

English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Program <2008 Curriculum>

About the Program

EAP requirement

All students who are admitted to AIU are required to study at least one term in the EAP program. There are three levels of study within the EAP, and students are placed in appropriate levels on the basis of an institutional TOEFL test, the Institutional Testing Program, or ITP, given at the beginning of the student Orientation period conducted by the Office of Student Affairs in early April. (Students who begin their AIU studies in the Fall semester take the ITP in late August.) Placement occurs as follows:

- a) Level 1 ITP lower than 460
- b) Level 2 ITP of 460-477
- c) Level 3 ITP of 480 or higher

To be promoted to the next level of EAP coursework or to Basic Education classes, each student needs: (a) the requisite entry TOEFL score, and, (b) a GPA of 2.0 or higher and (c) must pass ALL EAP courses with a grade of "D" or higher.

Course Offerings

EAP070 English for Academic Purposes I

EAP071 English for Academic Purposes I Practice

EAP080 English for Academic Purposes II

EAP081 English for Academic Purposes II Practice

EAP090 English for Academic Purposes III

EAP091 English for Academic Purposes III Practice

EAP Course Descriptions

EAP070: English for Academic Purposes 1 (8 credits)

EAP 1 is a very intensive set of courses that offers students a basic level of study in university academic English. EAP 1 is designed for students with a beginning to low intermediate level of English who TOEFL scores below 460 (CBT: 140; IBT: 48).

Level 1 COURSES:

Basic Reading/Writing

Reading and writing skills in EAP 1 are taught in a single course. This is an introductory course which will expose students to a variety of texts and the purposes of extensive and intensive reading practices. Students will become used to reading for personal and academic purposes. At the same time, this course focuses on fundamental writing skills that are basic to good writing. Students will review sentence-level grammar as they undertake the writing process which requires revising of content and editing of sentence mechanics. Students will discuss the ideas and/or characters presented in the readings and in other student's writing. They will become used to reading extensively outside of class, at least 3 hours per week, in addition to other assigned reading homework; they will have frequent writing assignments for homework as well. To be successful in university studies, students must be very familiar with the strong connection between reading and writing and work to improve both skills.

Basic Focused Listening & Speaking

In this course, students are required to listen carefully to recorded materials and write down exactly what they hear until they achieve a high degree of accuracy.

In conjunction with this dictation practice students are encouraged to speak and discuss the content of what they have heard, to study vocabulary used in the recorded texts, and to demonstrate comprehension. In addition to speaking activities, students practice various functions in spoken English, e.g., greetings, tag questions, classroom language, and so on. This class is highly active and students are expected to speak as much English as possible each time. By doing this, they will learn from their spoken errors and improve their speaking ability, vocabulary, and grammar. In turn, they can use their improved speaking skills in other classes.

TOEFL Preparation

This course is designed to assist students in preparing for the TOEFL test. The course offers guidelines and practice for all skill areas tested on the Institutional Paper version of the TOEFL.

EAP071 English for Academic Purposes I Practice (1 credit)

Students meet in the LDIC for this course, which is designed to provide them with opportunities to improve their English language skills and to strengthen their understanding of how to learn a language. This course encourages students to take charge of their learning by planning and carrying out their own personal language learning program. Students can choose to work on materials they selected themselves from AIU's state-of-the-art Language Development and Intercultural Center (the LDIC) that will strengthen aspects of their language acquisition that may seem weak to them or may be of the most interest to them.

EAP080: English for Academic Purposes 2 (8 credits)

EAP 2 is a very intensive set of courses that offers students a high intermediate level of study in university academic English. EAP 2 is designed for students with a high intermediate level of English who usually have a TOEFL score between 460 and 477 (CBT: 140-153; iBT: 48-53).

Level 2 COURSES:

Intermediate Reading

In this high intermediate level class, students are expected to build on and further develop their reading strategies, reading comprehension and speed, and knowledge and use of vocabulary. Students will be expected not only to recall and describe what they have read, but to identify the main point/s and/or plot/s of readings. Additionally they should be able to provide a more in-depth explanation of their own opinions/feeling about the readings. In addition to the course readings assigned by the instructor, students are expected to read extensively for 4 hours per week outside of class time. They will be required to discuss/present and/or write about their extensive reading.

Intermediate Writing

In preparation for the vast amount of academic writing required within university courses, students in EAP 2 take a separate writing course so they can develop their writing skills in English. In this course students do a variety of writing, including freewriting, journal-writing, letter-writing, and sometimes brier essays. Because grammar, spelling, and punctuation are vital parts of writing well in English, students will focus attention on the "mechanics" of writing throughout the course. Moving from well written sentences to carefully planned

paragraphs is one important skill that is emphasized in this course. Most of the writing in this course is based on reading.

Basic Focused Listening & Speaking

In this course, students are required to listen carefully to recorded materials and write down exactly what they hear until they achieve a high degree of accuracy. In conjunction with this dictation practice students are encouraged to speak and discuss the content of what they have heard, to study vocabulary used in the recorded texts, and to demonstrate comprehension. In addition to speaking activities, students practice various functions in spoken English, e.g., greetings, tag questions, classroom language, and so on. This class is highly active and students are expected to speak as much English as possible each time. By doing this, they will learn from their spoken errors and improve their speaking ability, vocabulary, and grammar. In turn, they can use their improved speaking skills in other classes.

TOEFL Preparation

This course is designed to assist students in preparing for the TOEFL test. The course offers guidelines and practice for all skill areas tested on the Institutional Paper version of the TOEFL.

EAP081 English for Academic Purposes II Practice (1 credit)

Students meet in the LDIC for this course, which is designed to provide them with opportunities to improve their English language skills and to strengthen their understanding of how to learn a language. This course encourages students to take charge of their learning by planning and carrying out their own personal language learning program. Students can choose to work on materials they selected themselves

from AIU's state-of-the-art Language Development and Intercultural Center (the LDIC) that will strengthen aspects of their language acquisition that may seem weak to them or may be of the most interest to them.

EAP090: English for Academic Purposes 3 (8 credits)

EAP 3 is a highly intensive set of courses that offers students an advanced level of study in university academic English. EAP 3 is designed for students with an advanced level of English who usually have a TOEFL score between 480 and 497 (CBT: 157-170; iBT: 54-60). Students who have higher TOEFL scores are also required to complete EAP 3 as part of their undergraduate courses studies.

Level 3 COURSES:

Developing Academic Reading

By engaging in readings in the humanities, physical and social sciences, as well as the reading of narratives, students should be able to better comprehend undergraduate-level reading upon successful completion of this course. Additionally, the focus on advanced reading strategies and discussions on genre will help students better identify text forms and successful strategies for working with them. Students will increasingly be able to recognize vocabulary in context (including the Academic Word List), be able to identify and differentiate the main ideas from the supporting details in passages, and better understand the tone/purpose of readings. Ideally, students will be able to discuss critically the content of readings. In addition to the course readings assigned by instructors, students are expected to read extensively for 5 hours per week outside of class. They will be required to discuss/ present and/or write about their extensive

reading.

Developing Academic Writing

In preparation for the vast amount of academic writing required within university courses, students in EAP 3 take a separate writing course so they can develop their writing abilities in English. In this course, students do a variety of writing, including freewriting and journal-writing, but focus their attention on writing polished brief essays. All easy writing in this class is based on readings; it requires several drafts. Because reading is integral to writing, frequent quizzes, called Reading Reviews, are given to support students in their understanding and interpretation of what they are reading. Finally, because spelling, punctuation, and grammar are essential aspects of “good writing,” students will spend a significant amount of time reviewing (and, when necessary, learning) the “mechanics” of writing in English. This course closely parallels the focus and work of Composition I in Basic Education.

Advanced Focused Listening and Speaking

In this course, students are required to listen carefully to recorded materials usually made by their instructors and to write down exactly what they hear until they achieve a high degree of accuracy with this activity. Each week the recordings become longer. Also, at the beginning of each week students will have a quiz based upon one part of each of the recordings from the week before. This is called a “composite quiz” and students must write down everything on the recording. This course provides an excellent opportunity for students to become familiar with the voices of their instructors so they can better understand their classes. Among other results, students who perform successfully in

this course—working at a fast and advanced level of listening—might expect better results on the Listening Section of the TOEFL exam, although this is by no means guaranteed.

