. Through these discussions, students will be able to gain an understanding of the transformation of American political thought from early time to the present.

PLS345 International Law (3 credits)

This course has two primary goals:

1. Students acquire a minimum literacy in the language of international law, with knowledge of basic vocabulary and concepts.
2. Students become able to present their own opinions on issues of international law in their own words.

Students will foster communication skills in legal language through their participation in classroom discussions and group work. Students are expected to learn by themselves at home. The class activities are to improve presentation and discussion skills, stimulate reflections and clear up misunderstandings.

PLS360 Modern Chinese Politics and Thought (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the exciting world of Chinese politics, thought, and law, as well as economic and social developments. While the entire post-1949 period will be examined, focus will be put on the “new thinking” after late patriarch Deng Xiaoping inaugurated the reform era in late 1978. The thoughts and policies of leaders including Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Hu Yaobang, Zhao Ziyang, Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao will be analyzed. Students will be invited to discuss the achievements and failings of major policies in the 30 years of reform (from 1979/80 to 2008/09).

Evaluations will be made of the viability of the so-called “China model” in this age of intensifying globalization. This course will equip students with useful information and conceptual tools for further research on China and East Asia in the fields of politics, law, economics and business.

PLS390 U.S. Foreign Relations (3 credits)

This upper-level lecture course will examine the international circumstances in which people in the United States live in the current world. It will provide students with information about various problems the United States faces, how the country deals with them, and how to explain the behavior of the U.S. A central theme will be upon the interaction of international factors and domestic pressures in making a US foreign policy.

RUS300 Russian III (2 credits)

This is an elementary Russian course for beginners, giving working knowledge of the fundamentals of Russian. The course consists of the following parts.

1. Introductory course (Russian 1), printings
2. Main course (Russian 2, 3) based mostly on beginners' courses in Russian for English-speaking learners.

SOC345 Minorities in the U.S. (3 credits)

This course seeks to understand both the history and current conditions of minorities in the United States. Particular emphasis will be on racial and ethnic minorities such as African Americans, Asian Americans, and Hispanics. The course will focus on particular groups as well as on issues surrounding minorities, such as immigration, segregation, and equality.

SOC355 Social Problems in the U.S. (3 credits)

This course surveys some of the most deep-seated social problems afflicting the United States. By its nature sociology understands problems commonly represented as individual as collective in origin and resolution.

However, in considering social problems sociologists all too often restrict themselves to deconstructing behaviors conventionally thought of as “deviant”, ceding coverage of society’s most monumental crises.

Sociologists rooted in the conflict paradigm deal with larger structural problems of inequality and oppression, but they too refrain from issuing far-reaching cultural critiques, thus giving the impression that the main imperfection of US society is that it does not live up to the noble image it projects of itself. This course transcends this limited approach when contending with US society’s most intractable problems, such as the degeneration of US electoral politics into media spectacle, the persistence of US imperial aggression, and the ecologically unviable US exurban way of life.

SOC360 Sociology of Globalization (3 credits)

As the 1990’s unfolded, in academic, policy, and media circles it became increasingly common to assert that we live in the age of “globalization”. This claim gained such widespread circulation that it eventually took on the status of conventional wisdom, its various possible meanings rarely explored, much less its basic assumptions ever challenged. This course will investigate the socio-political origins and socio-political effects of the notion that globalization is an inevitable state of affairs, or simply “the way the world works”, like it or not. Other

questions addressed include: Is globalization historically unprecedented? What mixture of technological, economic, political, cultural, and other forces are driving it forward? What collective movements have emerged to contest globalization, what are their respective critiques, and what respective alternatives do they propose for organizing socio-political life? Will emerging large-scale environmental crises by necessity throw globalization into reverse?

