

Seminar: International Relations B

Takeshi Yuzawa

Credit : 8 | Semester : Spring・Fall | Year : 3~4
Day/Period : Thu 3rd and Thu 4th

【Subject】

管理 ID : 1253977
授業コード : A6430

This is an annual seminar course, examining major questions in international relations (IR). The theme of the 2012 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 mainly 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.

Seminar participants will examine these critical issues by **utilizing major theories of IR.**

【Goal】

The course objectives are:

- 1) To provide students with background for eventual careers in fields (including work in government, international organizations, business, and the media) which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals with a grasp of contemporary international relations (IR);
- 2) To enable students to establish a firm foundation for studying IR at the graduate level;
- 3) To enable students to demonstrate mastery of the subject matter of the course through the expression of relevant factual knowledge and the comprehension of relevant theory, deployed with appropriate analytical skill, as evidenced in discussion, oral presentation and written work.

【Course Description】

The first semester will have detailed discussion on topics relating the main theme of this seminar. Extensive review of IR theories will also be conducted in the early weeks of the semester.

During the second semester (and the summer camp), students will undertake their own research projects. The research project should be developed through seminar activities conducted in the first semester. Seminar members will also engage in some group work relating to their research topics and class simulation studies (role play game).

Each seminar member will be responsible for taking a turn at presenting material and in acting as a discussant. In addition to this, students are expected to contribute to wider discussions. Students are required to read the assigned readings, adequately enough to be able to actively engage in discussion on every topic.

Students will be required to write several short essays and one research paper during the course. Essay topics will be assigned by the lecturer. The purpose of the short essays is to provide experience of writing analytically and succinctly on the basis of assigned readings. As for the research paper, students can choose any topics within the discipline of IR. Minimum length for the research paper is 4,000 words. The final paper, which should be fully referenced, using footnotes or endnotes and contain a full bibliography, is required to be submitted in January 2013.

Course requirements for fourth-year students

Fourth-year students will concentrate on their dissertation projects during the year. Dissertation subjects can be on anything within the IR discipline. Minimum length is 8,000 words, excluding bibliography, but including notes, any appendices and tables.

Those students are also expected to participate in seminar activities, as much as possible, and to act as tutor for the third-year students while regularly reporting progress on their dissertations.

Course requirements for students who will participate in the full year study abroad program from September 2012

Those students wishing to take part in this course must attend seminars during the first semester of the 2012 academic year and the second semester of the 2013 academic year. They will be required to perform assigned tasks with regular students during these periods and must submit a 4,000 words research paper in January 2014.

【Schedule】

Spring

No.	Theme	Contents
1	Introduction	Course outline
2	Research methods	Research methods
3	Seminar Topic 1	Discussion on the assigned topic
4	Seminar Topic 2	Discussion on the assigned topic
5	Seminar Topic 3	Discussion on the assigned topic
6	Seminar Topic 4	Discussion on the assigned topic
7	Seminar Topic 5	Discussion on the assigned topic
8	Seminar Topic 6	Discussion on the assigned topic
9	Seminar Topic 7	Discussion on the assigned topic
10	Seminar Topic 8	Discussion on the assigned topic
11	Seminar Topic 9	Discussion on the assigned topic
12	Seminar Topic 10	Discussion on the assigned topic

13	Seminar Topic 11	Discussion on the assigned topic
14	Research topic selection	Presenting topics and outlines for research projects
15	Review and guidance for the summer camp	Review and guidance for the summer camp
Fall		
No.	Theme	Contents
16	Writing methods	Writing methodology
17	Research Project Workshop 1	Discussion on reading materials relating to research projects
18	Research Project Workshop 2	Discussion on reading materials relating to research projects
19	Research Project Workshop 3	Discussion on reading materials relating to research projects
20	Research Project Workshop 4	Discussion on reading materials relating to research projects
21	Mid-term presentation (Third-year students)	Reporting progress on research papers
22	Mid-term presentation (Third-year students)	Reporting progress on research papers
23	Research Project workshop 5	Refining ideas and preparing draft papers
24	Submission of draft papers	Submitting draft papers
25	Review of draft papers	Reviewing draft papers
26	Simulation Studies 1	Simulation work on a selected topic
27	Simulations Studies 2	Simulation work on a selected topic
28	Dissertation presentations (Fourth-year students)	Dissertation presentations (Fourth-year students)
29	Dissertation presentations (Fourth-year students)	Dissertation presentations (Fourth-year students)
30	Submission of final papers	Submitting final paper

[Prerequisite]

Students wishing to take this seminar are required to have completed either "Introduction to International Relations I" or "Introduction to International Relations II"

[Work to be done outside class (preparation etc.)]

Students are expected to engage in detailed independent and group study in order to achieve their seminar tasks. For this reason, students are expected to organize study groups (sub-seminar) outside of class.

This seminar will host a summer camp.

[Textbooks]

There is no assigned textbook for this course. Students are required to pore over assigned readings specified by the lecturer. Information about reading materials will be provided during the course.

[References]

Information relating to references will be provided during the course.

[Grading Criteria]

Presentations, short essays, research papers, and contribution to class discussions.

[Changes following previous student comments]

Not applicable.