Computer Basics

This is a required course so that all students can develop their computer literacy both for EAP classes as well as future university coursework. This course meets each time in a computer lab. Students will develop keyboarding skills, learn how to use Word (beginning with fundamentals and moving to complex features), send email, and use the internet. Depending on the rate of progress among students, this course may also involve more advanced computer work. This course is required of all students in EAP 3 who do not “test out” at the beginning of the semester.

TOEFL Preparation

Though it is not always available for students in EAP III, this course is designed to assist students in preparing for the TOEFL test. The course offers guidelines and practice for all skill areas tested on the Institutional Paper version of the TOEFL.

EAP091 English for Academic Purposes I Practice (1 credit)

Students meet in the LDIC for this course, which is designed to provide them with opportunities to improve their English language skills and to strengthen their understanding of how to learn a language. This course encourages students to take charge of their learning by planning and carrying out their own personal language learning program. Students can choose to work on materials they selected themselves from AIU’s state-of-the-art Language Development and Intercultural Center (the LDIC) that will strengthen aspects of their

language acquisition that may seem weak to them or may be of the most interest to them.

Basic Education <2008 Curriculum>

Course Offerings

English Language Foundations

ENG100 Composition I
ENG101 Academic Reading Across Disciplines
ENG102 Speech Communication
ENG120 Introduction to English Studies
ENG150 Advanced Research Writing

Social Sciences

ANT150 Cultural Anthropology
DEM120 Demography
ECN100 World of Business and Economics
ECN210 Principles of Microeconomics
EDU150 Education Systems
ENV100 Environmental Science
GEO150 Geography (Physical and Human)
HIS110 World History
HUM150 Comparative Cultural Studies
LAW160 Japan's Constitution and Law
PLS150 Political Science
PSY150 Psychology
SOC150 Sociology
SOC250 Ideas and Theories in the Social Sciences

Arts and Humanities

ART150 History of Art
ART160 Art Studio
ART200 Japanese Art History in the World Context
ENG110 English Literature
ENG210 English Literature in the World
HUM140 Japanese Traditional Performing Arts
HUM155 Civilization and Philosophy
HUM170 Film Studies

HUM180 Introduction to Tohoku Culture
HUM185 Introduction to Akita Culture
HUM220 UK US Contemporary Popular Culture
HUM230 History of Science
MUS150 History of Music
MUS200 Music Performance
PHI150 Western Philosophy
PHI160 Asian Philosophy

Math and Natural Sciences

BIO100 Introduction to Biology
BIO105 Biology Laboratory
CHN100 Introduction to Chemistry
CHM105 Chemistry Laboratory
PHY100 Introduction to Physics
PHY105 Physics Laboratory
MAT100 Math for Liberal Arts
MAT150 College Algebra
MAT200 Statistics
MAT250 Calculus

Interdisciplinary Studies

COM250 Intercultural Communication
ENG121 Popular Culture in Language Learning & Teaching
ENV240 Climate Change and Society
HUM250 Religion and Bioethics
IGS200 Introduction to Global Studies
INT210 International Relations I
INT220 International Relations II
INT230 International Cooperation and Development I
INT240 Research Methods in the Social Sciences
INT250 Comparative Philosophy
INF240 Information and Society
INF260 Information Science

World Languages and Linguistics

CHN100 Chinese I
CHN101 Chinese I Practice

CHN200 Chinese II
 CHN201 Chinese II Practice
 KRN100 Korean I
 KRN101 Korean I Practice
 KRN200 Korean II
 KRN201 Korean II Practice
 RUS100 Russian I
 RUS101 Russian I Practice
 RUS200 Russian II
 RUS201 Russian II Practice
 MON100 Mongolian I
 MON101 Mongolian I Practice
 MON200 Mongolian II
 MON201 Mongolian II Practice
 FRN100 French I
 FRN101 French I Practice
 FRN200 French II
 FRN201 French II Practice
 SPN100 Spanish I
 SPN101 Spanish I Practice
 SPN200 Spanish II
 SPN201 Spanish II Practice
 FLN100 Foreign Culture and Communication
 I
 FLN101 Foreign Culture and Communication
 I Practice
 FLN200 Foreign Culture and Communication
 II
 FLN201 Foreign Culture and Communication
 II Practice
 JLT180 Introduction to Japanese Studies
 JLT210 Japanese Phonetics
 JLT230 Teaching Japanese as a Second
 Language
 ENG180 Introduction to Linguistics
 ENG181 Sociolinguistics
 ENG200 Introduction to Applied Linguistics

Health & Physical Education

HPE100/101 Recreation I
 HPE102/103 Recreation II
 HPE110 Health & Physical Education

Activities I
 HPE120 Health & Physical Education
 Activities II
 HPE130 Health & Physical Education
 Activities III
 HPE140 Health & Physical Education
 Activities IV
 HPE150 Health & Physical Education
 Lecture

Computer, Career Design, Study Abroad

CCS100 Orientation
 CCS120 Computer Literacy
 CCS140 Career Design
 CCS160 Study Abroad Seminar
 CCS200 Internship

Japan Studies

JAS110/111 SADO: Tea Ceremony
 JAS120/121 SHODO: Calligraphy
 JAS130/131 KADO: Flower Arrangement
 JAS145 Japanese Expression
 JAS155 Japanese Religion
 JAS200 Japanese Literature
 JAS210 Introduction to Japanese History
 JAS220 Japanese Politics
 JAS230 Japanese Economy
 JAS240 Foreign Policy of Japan
 JAS250 Introduction to Japanese Society
 JAS260 Japanese Business Culture
 JAS270 Manga Mania
 JAS340 Japanese Business in China
 JAS350 Language and Diversity in Japan
 JAS351 Cultural Background of Language I
 JAS415 Asian Martial Arts and Spiritual
 Ascent
 JAS430 Epistemic and Technological
 Traditions
 JAS435 Exploring Tohoku Culture
 JAS451 Cultural Background of Language II
 JAP499 Japan World Debate

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.”¹ 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 explores some of those varieties of English and the reasons for their proliferation. Students will read materials written for native speakers in the U.S. and the UK. The issues 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.

DEM120 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, and the issue of multiculturalism in psychology will be 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.

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 (3 credits)

This course comprises two objectives: to understand the historical and social background of American popular music (1920s-70s) and to participate in a black gospel choir to experience one of the

musical styles of non-classical origin. First, the class is designed to assist students in recognizing the cultural meaning and significance of non-classical music originated in the U.S., such as the Blues, Rock, and R & B, as well as Gospel. For this purpose, we not only deal with history and the attributes of each genre in lectures, but we also focus on the relationships between music and contemporary social issues, centering on various key words: racism, 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. The rest of the course is dedicated to Gospel choir rehearsals. I encourage each student to feel the spirit of this uplifting music and to enjoy sharing melodies with friends, creating a sense of community. At the end of the semester, a concert accompanied by a band will highlight this rare experience. To facilitate comprehension, we also spend time learning entry-level music theory and forms. Employing popular songs, we learn about song structures, 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.

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.

CHN100 Introduction to Chemistry (3 credits)

In this course students will not be required to memorize a large number of names of compounds or reactions. The main theme

of the course focuses on one fundamental fact—the macroscopic properties of substances are strictly determined by their microscopic structure. Although some quantitative aspects of chemistry are included in the written materials for the course, the lecture and tests will be focused primarily on qualitative methods, so that students who have a limited high school background in chemistry should not have excessive difficulties in understanding. The lectures in Introduction to Chemistry (CHM 100) in combination with Chemistry Laboratory (CHM 105) are designed to give students an understanding of the essence of modern chemistry, knowledge of which, the instructor believes, is indispensable for a young citizen who in the future may play an important role in the decision-making processes in various fields of social life. The learning process will utilize molecular models and molecular computer modeling.

CHM105 Chemistry Laboratory (1credit)

Chemistry Laboratory (CHM 105) is arranged in a so-called “DRY-LAB” style; no chemical cooking is involved. With limited facilities and time, the experience students can obtain from a “wet laboratory” tends to be fragmentary. Instead, the instructor designed this course as a means for students to obtain a systematic knowledge and understanding of the close relation between microscopic structure and macroscopic properties of substance. Though written materials are used, they are merely auxiliary, and students’ practical activities with models and computer graphics software constitute the main form of class activities.