SOC365 Chinese Society Today (3 credits)

This class aims to acquire a basic understanding of the present structure of China’s market society, both in urban and rural spheres. In order to judge what are China’s peculiarities and commonalities with other countries, we will make an international comparison. In this class, we will compare China with India, another dynamic country that shares critical commonalities with China in terms of size, complexity, its role in the modern world, and so on. In particular, this class will put special emphasis on industrial development and the role of various social actors to achieve competitiveness, including state, firms, laborers, legal institutions, and so on.

SOC370 Mass Media and Society (3 credits)

The students will learn about “Mass Media and Society” by reading “Liberty and the News” (Walter Lippmann) in class as well as actually reading news articles that have appeared in Japanese and Western newspapers. The students will understand how ideas, myths and prejudice distort news and affect public opinion. They will also study the serious problems the media face today.

SOC375 Taiwan Society Today (3 credits)

Taiwan is a small but highly significant nation because of its political significance to peace and stability in East Asia and its role in the global economy. Students will learn the basic characteristics of Taiwanese society through discussing such topics as:

- (1) The 2 important elections in 2008
- (2) Economic development and political democratization
- (3) Cultural diversity in a multi-ethnic society
- (4) Education as a channel of political socialization
- (5) Cross-strait relations (Taiwan-China relations)
- (6) "National identity issues"

SOC380 South and North Korean Societies (3 credits)

This introductory level course will introduce students to contemporary Korea, Japan's closest neighbor. We will explore both North and South Korea since their establishments in 1948, assess their differences and similarities, and the reasons behind these characteristics. Introductory level lectures will examine and compare the two Koreas' views of the outside world, values, social organization, political institutions, and educational and economic systems. Attention will also be given to how Koreans view Japan and the Japanese people, and how these views influence the two Koreas' foreign and economic policies toward Japan and China. Basic information on classroom activities will be provided during lectures.

SOC385 Far East Russian Society (3 credits)

This course looks at conditions internal to contemporary Russian Far East society

through multiple analytic lenses – bio-geographical, historical, geopolitical, and political-economic. To the extent the focus is on the current post-Soviet period in the Russian Far East, the following issues will receive explicit attention: the unmooring of the region's economy from that of European Russia and western Siberia in the wake of the USSR's collapse, its gradual though uneven integration into the Northeast Asian economic orbit, its emergence as a zone of regional and global intrigue (especially in relation to the exploitation of its ample, though remote and mostly undeveloped, energy resources), the reaction of regional elites and masses to expanding Chinese migration to and investment in the area, and attempts by the Putin regime to reassert more central control over the region's destiny.

SOC395 Chinese Regional Economy (3 credits)

This course focuses on various aspects of China's economic development. It will discuss such characteristics of Chinese socialist economy as the CCP's role in economic activities and administrative control over domestic enterprises. We will also look into problems that were created in its growth-oriented development such as environmental pollution, the widening gap between the urban and rural areas, rampant corruption and the increasing popular demand for democracy and so on. Another focus of the course will be the impact of the global financial crisis on Chinese economy.

SOC396 Mass Media in East Asia (3 credits)

This course examines mass media institutions and journalistic practices in East Asia namely Japan, South Korea, Taiwan,

Hong Kong and mainland China. Special attention is paid to contemporary issues such as the social and cultural roles of the mass media; press freedom and journalistic practices; the rise of East Asian media industries; political and economic control from the state and private sectors; and the implications of the emergence of new communication technologies.

SOC397 Minorities in China (3 credits)

China's fifty-five officially recognized ethnic minorities form about 9 percent of Chinese population, with over 100 million people, and occupy over 60 percent of China's territory. They are very diverse, and the degree of modernization among them varies greatly. This course examines the current state of China's ethnic minority, and past and present policies of the People's Republic of China towards its numerous and varied minority groups. It also considers the fields of economy, society and international relations, including the impact of globalization and outside influences.

