

GS Senior Seminar (Section: International Law and International Institutions)

Spring Semester 2010: Monday and Wednesday, 17:00-18:15

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Office hours: Mondays 14:00-15:00 and Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00

Course Description

Having made a critical review of an assigned academic article, students write his/her own paper of about 5000 words (never less than 3000 words) on a topic of international law and/or international institutions (or comparative law and institutions). Interaction with other students is key to a successful paper.

Steps for paper writing in this seminar

Students write a research paper in order to communicate their knowledge and ideas to others. Experience of oral presentations and exchange of views with other participants will help students to develop their researches. Every student will have four presentations: topic announcement, Article review presentation, main presentation, and summary report at the concluding symposium open to the public.

1) Topic announcement (5 minutes)

The very first day of the seminar, students make a short presentation on what they have learned so far and what topic they chose for the research. The provisional title of the research paper should be decided on that day, unless asked to reconsider the topic.

2) Article review presentation (10 minutes) **A handout required.**

You will be assigned a research article related to your topic. Make a ten-minute presentation to critically analyze the article so that the other students can understand the issues involved in your topic and how your views on the issues are different from (or same with) those of the author of the reviewed article.

3) Principal and supplementary presentations (10 minutes each) **Handouts required.**

In the principal presentation, explain your research result. **Draft paper must be circulated in advance.** The supplementary presentation is to supplement insufficiencies of the principal presentation.

Prior Academic Preparation

Prior or concurrent attendance to courses on international law or international institutions is required. Before the seminar begins, review your knowledge of international law and institutions. Come to the first session with a specific idea about the topic (Your choice may not be accepted, for duplication with other students or for other reasons).

Evaluation

Article review presentation 10%, Comprehension test 10%, Draft paper 20%, Principal and supplementary presentations 20%, Final Paper 10%, Participation 10%, Final Exam 20%

Course Materials: No textbook.

Provisional Course Schedule (Subject to change, in function of number of participants.)

Students must be present in principle at all sessions and an unjustified absence will be sanctioned accordingly. In addition to the mandatory tutorial, visit the instructor during the office hours or write him emails for advice.

- April. 12 (M): Joint Explanation Meeting of GS Seminars
April 19 (M): Course introduction & topic announcements
April 21 (W): Methodology for a seminar paper
April 26 (M) 17:30-18:30: South Korean Ambassador's lecture
April 28(W), may 7(F), 10(M) and 12(W): Article review presentations (with handout)
[May 8 (Sat.) 15:00-16:30: Egyptian Ambassador's lecture]
May 17 (M): Comprehension test
May 19 (W), 24 (M) and 26 (W) : In-class tutorials
[May 27 (Thu) 17:30-18:30: Canadian Ambassador's lecture]
May 31 (M): Tutorial day
June 2 (W): Special lecture on "The US-Japan Relations and Sports" by Prof. Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu, associate professor, Michigan State University
June 7 (M) : Tutorial day
June 9 (W) 17:30-19:00: Indian Ambassador's lecture
BY **MONDAY June 14** at noon, submission of the draft paper by email.
June 14 (M) and 16 (W): Main presentations
June 21 (M) 17:30-19:00: Australian Ambassador's lecture [no class on June 23]
June 28 and 30: Supplementary presentations
BY **THURSDAY July 8** at noon, submission by email of the final paper
July 5 (M) 17:30-19:00: German Ambassador's lecture
July 7 (W): Special lecture on "Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons"
by Mr. Shigehiro Suzuki, former program officer, IDP Unit, UNOCHA.
July 12 (M): Public Symposium "Changing Structure of International Legal Order"
1. Introductory remarks: Toyoda (5 minutes)
2. Summary reports by seminar members (30 minutes)
3. Discussions (30 minutes)
4. Concluding remarks: Toyoda (3 minutes)
July 14(W): Public Symposium "Future of International International Institutions beyond National Interests?", Agenda similar to the first symposium
July 21 (W): Concluding lecture and student evaluation
July 26 (M): Final Exam

Attention: A draft paper of more than 3000 words must be submitted by June 14, Draft papers will be circulated in advance for the discussion at main presentations ; so will be the final papers before the concluding symposiums on July 12 and 14.