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)

In this course, students will carry out laboratory experiments related to physics. The entire course is designed so that students will be able to understand the fundamental concepts of physics.

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.

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.

INF240 Information and Society (3 credits)

Over the last few decades the advent of recent information and communication technologies (ICTs) such as 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.

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.

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.

FLN100 Foreign Culture and Communication I (2 credits)

This course aims to provide the student with a broad description of the languages, other than English, being taught at AIU, including

the history, grammar, vocabulary, and other aspects of the languages. Focus will be made on the problems students may face in learning these languages. It will also provide an introduction to cultural comparisons.

FLN200 Foreign Culture and Communication II (2 credits)

This course aims to provide the student with a broad description of various world languages - history, grammar, vocabulary, usage etc - and the problems involved in their acquisition. Discussion will also focus on the techniques used in language acquisition, with students encouraged to relate their own experiences.

There will also be detailed discussion of world cultural differences, with students encouraged to relate their own overseas study experiences. Special emphasis can be placed on discussing whether a distinction should be made between daily-life culture (religion, language, customs, traditions) and value systems (ways of thinking and action), the possible origins of such differences and the presence or otherwise of similar value systems in different countries.

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.

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 *tatemaehonne*, *giri*, *wabisabi*, 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.

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 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.

Global Business Program <2008 Curriculum>

Course Offerings

Core Requirements

ECN301 Financial Theories and Applications

ECN304 International Business

ECN305 Principles of Macroeconomics

Core Electives

ECN302 Management of Knowledge

Information and Technology

ECN303 International Political Economy

ECN310 Basic Accounting

ECN320 International Trade

ECN321 Industrial Organization

ECN322 Economics of Globalization

ECN323 Money Banking and International
Finance

ECN324 History of Economic Thought

ECN325 Economic Development

ECN326 Environmental Natural Resource
Economics

ECN327 Econometrics and Applications

ECN328 Intermediate Microeconomics

ECN329 Marketing

ECN330 Corporate Finance

ECN331 Entrepreneurship

ECN332 Business Law

ECN333 Contemporary Japanese Economy

ECN334 Strategic Management

ECN335 Leadership: Theory and Applications

ECN381-398 Business & Economics Study
Abroad

ECN480 Case Studies (BRICs)

ECN499 Independent Study in Business &
Economics

Capstone Seminars

ECN401 Global Business Capstone Seminar I

ECN402 Global Business Capstone Seminar II

Course Descriptions

Core Requirements

ECN301 Financial Theories and Applications (3 credits)

This introductory course in corporate finance begins by introducing basic rules of accounting, GAAP, and preparation of financial statements—balance sheet, income statement, and statement of cash flow. Students learn how to analyze firms from the perspectives of profitability, efficiency, liquidity, and safety. Basic concepts from corporate finance will be introduced, including time value of money, financing decisions, and investment criteria.

ECN304 International Business (3 credits)

Major topics in this required, introductory course in international business are national differences in political economy and culture, international trade and investment, international monetary system, international capital markets, foreign exchange rates, international corporate strategy and structure, and various aspects of international business operations, including manufacturing, materials management, marketing, R&D, and human resource management. These themes will be viewed from the perspective of Japan, and theories and concepts will be applied in the context of Japan and Japanese firms, which is different from the way our famous American textbook is usually used.

ECN305 Principles of Macroeconomics (3 credits)

When economic news appears on the front page of our daily newspaper, we are most likely read about some macroeconomic development in the national or world economy. In this course, we study how overall economy works. Students will be introduced to some of the major concepts of macroeconomics such as gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, unemployment, and economic growth, by studying basic theories used to interpret and understand macroeconomic events. Students will also learn to use macroeconomic models to critically think about a variety of public policy issues, such as fiscal and monetary policies, and policies for economic stabilization and growth.

Core Electives**ECN302 Management of Knowledge Information and Technology (3 credits)**

One of the most consistent patterns in business and non-profit organizations is failure to stay atop their industries when technologies, markets, and business models change. This course examines the challenges of managing technologies from a general manager's point of view. It addresses the basics he/she needs to organize successful technology-driven innovation in both entrepreneurial and established firms. This management task is a complex challenge of integrating multiple dimensions — culture, the legal environment, marketing, manufacturing, distribution channels, financial issues, and government policies. During the first few weeks we will briefly review key innovations of the 20th

century that gave rise to a science-based world, the world that Thomas Friedman calls flat. Next, we shall examine different types of organizations that excel at identifying, building and commercializing technological innovations. Specific cases in Japan (e.g. Canon, Shimano) and the US (e.g., 3M, GE) will be used to illustrate management techniques. If class size permits, the course will be conducted in seminar format.

ECN303 International Political Economy (3 credits)

This course will introduce you to the study of international political economy (IPE). We begin by building intellectual frameworks that help us understand issues and events that appear are currently under discussion in various media. We will then study structures of international production, trade, and finance, and understand characteristics of theaters and actors in international economic activities. We will also examine problems of global economy. Finally, students in this course will have an opportunity to experience dynamism of IPE in simulation exercises.

ECN310 Basic Accounting (3 credits)

Accounting is a systematic way of keeping record of corporate activities. Accounting knowledge enables us to evaluate a business' performance. This introductory course Basic Accounting is designed to give Business majors a solid foundation upon which to build their formal education in business. The approach of this course is to get students familiarized with the whole accounting cycle with simple examples of corporate activities in the beginning of the course. Students learn the step-by-step procedures leading to preparing the financial statements: income

statement, balance sheet, and statement of cash flow. The second part of course will provide a focus on accounting issues associated with financing, investing and operating activities. We will discuss how these activities affect the financial statements of the firm. Also, we will demonstrate the effect of alternative accounting methods on the firm's financial performance. In the final part of course, we introduce some widely used techniques (ratios) in evaluating a firm's performance in operating efficiency, profitability, liquidity, growth and safety.

ECN320 International Trade (3 credits)

Desirability of a liberal system of international trade has been commonplace economic discourse since classical economists articulated the principle of comparative advantage nearly 200 years ago. Protection of domestic producers aids domestic producers, while conceding interests of domestic consumers and the global economy as a whole. For more than half a century, global economic interest has been defended mainly by agreements to liberalize trade, often led by super powers with stakes in global prosperity. This course will review international trade theories and policies. Students will gain understanding the nature of trade disputes, universality vs. regionalism, and bilateralism. Students interested in international relations will gain further understanding of the complex nature of international trade relationship among nations.

ECN321 Industrial Organization (3 credits)

Industrial organization is the study of the structure of markets, the strategic behavior of firms, and their interactions. Industrial

organization has been referred to as the economics of imperfect competition. Students will become familiar with various modern theories and approaches to the study of industrial organization, including the structure-conduct-performance (SCP) approach, the Chicago School approach, and game theory. Students will investigate the outcomes of different market structures under conditions of price discrimination, product differentiation, collusion, signaling, mergers and acquisitions, and barriers to entry and exit. Frequently, we will contrast industrial organization in Japan with that in other industrialized countries.

ECN322 Economics of Globalization (3 credits)

Global economic integration makes nation states vulnerable to external shocks on the one hand, but provides access to previously inaccessible economic opportunity on the other. These forces become increasingly relevant as the world becomes "smaller." In a literal sense, globalization is international integration. It can be described as a process by which the people of the world are unified into a single society. Globalization often refers to economic globalization involving international trade, foreign direct investment, short-term capital flows, and technological, socio-cultural and political forces. Some argue that higher degrees of political and economic freedom in the form of democracy and capitalism are ends in themselves as they produce higher levels of material wealth. They see globalization as the beneficial spread of liberty and capitalism. Critics point to damage of the biosphere as well as perceived unsustainable human costs in terms of poverty, inequalities, and injustices, and erosion of traditional culture,

which all occur as a result of the globalization. They challenge directly the metrics, such as GDP, used to measure progress promulgated by institutions such as the World Bank, and look to other ways such as the Happy Planet Index created by the New Economics Foundation to measure progress. With little progress on the issues of concern to developing countries (non-tariff barriers, intellectual property, migration, unskilled intensive services, and agriculture) WTO negotiations during the Doha round have been slow. The course reviews the evolution of international trade policies, trade disputes, universality versus regionalism, bilateralism, various market-access issues, barriers in agricultural trade, services trade, multilateral investment agreements, government procurement, and trade facilitation initiatives.

