

Seminar: International Relations (B)

• **Instructor:** Takeshi Yuzawa

• **Email Address:** [REDACTED]

• **Goal/Theme**

This is an annual seminar course, examining major questions in international relations (IR). The theme of the 2016 seminar is “**Prospects for a World Order in the 21st Century**”. The beginning of the 21st century has witnessed dramatic changes in international relations. It has become increasingly obvious that “wealth and power are moving from the West to the East and the world order dominated by the United States and Europe is giving way to one increasingly shared with non-Western states with the rise of emerging powers, including China, India and Brazil” (Ikenberry 2008). At the same time, the legitimacy of Western liberal norms and values (such as democracy and free markets) that have constituted an important feature of an American-led order are being challenged by the rise of alternative norms and values, supported by non-Western countries. Moreover, the international political stage, which was previously dominated by states, has increasingly featured non-state actors, including non-government organizations, transnational corporations, and terrorist groups. These drastic changes pose the question: **What will be the shape of the world order in the 21st century?**

In order to address this question, this seminar will examine the following: 1) Shifts in power distribution among major states, including the United States, China, Japan, India, and the major European countries. 2) Prospects for international institutions and global governance. 3) The rise of non-state actors: the role of NGOs and multinational corporations in world politics. 4) Competition among differing norms and values: disputes over democracy, capitalism, human rights, and self-determination in the Middle East, Africa, and East Asia.

• The course objectives are;

- 1) To provide students with intellectual skills (critical, analytical, and problem-solving capabilities), essential for careers in government, business, the media, and NGOs, which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals;
- 2) To provide students with a firm foundation for studying IR at the graduate level;
- 3) To enable students to demonstrate mastery of course subject matter through the expression of relevant factual knowledge and the comprehension of relevant theory, deployed with appropriate analytical skill, as evidenced in discussions, oral presentations and written work.

• **Number of students to be admitted**

- Approximately six students (3rd year students).
 - This is a two-year seminar course, starting in the 3rd year. At the instructor’s discretion, however, students may be allowed to join this seminar during the 4th year. Admission depends on academic ability and motivation.
 - This seminar is also open to students who will be participating in the one-year study abroad program (派遣留学) that begins in September 2017.

- **Open Seminar (公開ゼミ)**

- Date and Time: October 13 (from 15:10 to 16:40)
October 20 (from 16:40 to 18:20)
- Venue: S603
- Students who wish to participate in open seminar should contact the instructor in advance (via email).

- **Seminar Interview**

- Date and Time: The first round interviews will be held on November 10 (From 16:50 pm)
- Venue: S603
 - Applicants unable to interview on their assigned date should contact the instructor (via email).

- **Minimum qualifications**

- Students should exhibit a spirit of cooperation and a willingness to collaborate with other students.
- Students should have basic academic skills competence (writing, reading, debating) and basic knowledge of IR, necessary for participating in seminar activities (An applicant's overall academic performance is a major factor in admissions).
- Students must be willing to undertake seminar tasks outside of seminar time.

- **Message from the instructor**

- This seminar is for students who can work hard with other students in a friendly atmosphere. Therefore, what is required at the moment is real motivation and collaborative spirits rather than the amount of knowledge of international relations. This seminar may be one of the most demanding courses in GIS. However, I would promise that students who have completed this course will greatly develop their intellectual skills as well as their mental strength, necessary for pursuing successful careers in various fields. In fact, seminar alumni are active in a variety of fields, including international organizations, business, the media, and NGOs. Knock on our door if you want to grow your intellect and stretch your mental muscles!

- **For seminar activity details, please check the following websites or ask the instructor (or seminar students) directly.**

- Hosei University web syllabus (Web シラバス):
<https://syllabus.hosei.ac.jp/web/show.php>
- Hose University seminar advertisement (ゼミ紹介):
<http://www.hosei.ac.jp/koho/zemi/gis/121023.html>