Capstone Electives

CHN400 Chinese Language Seminar: Discourse Practices (3 credits)

This course is designed for students who have a higher level in Chinese language such as those who have completed all the courses from CHINESE I to CHINESE III or have similar level of proficiency in Chinese language. The aim of the course is to help students develop their communication abilities in Chinese, including the four language skills—listening, speaking, reading and writing. Class will be conducted only

in Chinese. To monitor assure progress in Chinese language study, tests will be given about once a week

ECN435 East Asia Political Economy (3 credits)

This is a survey course on the political and economic structures and policies – of East Asian countries and regions, including Greater China (China, Taiwan, Hong Kong), Japan, and South Korea. These countries' distinctive political, legal and economic characteristics will be analyzed. Full attention will be paid to their industrialization and modernization after World War II. Diplomatic relations among these important East Asian players, as well as their interaction with the U.S. will be discussed. The course will also touch on, though not in detail, social and cultural issues, as well as the role of the civil society, in these countries and regions. Comparisons will be made between the Chinese, Japanese and South Korean models of development.

ENV420 Environmental Science in Global Perspective (3 credits)

This class is designed for students to study global environmental issues primarily through social science perspectives. Environmental issues are inherently multifaceted. In environmental issues, we argue endlessly over whether anything is wrong, what its impact will be, what if anything can or should be done to deal with negative environmental impacts we caused in the past, and how to prevent recurrence. In addition, how people perceive various environmental issues depend on what era we live, where we live, to which organization we belong, and > who we are. We may not be able to come up with any veritable panacea on which everyone

can agree. Instead, we will explore different view points on ongoing environmental issues. We can, then, integrate various our thoughts and wisdoms to tackle the issues. In this class, students will learn environmental philosophy, environmental politics, energy issues, food and population issues, and toxic chemical issues through actual cases.

INT455 International Cooperation and Development II (3 credits)

Foreign aid to developing countries has played an important role in international development cooperation, with its objectives and strategies diversifying over the decades. More actors have come in and new challenges are emerging. Because of its complexity and the multidisciplinary approaches required, foreign aid is sometimes misunderstood and often receives criticism. This course will provide students with an overall and well-balanced picture of development assistance and practical skills to analyze its complexity, including its basic but important aspects, such as a question of why aid; and the logics and modalities of foreign aid, especially in the context of development needs and strategies. While Japan's ODA is a main focus, various cases of development assistance from multilaterals and NGOs will also be covered in discussion. As one of the final course tasks, students will be assigned to design projects to seek relevant development assistance. This course may be taken separately from its introductory course, INT230 International Cooperation and Development I.

KRN400 Korean Language Seminar: Discourse Practices (3 credits)

This is an upper elementary-intermediate conversation Korean language course. The

instructor puts great emphasis on the great differences between spoken and written styles of Korean that must be taken into consideration at the time of conversation. Conversation without grammar cannot be successful. The instructor will always make an effort to make students review their basic grammatical knowledge of Korean and to explain the correspondences of the two styles of Korean.

PLS400 North American Regional Relations (3 credits)

Students will study the historical development of relations among three countries in North America, namely the U.S., Canada and Mexico in the political, economic and cultural fields. Then, students will also explore the deepening of interdependence among all the countries in the world especially after the end of the cold war due to economic globalization. Through these studies, students will come to understand the meaning of and challenges for regional cooperative relations in North America in the current competitive world situation.

PLS410 Foreign Policy of China (3 credits)

The course will focus on and discuss the following themes:

1. China's traditional worldview and foreign policy and relations before the 1840s
2. China's foreign policy from the 1840s until 1949
3. China's foreign policy from 1949 until the early 1990s
4. China's foreign policy since the early 1990s and current issues

*Students enrolled in this course ideally have basic knowledge of modern Chinese history.

PLS420 U.S.-China Relations (3 credits)

This course examines U.S.-China relations. Historically, full attention will be paid to the U.S.-China Rapprochement. Students will be introduced to politics among East Asian countries, particularly focusing on Taiwan, considered as a de facto state. Diplomatic relations among the East Asian players including Japan, South and North Korea, as well as their interaction with the U.S. will be discussed. The course will also touch on, though not in detail, political issues in these countries.