ECN323 Money Banking and International Finance (3 credits)

In this course, students will become familiar with concepts and theories related to money, interest rates, and behavior of financial intermediaries and financial markets, as well as their relationships with the real economy. Topics related to financial intermediaries will deal with banking, securities, insurance and consumer finance industries. Topics related to financial markets cover the money market, bond market, stock market, and foreign exchange market. Theoretical coverage includes monetary theory, the relationship between money and the real economy, the IS-LM model, and aggregate demand and supply analysis.

ECN324 History of Economic Thought (3 credits)

The course begins with study of early

pre-classical economic thought. We then proceed to understand mercantilism, physiocracy, and other precursors of classical economic thought. This is followed by classical economic thought and its critics, focused particularly on Smith, Ricardo, Malthus, Mill, and Marx. We then move to the neoclassical period and foundations of marginal analysis and ideas of Jevons, Menger, and Marshall. From this period we study also Walras and general equilibrium theory, institutional and historical critics of neoclassical economics, including the Austrian critique and debate about socialism and capitalism. At the end of the course we turn our attention to modern economics and its critiques, focusing on development of modern economic thought, including microeconomic theory, econometrics and empirical methods, and modern heterodox economic thought. This is an advanced undergraduate course in economics.

ECN325 Economic Development (3 credits)

During the last two decades, economic development debates have focused on need for economic reform to achieve macroeconomic stability, stronger institutions and better governance, and social justice to involve people in the decisions that affect them. Students will learn how UNDP, WTO, and World Bank/IMF are working to reduce poverty, promote trade and development, and respond to climate changes. We will pay special attention to UNDP's Millennium Development Goals, and related activities of the UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP). Through CDP case studies of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), students will gain insight into the complex nature of coordination among international

organizations and member nations and the limits and problems of United Nation effectiveness. LDC issues will be connected to the desirability of a liberal system of international trade based on the principle of comparative advantage. Students will examine trade issues facing developing countries. What are some of the major IMF Programs? Does foreign aid work? What are the challenges of structural adjustment? These and other related questions will be explored. Finally, we address climate change and development. We examine critically the UN Millennium goals that world leaders have promised to work together to advance development and reduce poverty by 2015, while examining the theories of Amartya Sen and new institutionalists who challenge the orthodoxies of development. (The instructor is one of 24 'experts' nominated by the UN Secretary-General to the CDP. The CDP is an advisory body of the United Nation's Economic and Social Council.)

ECN326 Environmental Natural Resource Economics (3 credits)

In this course we study the use of natural resources and the management of environmental quality from the perspective of economics. The course covers conceptual and methodological topics, including sustainability, as well as applications to contemporary environmental issues such as depletion of fish stocks and climate change. The first part of the course is an introduction to the principles of environmental and resource economics. The second part deals with the current issues concerning the use of various environmental resources. In the final part we discuss various policy approaches.

ECN327 Econometrics and Applications (3 credits)

This course provides an introduction to the basic ideas of applied statistics with examples and applications focused in the social sciences. It covers univariate and multivariate analysis, linear regression and analysis of variance, with an emphasis on graphical displays. These methods are in frequent use across the social sciences, testing claims about the relationships between variables in political, economic, psychological, and policy research.

ECN328 Intermediate Microeconomics (3 credits)

This course examines and develops basic techniques of economic theory and analysis in a more rigorous microeconomics framework than encountered in ECN300 Principles of Economics. The foci are on how individuals optimize their choices in a world of scarcity and how individual choices add up to overall social equilibrium. Topics include consumer behavior, theory of the firm, efficiency, exchange, elements of strategic behavior (game theory), and market failure. Throughout the course, we will seek to develop our economic intuition as well as understand specific models and problems.

ECN329 Marketing (3 credits)

Marketing is one of the various management processes employed by companies to create value for customers. The skillful marketer is able to identify or create customer needs, and then work with the various other functions within or outside the company to design and deploy capabilities to satisfy those needs better than competitors can. The major themes of this course are: marketing environment, market research,

consumer and business buyer behavior, market segmentation, target marketing, product development, pricing issues, channel strategy, promotional strategies, international marketing, and related topics. We will use cases to help make the process of identification, analysis, and discussion of factors and issues affecting current marketing strategies and practices more 'real world'.

ECN330 Corporate Finance (3 credits)

Corporate finance deals with two major themes: how corporations raise capital, and how they invest it. Students will have already been introduced to some of the most basic concepts and theories related to corporate financing and investing activities in ECN301 Financial Theories and Applications. In ECN330 students will explore more deeply the analysis of financial statements, valuation of future cash flows, capital budgeting, risk and return, cost of capital, long-term financial policy. Some advanced topics will be introduced, such as derivatives, mergers and acquisitions, alternative investments, hedge funds, and corporate governance. Students will have opportunities to apply these concepts and theories in the context of Japan.

ECN331 Entrepreneurship (3 credits)

The basic framework of this course is that entrepreneurship is a process. The process begins with the generation of an idea and/or recognition of an opportunity. At the next stage, financial, human, and information resources are acquired and applied to develop the opportunity. At the final stages, the new venture is launched, growth is managed, and rewards are harvested. At each stage, individual, group and

interpersonal, and society variables determine success or failure. Our approach will be to see theory and practice as two sides of the same coin, rather than two separate ways to study the subject. Some of our sub-themes of study include: cognitive bases of creativity and opportunity recognition; the legal environment of business (especially business contracts and legal forms of business); the marketing process for a new company, how to find and leverage complementary assets; essential people skills for entrepreneurs: creating trust, exerting influence, and managing stress; recruiting, selecting, and motivating high-performing employees; developing and protecting intellectual property; and how to make an effective business plan presentation.

ECN332 Business Law (3 credits)

Business Law is an undergraduate course for business students, not law students. The course is an overview of legal doctrines that are found in most business contexts such as: contracts, sales & leases, secured transactions, business organizations in general, agency, property, and government regulation. The legal principles covered in this course are derived from American law, i.e., constitutional law, case-law, statutes, and regulations. International legal issues are only addressed within an American legal framework. Students will be expected to make every effort to comprehend and ultimately apply the relevant rule of law to actual case problems. This course is no doubt challenging. However, because business law is an inherent part of all business transactions, an understanding of such is essential for anyone entering the business world today.

ECN333 Contemporary Japanese Economy (3 credits)

This is an intermediate level applied course in economics for junior, senior, and international students. This semester, the course will focus on the impacts of the global financial crisis on the contemporary Japanese economy. Students are expected to read daily economic and financial news papers such as Nikkei, and to identify short-term and long-term problems and discuss policy issues in each class. The role of the government, the market solutions, and the role of the civil society will be discussed. The revival of Keynesian policy versus new classical economic policies and philosophies will be dealt with in the context of the contemporary Japanese economy. If class size permits, the course will be conducted in seminar format. To understand the current problems facing the Japanese economy, the post-war Japanese economic model will be critically reviewed.

ECN334 Strategic Management (3 credits)

This is an advanced course for business majors. It is assumed that students have already completed nearly all requirements for the major. Ideally, this would be the last undergraduate course taken in business studies. Over the semester, students will become familiar with more than 300 concepts and theories related to corporate strategy, and an attempt will be made to integrate what students are learning in this course with what they have learned in other university courses, particularly in the area of business and economics. Frequently, after students have been introduced to a concept or theory, they will be required to demonstrate how it applies, or in some cases explain why it does not apply, in the context of Japanese firms.

The structural framework of our study will be the Strategic Planning Process (SPP), a widely taught and practiced model for the formulation and implementation of strategy. The major elements are: (1) mission and goals, (2) SWOT analysis, (3) the three levels of strategy: corporate, business, and functional, (4) organizational structure, (5) control systems, (6) matching of strategy to structure and controls, and (7) management of strategic change. We will study each of these elements in turn. Students will be given opportunities to apply the concepts in a number of case studies. Whenever possible, these case studies will involve Japanese firms.

ECN335 Leadership: Theory and Applications (3 credits)

What is leadership? What do successful leaders have in common? Do the characteristics of successful leadership differ across countries and cultures? Can we train ourselves to be good leaders? What is a 'good' leader? In this course, we will approach the study of leadership in various ways. One approach will be to analyze American, European, and Asian business leaders from past and present. We will attempt to identify key characteristics of successful leadership in different parts of the world, paying attention to possible commonalities and differences in the qualities of successful leaders across countries and cultures. We will use case studies from Harvard Business School and other sources. We will also become familiar with seminal scholarly works from the field of leadership, and articles from various media about the challenges of leadership in today's global economy. The seminar is designed to prepare students to meet the challenges of "life's leadership situations." If space permits,

this course may be available to Global Studies students as well as Global Business students. International students are especially welcome.

ECN381-398 Business & Economics Study Abroad (1~18 credits)

During study abroad, AIU regular students may apply a maximum of 18 credits from coursework done outside AIU's Global Business curriculum to satisfy requirements for the Global Business major. Coursework must be related to business or economics and not be a repetition of coursework already completed. Final approval for credit transfer must be received by the Global Business program director. Students are strongly encouraged to check with their Global Business academic advisor prior to enrollment to confirm that the credits will transfer.

ECN480 Case Studies (BRICs) (3 credits)

The focus of the course is on the BRICs economies of [Brazil](#), [Russia](#), [India](#), and [China](#). BRICs are among the world's fastest growing economies of the world. Analysts at McKinsey & Company and Goldman Sachs predict that BRICs will develop rapidly into major global economic centers over the next 40 years. BRICs are undergoing very rapid change and opportunities and risks abound. One dream project is to develop Akita seaport as a gateway to Russia for companies in Japan, for example to supply the newly opened Japanese car assembly plants in St. Petersburg, Russia. Alps Electric, the US\$3 billion Japanese electronics giant, regards the Chinese market as so important that all Alps' new employees must spend one to two months

training there. In India, each year 150,000 "medical tourists" combine sophisticated, yet inexpensive, surgery with tours of historical sites. We must be aware of the dangerous tendency to lump BRICs together as "emerging markets" and overlook their very substantial differences in political systems, cultures, reform policies and firm behavior. In this course, we go beyond the traditional hysteria, as it is becoming all too fashionable these days for example to blame China for many of the world's problems. One objective of this course is to analyze these countries within a coherent analytical framework. We forget that in the 15th century over 70% of the world GDP came from India and China. In some respects, the recent rise of these countries is a return to past world order.

ECN499 Independent Study in Business & Economics (3 credits)

The Global Business program provides opportunities to regular students and visiting international students to earn credits through independent study. A member of the Global Business faculty will serve as mentor for the independent study project. The research question should be in the field of economics or business and will be negotiated between the student and a member of the Global Business faculty.

Global Studies Program <2008 Curriculum>

Course Offerings

Core Electives

HIS250 Introduction to East Asia Studies
 HIS210 U.S. History
 GEO240 Geography of East Asia
 HIS290 Modern History of China
 HIS300 Modern History of Korea
 HIS310 Modern History of Russia
 HIS320 Modern History of Mongolia
 HUM270 Cultural Traditions of East Asia
 HUM371 Theater and Cinema in East Asia
 PLS360 Modern Chinese Politics and Thought
 SOC365 Chinese Society Today
 SOC375 Taiwan Society Today
 SOC380 South and North Korean Societies
 SOC385 Far East Russian Society
 SOC395 Chinese Regional Economy
 ECN395 US Business and Economic Policy
 GEO220 Geography of North America
 PLS230 U.S. Constitution
 PLS280 U.S. Political System
 PLS315 U.S. Presidency
 HIS350 U.S. Diplomatic History
 PLS325 U.S. Judiciary
 PLS335 U.S. Political Thought
 PLS390 U.S. Foreign Relations
 SOC345 Minorities in the U.S.
 SOC355 Social Problems in the U.S.
 CHN300 Chinese III
 CHN301 Chinese III Practice
 KRN300 Korean III
 KRN301 Korean III Practice
 RUS300 Russian III
 RUS301 Russian III Practice
 MON300 Mongolian III
 MON301 Mongolian III Practice

Capstone Electives

ECN435 East Asia Political Economy
 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
 PLS445 International Law
 PLS455 International Cooperation and Development II
 PLS460 Comparative Politics (Japan US and UK)
 ECN465 European Politics and Economy
 PLS470 Peace Science (Conflict Prevention)
 PLS475 International News Coverage
 SOC450 Sociology of Globalization
 SOC470 Mass Media and Society
 CHN400 Chinese Language Seminar: Discourse Practices
 KRN400 Korean Language Seminar: Discourse Practices
 RUS400 Russian Language Seminar: Discourse Practices
 MON400 Mongolian 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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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—biogeographical, 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Capstone Electives

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.

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 Korea's 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.

PLS445 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.

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.

ECN465 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.

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.

SOC450 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?

SOC470 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.

**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.

**GSP495 Distinguished Visiting Scholar
Lecture (1 credit) - Roles of International
Organizations and Practices -**

Although there are a number of international organizations such as the United Nations, UN Programmes, UN Specialized Agencies, etc., their specialized missions and various functions as well as their characteristic cultures are not well known to the public.

On the other hand, some international organizations tackling world wide issues attract attention of citizens around the world. This course is offered in cooperation with current and former Japanese officials and specialists of international organizations who will be in Japan.

AIU will invite them to give lectures on their roles and functions as well as the lecturers' careers and vocational experiences, and have some time to be consulted by AIU students who hope to join international organizations. Each student will have an opportunity to know international organizations better, as well as opportunities to consult lecturers on future career paths in the international society.

*Participation without registration will be possible.

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)

(Subject: Globalism, Regionalism and Parochialism; Can Nation States Still Remain the Main Frame of Reference of People's Behavior?) In spite of the promotion of the democratization process all over the world, the world situation at present is not so stable and optimistic. When we analyze the present global environment, we can find three fundamental phenomena which conflict with and contradict each other. They are 'globalism', 'regionalism' and 'parochialism'. Although these three phenomena have suffixes of '-ism' they do not refer to the ideologies we face at present. They signify the drastic structural changes of human society on a global scale. One interesting characteristic in common among those contradicting changes in human societies is the decline of the 'nation state' The nation state has enjoyed its exclusive position as the main frame of reference of human behavior for the human world since the completion of nation building, which occurred as early as 17th century in Britain. If we examine the process of the current decline of the nation state at present, we find that three phenomena of globalism, regionalism and parochialism are both the causes and accelerating factors of the decline of the nation state. In this Global Studies Course seminar we will examine the structural

change of the world and the current position of the nation state in international society.

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

Japanese Language and Japan Studies Courses <2008 Curriculum>

Akita International University welcomes International Students to study for one semester or more. Criteria for admission includes a 2.5 GPA or higher and for non-native English speakers, a TOEFL score of at least 500 (CBT173, IBT61) or an IELTS score of at least 6.5.

Our Japan Studies Curriculum is divided into Japanese Language and Japanese Culture Courses, as well as business, economics, politics, and history courses. International Students are not required to take Japanese Language courses, but we encourage you to try them to gain a deeper understanding of Japan.

Japanese Language Courses

Japanese Language Courses are divided into 4 levels: Elementary, Intermediate, Higher-Intermediate and Advanced. Each level features courses to improve your "Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing" skills. Placement tests will be given at the beginning of your first semester to determine your appropriate level.

Courses Offerings

General Japanese Courses

Elementary Japanese

JPL101 Elementary Japanese 101

JPL102 Elementary Japanese 102

JPL201 Elementary Japanese 201

Intermediate Japanese

JPL301 Intermediate Japanese 301

JPL302 Intermediate Japanese 302

JPL303 Intermediate Japanese 303

JPL304 Intermediate Japanese 304

Higher Intermediate Japanese

JPL401 Higher Intermediate

Japanese 401

JPL404 Higher Intermediate

Japanese 404

Advanced Japanese

JPL501 Advanced Japanese 501

JPL504 Advanced Japanese 504

Japanese Language Skill Courses

Intermediate Japanese

JPL311 Listening Comprehension

JPL341 English-Japanese

Interpretation

JPL342 English-Japanese Translation

JPL361 Pronunciation

JPL371 Grammar

JPL372 Grammar

JPL374 Grammar

JPL381 Kanji

JPL382 Kanji

JPL391 Reading Comprehension

JPL394 Reading Comprehension

Higher-Intermediate Japanese

JPL411 Speaking

JPL412 Speaking

JPL421 Writing

JPL422 Writing

JPL441 Listening

JPL452 Audiovisual Japanese

JPL453 Japanese Language in Films

JPL463 Reading Current Topics

Advanced Japanese

JPL521 Japanese-Chinese Translation

JPL522 Chinese-Japanese

Interpretation

JPL541 Listening
 JPL553 Japanese Language in Films
 JPL562 Reading Authentic Materials
 JPL563 Reading Current Topics
 JPL572 Speaking
 JPL581 Writing

Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki I, The Japan Times, 2002. **Chapters 1 to 8 will be covered.**
 Workbook: Banno, Eri and others, *An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki I*, The Japan Times, 2002.