PLS423 Japan-U.S. Relations (3 credits)

The course primarily offers analysis of Japanese foreign policy toward the U.S. after World War II. It identifies and examines the key players for making and practicing Japan's foreign policy and the decisions they make. It inevitably touches on the political culture and system in Japan's historical context, with overviews of the historical perspectives on Japan and U.S. relations. Through the analysis of why it's called "the most important bilateral relation in the world," the course requires students to develop their ideas about the role and identity of Japan in Asia and in the world in the 21st century.

PLS425 Japan-China Relations (3 credits)

This course is about the relationship between Japan and China. It will cover all major aspects, including political, military, economic, cultural, and also ecological intercourses between the two major East Asian powers. It will first examine the history of Sino-Japanese relations from antiquity to the recent past, with special emphases

on major historical issues. It will then pay attention to current issues between the two countries.

PLS430 Northeast Asian Relations (3 credits)

The Korean Peninsula is the only place in the world where the interests of the world's superpowers (China, Japan, Russia and the United States) meet in one place. Further complicating this situation is Korea's division into two rival political camps: the Republic of Korea (ROK) in the south and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the north. Despite the Cold War's end elsewhere in the world, peace and stability in Northeast Asia remains fragile because of the two Koreas' uncomfortable co-existence, North Korea's intense distrust of the United States and Japan, and the continuing competition between the superpowers. This course will examine in depth key issues centered on the Korean Peninsula and concerning Japan, China, Russia and the United States. We will define the problems and endeavor to propose solutions.

PLS440 International Organizations and Law (3 credits)

In this course, students are expected:

1. to learn the basic legal issues of intergovernmental ("international" in the strict sense) institutions and the potential, or sometimes apparent, tensions between international and national interests in their activities.
 2. to learn how to conduct research on intergovernmental institutions, analyze their problems and make presentations for the class.
- Students are expected to learn by themselves at home. The class activities

are to improve presentation and discussion skills, stimulate reflections and clear up misunderstandings.

PLS460 Comparative Politics (Japan US and UK) (3 credits)

The course is a systematic analysis of the societal, cultural, institutional, and operational aspects of politics in three advanced countries: the United States, the United Kingdom, and Japan. By analyzing the democratic governments of these three countries in a comparative way, we can understand the flexibility and variety of modern democratic government. Among the topics we will focus on are: (1) political institutions, (2) political processes, (3) local governments, (4) styles of policy decision-making, (5) political leadership and leaders, (6) political party and party systems, (7) electoral systems and elections, (8) bureaucratic systems, and (9) foreign policies. In the final week we will examine different styles of democracy and try to identify the fundamental principles of democratic government.

PLS470 Peace Science (Conflict Prevention) (3 credits)

This course aims at a systematic analysis and understanding of the United Nations, focusing on its main activities in the context of broad historical and political trends in the world. Such an approach is particularly needed in Japan, where the predominant tendency in UN studies has been theoretical, legalistic or idealistic.

The course builds upon an initial introduction by the instructor, who will invite all the students to ask questions and make comments at any point in the course. Students are expected to undertake a

lot of preliminary reading of assigned reference books and articles as well as any publications of their own choice. The overall objective is to enable students to develop their own intellectual capacity to evaluate the significance of UN policies, activities and issues in relation to the international trends and forces at work.

PLS475 International News Coverage (3 credits)

Students will be introduced to international news. The emphasis will be on acquiring familiarity with key political, economic and international developments. They will study how information on international news is gathered and disseminated and how it affects public opinion, government and democracy itself. The students will study many problems facing the media such as objectivity, propaganda, ideas, myth and prejudice. They will understand how it can become one of the most destructive instruments of civilization if it is not managed properly. They will also find out the limits to international news coverage in an ever more complicated world. We will also explore the historical background of the Iraq War, the War on Terrorism, Middle East Peace, the Six Party Talks on North Korea, Iran's nuclear ambitions, Pakistan and the rise of China.