**Self-Directed Japanese Courses
 Elementary Japanese (JPL201)**

JPL231 Japanese Practice
 JPL232 Japanese Practice
 JPL233 Japanese Practice

JPL102 Elementary Japanese 102 (6 credits)

Designed for students who have successfully completed JPL101; classes are conducted primarily in Japanese.

Learn how to express your own ideas and to creatively use the language orally and in writing. Instruction will focus on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as cultural knowledge.

Textbooks: Banno, Eri and others, *An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki I and II*, The Japan Times, 2002.

Chapters 9 to 16 of Genki I and II will be covered.

Workbooks: Banno, Eri and others, *An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki I Workbook and Genki II Workbook*, The Japan Times, 2002.

Intermediate Japanese (JPL301-304)

JPL331 Japanese Practice
 JPL332 Japanese Practice
 JPL333 Japanese Practice

Higher-Intermediate Japanese

JPL431 Japanese Practice
 JPL432 Japanese Practice
 JPL433 Japanese Practice

Advanced Japanese

JPL531 Japanese Practice
 JPL532 Japanese Practice
 JPL533 Japanese Practice

JPL201 Elementary Japanese 201 (6 credits)

Designed for those who have successfully completed JPL102; classes are conducted mainly in Japanese.

Learn how to express your own ideas and to creatively use the language orally and in writing. Instruction will focus on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as cultural knowledge.

Textbook: Banno, Eri and others, *An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki II*, The Japan Times, 2002. **Chapters 17 to 23 will be covered.**

Workbook: Banno, Eri and others, *An*

Course Descriptions

JPL101 Elementary Japanese 101 (6 credits)

Designed for those who have little or no knowledge of Japanese to learn how to express their own ideas and use the language both orally and in writing through a variety of classroom activities. Instruction will focus on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as background cultural knowledge.

Textbooks: Banno, Eri and others, *An*

Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese: Genki II Workbook, The Japan Times, 2002.

JPL231, JPL232 and JPL233 Japanese Practice (1 credit)

“Japanese Practice courses” are one-credit courses with Pass/Fail grades. By taking these courses, students are expected to find ways of improving their Japanese language ability using materials of their own choice. At the beginning of the semester, students receive guidance regarding the course and advice on how to and what to study in the course. Then students are required to spend 2 to 3 hours or more per week (5 hours per week in Winter) for their independent study at the Language Development & Intercultural Studies Center (LDIC) and keep their records of study. During the semester, students will meet the instructor several times in the classroom to report their progress and to discuss their problems. The proof of more than 35 hours of independent study at the LDIC and the satisfactory records of their studies must be submitted to the instructor at the end of the semester to pass the course.

Classes above 300 levels are conducted in Japanese.

JPL301 Intermediate Japanese 301 (4 credits)

Designed for those who have successfully completed JPL201; Elementary Japanese with *Genki I and II* or equivalent textbooks. Instruction will focus on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing as well as cultural knowledge. This course will help students develop oral fluency so that they can interact in various situations within their daily lives and express their own ideas in Japanese with ease. This course will also

consolidate their grammatical knowledge learned in the elementary level classes and expand vocabulary and expressions in order to prepare for their study in the Intermediate Japanese classes.

Textbook; Koyama, Satoru, *J.Bridge*, Bonjinsha, 2002.

JPL302 Intermediate Japanese 302 (4 credits)

Designed for those who have successfully completed JPL301 or have studied Japanese for at least one year intensively.

This course is for improving overall Japanese language skills with a special focus on reading and writing. Expressions and vocabulary as well as the appropriate styles of writing found in academic texts and newspapers will be studied. The main textbook will be supplemented with Japanese materials from various academic disciplines. Textbook: Akira Miura & Naomi Hanaoka McGloin, *An Integrated Approach to Intermediate Japanese [Revised Edition]*, 2008, The Japan Times
An Integrated Approach to Intermediate Japanese [Revised Edition] Workbook.

JPL303 Intermediate Japanese 303 (4 credits)

Designed for those who have successfully completed JPL302 or equivalent. This course is for improving overall Japanese language skills with a special focus on reading and writing. Expressions and vocabulary as well as the appropriate styles of writing found in academic texts and newspapers will be studied. The main textbook will be supplemented with Japanese materials from various academic disciplines.

Textbook: Akira Miura & Naomi Hanaoka McGloin, *An Integrated Approach to*

Intermediate Japanese [Revised Edition],
2008, The Japan Times
*An Integrated Approach to Intermediate
Japanese [Revised Edition] Workbook*.

JPL304 Intermediate Japanese 304 (4 credits)

This course is for students who have successfully completed JPL303. This course has two main foci:

(1) Monday and Tuesday classes will mainly focus on the development of students' listening and speaking skills. Students will listen to various types of monologues, dialogues and speeches and practice picking up important information and restructuring it. Students will also practice expressing their opinions and ideas effectively and appropriately. Classroom activities will include top-down, bottom-up and interactive listening practices, discussion, recitation and presentation.

(2) Thursday and Friday classes will focus on the development of students' speaking skills, especially elements required to conduct effective oral presentations. Another focus of this class is on development of reading and writing skills related to textbook topics. New sentence patterns as well as new vocabulary of the intermediate level Japanese will be introduced and practiced in the classroom. Students will learn about Japanese cultural and social background through presentation projects and activities.

JPL311 Listening Comprehension (2 credits)

Designed to improve students' listening and speaking skills; Intermediate Japanese course for those concurrently enrolled in JPL301. Students will listen to monologues, dialogues and speeches and practice picking

up important information and restructuring it, as well as practice expressing opinions and ideas effectively and appropriately. Classroom activities will include top-down, bottom-up and interactive listening practices, discussion, recitation and presentation. Textbook: Beuckmann, Fusako and others, *Speaking Skills Learned through Listening Japanese "LIVE" Pre-Intermediate and Intermediate Level Volume 1*, Kuroshio Shuppan, 2006.

JPL331, JPL332 and JPL333 Japanese Practices (1 credit)

These courses are for Intermediate Japanese learners who are taking JPL301, 302, 303 or 304, concurrently. These are one-credit courses with Pass/Fail grades. By taking these courses, students are expected to find ways of improving their Japanese language ability using materials of their own choice. At the beginning of the semester, students receive guidance regarding the course and advice on how and what to study in the course. Then students are required to spend 2 to 3 hours or more per week (5 hours per week in Winter) for their independent study at the Language Development & Intercultural Studies Center (LDIC) and keep their records of study. During the semester students will meet the instructor several times at classroom to report their progress and to discuss their problems. The proof of more than 35 hours of independent study at the LDIC and the satisfactory records of their studies must be submitted to the instructor at the end of the semester to pass the course.

JPL341 English Japanese Interpretation (2 credits)

Designed for those who are enrolled in JPL302 or 303 concurrently to improve

oral proficiency. We will compare the way Japanese speakers think and act as they speak with the way that English speakers think and act as they speak. Retention, dictation, slash reading, and quick response activities will be introduced.

No textbooks assigned.

JPL342 English Japanese Translation (2 credits)

Designed for JPL302 and 303 level students who are native or near native English speakers. We will practice translating mainly from English to Japanese and compare the differences between English and Japanese in order to produce natural Japanese. No textbooks assigned.

JPL361 Pronunciation (2 credits)

This course is for intermediate Japanese learners who are concurrently enrolled in JPL301, 302, 303 or 304. This course helps students to improve their listening ability and fluency as well as accuracy of pronunciation and accent patterns with conversational Japanese. Students will learn various forms of contractions, euphonic changes in daily conversation. They will be advised how to solve their own problems in pronunciation and prosody. The classroom activities are mainly recitation and exercises on the Japanese accent rules.

Textbook: Saito, Hitoshi and others, *Shadowing, Nihongo o Hanaso*, Kuroshio Shuppan, 2006.

JPL371 Grammar (1 credit)

Designed for students those who have successfully completed elementary Japanese; must be enrolled in JPL301. This course provides students with opportunities to review grammar points introduced in

elementary level classes, and to improve their understandings and accurate usage of grammar, in order to prepare for their study in the higher-intermediate level courses. In class, students review basic grammar points and practice differentiating similar grammatical patterns. They also make sentences using basic grammar structures to express their own ideas in discussions, speeches and written essays.

Textbook: TBA

JPL372 Grammar (2 credits)

Designed for Intermediate Level students concurrently enrolled in JPL302 or JPL303. This course is designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL302 and 303), providing students with opportunities to learn intermediate level grammar, and to improve their understandings and accurate usage of grammar, in order to prepare for their study in pre-advanced level courses. In class, students learn how to use grammar at intermediate level, in context. Students also make sentences using this grammar and express themselves in oral and written activities.

Textbook: Toki, Satoshi et al. *Nihongo Chuukyuu J301*. 3A Corporation, 1995.

JPL374 Grammar (2 credits)

Designed for Intermediate Level students concurrently enrolled in JPL302 or JPL303. This course is designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL302 and 303), providing students with opportunities to learn intermediate level grammar, and to improve their understandings and accurate usage of grammar, in order to prepare for their study in pre-advanced level courses. In class, students learn how to use grammar at intermediate level in context. They also make

sentences using this grammar and express themselves in oral and written activities.

Textbook: Toki, Satoshi et al. *Nihongo Chuukyuu J301*. 3A Corporation, 1995.

JPL381 Kanji (1 credit)

This is a Kanji Consolidation course aimed mainly for students at the intermediate level (JPL301, 302 and 303) whose first language includes use of written Chinese characters (but not exclusively.) This course provides students with opportunities to review Kanji introduced in elementary level classes, and to expand their knowledge of Kanji, in order to prepare for their study in the higher-intermediate level courses. In class, students practice reading and writing Kanji with several compounds used in daily life. They also try to find interesting kanji used in signboards, menus, flyers, magazines, comics, TV and movie subtitles and homepages on the web, and give presentations about them.

Text book: Kano, Chieko and others, *Basic Kanji Book Volume 2 (500)*, Bonjinsha, 2004.

JPL382 Kanji (1 credit)

This is a Kanji Foundation course aimed mainly for students at the intermediate level (JPL301, 302 and 303) whose first language does not make use of Chinese characters (but not exclusively.) This course provides students with opportunities to review Kanji introduced in elementary level classes, and to expand their knowledge of Kanji, in order to prepare for their study in the higher-intermediate level courses. In class, students practice reading and writing Kanji with several compounds used in daily life. They also try to find interesting kanji used in signboards, menus, flyers, magazines, comics, TV and movie subtitles and homepages on web, and give presentations about them.

Text book: Kano, Chieko and others, *Basic Kanji Book Volume 2 (500)*, Bonjinsha, 2004.

PL391 Reading Comprehension (2 credits)

Designed for Intermediate Level students enrolled in either at JPL302 or JPL303. Gain a greater understanding of Japanese Culture and Society through readings and discussions in class.

Textbook: Toki, Satoshi et al. *Nihongo Chuukyuu J301*. 3A Corporation, 1995.

JPL394 Reading Comprehension (2 credits)

Designed for intermediate students enrolled in either JPL302 or 303. Gain a greater understanding of Japanese Culture and Society through readings and discussions in class and in prepare for their study in the pre-advanced level courses.

Textbook: Toki, Satoshi et al. *Nihongo Chuukyuu J301*. 3A Corporation, 1995.

JPL401 Higher-Intermediate Japanese 401 (4 credits)

This course is designed for students at the higher intermediate level of Japanese who want to expand their vocabulary and knowledge of expressions used in various types of Japanese texts. This course focuses on the development of all four skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. Class activities include class and small group discussions and individual presentations as well.

Textbook: Toki, Satoshi and others, *Nihongo Chukyu J501*, Three A Network, 2001.

JPL404 Higher-Intermediate Japanese 404 (4 credits)

This course is a continuation of JPL401

designed for students at the higher intermediate level of Japanese who want to expand their vocabulary and knowledge of expressions used in various types of Japanese texts. This course focuses on the development of all four skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. Class activities include class and small group discussions and individual presentations as well. Textbook: Toki, Satoshi and others, *Nihongo Chukyu J501*, Three A Network, 2001.

JPL411 Speaking (2 credits)

Designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL401). This course provides students with opportunities to objectively analyze Japanese conversations, and to apply their findings into their own Japanese conversation skills. In class, students analyze Japanese conversations between themselves and Japanese native speakers on TV programs and discuss what is actually going on. They analyze and practice using Japanese discourse strategies (e.g., confirmation questions, *aizuchi*, sentence connections, questions, assessments, topic shifts and turn-taking techniques), and also analyze and practice Japanese free conversation, storytellings, discussions, conversations at traveling, dating and TV talk-shows. In the final project work, students make and present their own original TV program.

JPL412 Speaking (2 credits)

This course is designed for the students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL404) who want to improve the speaking skills. Through a variety of interactive learning activities such as role-plays, students will learn to use various speech styles appropriate for given situations, especially with regard to the use of

Keigo.

JPL421 Writing (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL401) who want to improve the writing skills that are necessary to cope with a variety of daily and academic tasks at the university level (such as writing essays and reports using the appropriate style. Class activities include group and class discussions and presentations).

JPL422 Writing (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL404) who want to improve the writing skills that are necessary to cope with a variety of daily and academic tasks at the university level (such as writing essays and reports using the appropriate style. Class activities include group and class discussions and presentations).

JPL431, JPL432 and JPL433 Japanese Practices (1 credit)

These courses are for higher-Intermediate Japanese learners. They are one-credit courses with Pass/Fail grades. By taking these courses, students are expected to find ways of improving their Japanese language ability using materials of their own choice. At the beginning of the semester, students receive guidance regarding the course and advice on how to and what to study in the course. Then, students are required to spend 2 to 3 hours or more per week (5 hours per week in Winter) for their independent study at the Language Development & Intercultural Studies Center (LDIC) and keep their records of study. During the semester students will meet the instructor several times at classroom to report their progress and to discuss their problems. The proof of more than 35 hours

of independent study at the LDIC and the satisfactory records of their studies must be submitted to the instructor at the end of the semester to pass the course.

JPL441 Listening (2 credits)

This is a higher intermediate Japanese course designed to improve students' listening and speaking skills for conversational Japanese. Students will learn various useful expressions to be used in everyday life, and the speech styles appropriate for formal and informal situations. Students will also practice conversations using the learned expressions and phrases with appropriate intonation patterns. Students are required to practice assigned conversations in the textbook before attending the class.

JPL452 Audiovisual Japanese (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the higher-intermediate level (JPL404.) Main learning materials include TV news, dramas and documentary programs. Students learn vocabulary and expressions necessary to comprehend important information in the programs. They are also expected to pick up not only verbal but also nonverbal and cultural information in the visual materials and analyze them.

JPL453 Japanese Language in Films (2 credits)

This course is for higher-intermediate Japanese learners. This course aims to improve learners' overall communication skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening, mainly through films. Students will acquire new vocabulary and expressions from the films. Class activities will include reading film scripts, discussions about their

content, writing essays on their themes and giving presentations. Students evaluate one another's performances in the classroom and on their own by watching DVDs recorded during class activities.

JPL463 Reading Current Topics (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the higher intermediate level who want to improve their reading skills. This course will focus on the development of reading and speaking ability to be able to cope with various current topics in today's Japan. Students will read a variety of Japanese newspaper articles from politics, business, and fashion to pop culture and will discuss those issues in the classroom.