Capstone Seminars

GSP491 Seminar in North American Studies (3 credits)

The students are required to write a research paper on the history of foreign relations of the United States. The concept of foreign relations includes diplomacy or foreign policy. Diplomacy means negotiations by professional diplomats, and the concept of

foreign policy indicates official connections between governments. Foreign relations also covers relations between people of one country and the government of another country, and people-to-people relations. In other words, the concept of foreign relations is to be applied in the widest sense in which it indicates relations across the national boundaries. With the instructor's authorization, the students should choose a topic in this wide field and develop their own themes in order to present them in both oral and written forms.

GSP491 Seminar in North American Studies (3 credits)

This is a required senior seminar for North American Studies students. With the goal of writing a 12-15 page academic paper, the seminar will begin with reading and discussion on race and ethnic relations. Students are expected to decide on a topic by the end of April or September. After that, the seminar will alternate between tutorials with the instructor and presentations of work-in-progress

GSP491 Seminar in North American Studies (3 credits)

(Japan-US relations)

The seminar is divided into two parts: the first part is for common topics to discuss in the class based on research results, and the second part for individual research and for training of oral and written presentation. The first part will cover the major historical topics of Japan-US relations from Blackships (1853) to the Iraq War (2003~). All incidents played decisively important roles in determining the bilateral relations over a 150-year history. The second part focuses on developing each

student's research and writing skills on his or her own topic by individual tutorial sessions during class hours, followed by regular class discussions about each topic.

GSP492 Seminar in East Asian Studies (3 credits)

This is a seminar course required for all students majoring in East Asian Studies. The main task in this course is to write (in a decent academic format) a 12-15 page analytical and argumentative position paper on a topic related to historical and contemporary East Asian international relations. Before starting to write the paper, through several meetings at the beginning of the semester, students will first be expected to be familiar with major topics in the field of Japanese-East Asian relations and understand how an academic paper should be written. They will then start to find a paper topic. After obtaining the instructor's approval of the topic, they will start writing the paper. The due date for the completed paper is fixed and students must submit their final papers by that date. They will also be required to attend all the scheduled meetings and mandatory tutorials and make a couple of oral presentations.

GSP492 Seminar in East Asian Studies (3 credits)

This course is a senior seminar for students who concentrate in East Asian Studies as a part of the Global Studies Program. Students will write an academic essay (about 15 pages) based on their academic interest. The primary focus will be put on Taiwan studies and comparative education. Such subjects as social development and national identity are also welcome.

GSP493 Seminar in Transnational Studies (3 credits)

(Global communication)

This course is a seminar course for students in Transnational Studies. The main goal of the course is to write a research paper of about 15 pages on a topic in communication. The paper is about issues in human communication, mediated communication through mass media, internet, cell phone and others, or communication policies and development. Students have to submit proposals including outlines of the papers, make a few oral presentations, and give critical comments to the oral presentations by their classmates.

students give summary presentations on assigned materials. Intellectual interaction with other students is key to the success of your research paper.

GSP493 Seminar in Transnational Studies (3 credits)

(Global Nuclear Proliferation)

The seminar will focus on the global problem of nuclear weapons proliferation, particularly in Northeast Asia. We will explore the international nuclear non-proliferation regime as centered on the Treaty for the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, examine the roles of the International Atomic Energy Agency and United Nations Security Council roles in the treaty's implementation, and compare the nuclear counter-proliferation strategies of the world's superpowers the United States, China, Japan and Russia. Finally we will assess the effectiveness of the Six Party Talks Process in dealing with the nuclear proliferation problem in Northeast Asia.

GSP493 Seminar in Transnational Studies (3 credits)

(International Law and International Institutions)

After oral presentations, students are required to write a research paper of 10 to 15 pages on a topic of international law and/or international institutions. In the early stages of the course,