JPL501 Advanced Japanese 501 (4 credits)

This course is designed for the students at the advanced level of Japanese. The focus of this course is to improve students' overall Japanese language ability and skills. An advanced level Japanese language textbook will be used for the main study material but other authentic materials will be introduced during the course depending on study needs. Reporting and discussion about current topics in Japanese society including politics, economics and culture will also be a part of class activities.

Textbook: Kondo and others 'For Advanced Learners of Japanese : Facets of Culture' The University of Tokyo Press 2005

JPL504 Advanced Japanese 504 (4 credits)

Focus is on reading, writing, speaking and listening. Work with novels, essays and newspapers to increase your knowledge

of more complex patterns of the language. Practice skills such as scanning and skimming, with prediction, anticipation and deduction and develop the ability to read quickly and accurately. There will also be discussions and writing based on the readings.

JPL521 Japanese-Chinese Translation (3 credits)

Designed for Chinese speakers with an Advanced Level of Japanese.

Investigate the differences between Japanese and Chinese, examine linguistic issues that are problematic for Chinese speakers, and learn skills necessary for translation. We will do in-class practice and use materials to understand which form of translation is most appropriate as a means of transmitting information. To enhance learning, students are required to do a great deal of in-class practice. Emphasis is on:

1. Basic views on translating Japanese into Chinese.
2. Translation as a means of information communication.
3. Differences between Japanese and Chinese translation skills.
4. Developing a better understanding of the cultural differences between Japan and China through translation exercises.

JPL522 Chinese-Japanese Interpretation (3 credits)

Designed for Chinese speakers with an Advanced Level of Japanese. Through lectures and a variety of class activities, gain background knowledge and learn expressions and skills needed for Chinese-Japanese interpretation. Improve your Japanese language speaking ability and to develop a better understanding of the cultural

differences between expressions used in Chinese and Japanese.

Emphasis is on:

1. Basic linguistic knowledge needed for interpretation.
2. Differences between Chinese and Japanese language.
3. Necessary skills for Chinese-Japanese interpretation.
4. Cultural differences between Chinese and Japanese expressions.

JPL531, JPL532 and JPL533 Japanese Practices (1 credit)

These courses are for advanced Japanese learners. They are one-credit courses with Pass/Fail grades. By taking these courses, students are expected to find ways of improving their Japanese language ability using materials of their own choice. At the beginning of the semester, students receive guidance regarding the course and advice on how to and what to study in the course. Then students are required to spend 2 to 3 hours or more per week (5 hours per week in Winter) for their independent study at the Language Development & Intercultural Studies Center (LDIC) and keep their records of study. During the semester students will meet the instructor several times at classroom to report their progress and to discuss their problems. The proof of more than 35 hours of independent study at the LDIC and the satisfactory records of their studies must be submitted to the instructor at the end of the semester to pass the course.

JPL541 Listening (2 credits)

This is an advanced Japanese course designed to improve students' listening and speaking skills for conversational Japanese. Students will learn various useful expressions

to be used in everyday life, and the speech styles appropriate for formal and informal situations. Students will also practice conversations using the learned expressions and phrases with appropriate intonation patterns. Students are required to practice assigned conversations in the textbook before attending the class.

JPL553 Japanese Language in Films (2 credits)

This course is for advanced Japanese learners. This course aims to improve learners' overall communication skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening, mainly through films. Students will acquire new vocabulary and expressions from the films. Class activities will include reading the scripts of the films, discussions about the content of the films, writing essays on the films and give presentations. Students evaluate one another's performances in the classroom and on their own by watching DVDs recorded during class activities.

JPL562 Reading Authentic Materials (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the advanced level who want to improve their reading skills. The primary learning materials include novels and short stories written by contemporary Japanese writers. Students will practice such techniques as scanning, skimming, predicting and summarizing to become effective and autonomous readers.

JPL563 Reading Current Topics (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the advanced level who want to improve their reading skills. This course will focus on the development of reading and speaking ability

to be able to cope with various current topics in today's Japan. Students will read a variety of Japanese newspaper and magazine articles ranging from politics and business to fashion and pop culture, and will discuss them in the classroom.

JPL572 Speaking (2 credits)

This course is designed for the students at the advanced level who want to improve their speaking skills. This course will focus on the development of formal speech skills and presentation skills in public settings. Students will need to find their own topics in their field of interest and will have to independently prepare from the research stage to the final presentation stage. The teacher will help and give appropriate advice to each student throughout the course.

JPL581 Writing (2 credits)

This course is designed for students at the advanced level (JPL501) who want to improve their writing skills. In this course, students will first learn vocabulary, expressions, organization and the rules necessary for academic writing and will then write their own papers on a wide range of topics, utilizing the skills they have acquired.

Japan Studies Courses

AIU offers international students opportunities to study alongside Japanese students in a wide selection of courses to gain understanding of Japan. These courses will not be offered every semester and some may be offered only on a 'tutorial' basis, depending on the number of students enrolled.

Course Offerings

Japan Studies Courses

JAS110/111 SADO: Tea Ceremony

JAS120/121 SHODO: Calligraphy

JAS130/131 KADO: Flower Arrangement

JAS145 Japanese Expression

JAS155 Japanese Religion

JAS200 Japanese Literature

JAS210 Introduction to Japanese History

JAS220 Japanese Politics

JAS230 Japanese Economy

JAS240 Foreign Policy of Japan

JAS250 Introduction to Japanese Society

JAS260 Japanese Business Culture

JAS270 Manga Mania

JAS340 Japanese Business in China

JAS350 Language and Diversity in Japan

JAS351 Cultural Background of Language I

JAS415 Asian Martial Arts and Spiritual
Ascent

JAS430 Epistemic and Technological
Traditions

JAS435 Exploring Tohoku Culture

JAS451 Cultural Background of Language II

JAS499 Japan World Debate

JPS555 Overview of Japanese Literature

JPS560 Japanese Art History in the World
Context

JPS570 Japanese Politics

JPS580 Country Life: Human Relationships
in Japanese Local Communities

Course Descriptions

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. JAS210-1 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. Students 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 *tatemaehonno*, *giri*, *wabisabi*, 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 be about 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.

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 that 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 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.

JPS courses are for international students and conducted in Japanese.

JPS555 Overview of Japanese Literature (3 credits)

In what way have history and transformations of Japanese society shaped Japanese literature? And how has the power of nature contributed to its evolution? 1. We will contemplate these questions in our overview of the literary traditions of Japanese Classical Literature which covers

the Ancient, Medieval, and Pre-Modern periods. 2. In our overview of Modern Japanese Literature which covers the Meiji and Taisho periods, we will focus on the emergence of modern Japanese culture and the influences of the West.

JPS560 Japanese Art in the World Context (3 credits)

This Japanese Art History course is not concerned with the chronological succession of the art works. Instead it is a study of carefully selected works illustrating the development of the styles in Japanese art tradition very similar to the styles of European art. For example, the sculptures of Todaiji's Sangatsudo created during the Nara period are considered to be the works of "Classic style," while those of Kofukuji created during the Kamakura period are in the "Baroque style" in reference to the universal criteria of world art history.

JPS570 Japanese Politics (3 credits)

We will examine systematically cultural, institutional, and operational aspects of contemporary Japanese politics and political society, focusing especially on major events in the world of Japanese politics since the end of World War II.

We begin our study by discussing 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. Thirdly we 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 analyses of

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

JPS580 Country Life: Human Relationships in Japanese Local Communities (3 credits)

Akita city is located in the northern part of Japan on the main island of Honshu. The atmosphere of Akita is different from other metropolitan areas like Tokyo. People from Akita have the reputation as being ‘not-friendly, conservative, isolated and not-sophisticated’, but can we simply accept these images? This class focuses on interpersonal relations and the concept of selfhood in Akita. Students will examine human relations, notion of self and self-identity in Akita by following the stages of life (birth, childhood, adulthood, work, sex, death and afterlife). In order to examine this topic further, students will also examine their own experiences in Akita and of their home countries with literature review. This course is suitable for students who have started to study Japanese society. This topic is crucial for these students since human relationships and personhoods relate to all other field in Japanese Studies; business, politics and education field. This class will be taught in Japanese with Japanese book chapters, novels, autobiographies, oral narratives, magazines and newspaper articles. Students will also have fieldtrips where interpersonal relations can be seen first hand.