

As of March 14, 2023

Global Liberal Arts Courses (Center for Global Education)

Learn, think and discuss about contemporary social problems in English, and gain global competence.

UTokyo students and exchange students from all over the world study together

Active Learning

Global Citizen

Interdisciplinary learning experience

Discussion in English

SDGs

Points for Global Liberal Arts

Launched in AY 2023, Global Liberal Arts Courses provide students of UTokyo with an experience to learn and discuss some of the most imminent topics in today's world in English, including issues about gender, diversity, health, poverty and GX (Green Transformation).

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| Courses | Semester (S1S2/A1A2) |
| Credit | 2 credits |
| Evaluation | See syllabus in UTAS for requirements for each course |
| Course Registration | UTAS (Registration schedule is based on your own faculty) *Course Code differs according to evaluation scale. |

Details about the courses will be posted in late March 2023 on the website below.

Web: <https://globe.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/globalliberalarts.html>

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Global Liberal Arts Courses (2023S)

※ More courses to follow in 2023A.

(As of February 20)

| Name | Course title | Description | Day/Period | Campus | Course Code |
|---------------------------|--|--|------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Tito Akindele | Chemistry for a Sustainable World | Our continued existence on Earth depends on human activities, which are sometimes complex and involve the identification and manipulation of natural and non-natural substances for our benefit. This course will introduce students to the development and application of the chemical principles and practices that are aimed at maintaining a safe and sustainable environment. Notably, students will be expected to understand the basic principles of environmentally friendly chemical processes as well as the environmental, political, and social factors driving these processes. Furthermore, students will be required to discuss the applicability and application of metrics for assessing chemical processes. Applicable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): no poverty; good health and well-being; quality education; clean water and sanitation; industry, innovation and infrastructure; sustainable cities and communities; life below water; life on land. | Thu/2 | In-person (Hongo) | 7V0101001 7V0101001-G |
| 2 Tomoko Kamishima | Allocating resources in health care fairly | Pressure on health care has been increasing. Rising world population and improved life expectancy add more demand on resources. In the meantime, the public in developed countries have a higher expectation from health care providers. Offering all possible health care for everyone, however, is not an achievable goal. Rather, allocation of finite resources needs to be prioritized, and this is a challenge facing governments worldwide. In this class, students will learn the decision-making process in allocating health care resources. National Health Service of UK will be used as an example to study guiding principles. On successful completion of class, the students will be able to critically evaluate various health care issues and suggest solutions based on fairness and objectivity. | Mon / 5 | In-person (Hongo) | 7V0101002 7V0101002-G |
| 3 Anna Bordilovskaya | Diversity in the Japanese Language | In this course, students will explore the diversity of the Japanese language and culture with a focus on Japanese sociolinguistics. The course will introduce a variety of basic linguistic and sociolinguistic phenomena and terminology widely used in studying, researching, and teaching the Japanese language and culture. The goal of the course is to develop students' awareness of fundamental sociolinguistic issues and cultural and linguistic diversity in Contemporary Japanese through discussing such issues as dialects, sociolects, language contact, bilingualism, and translanguaging. Understanding the diversity within the culture and the language is essential for ensuring and developing an equal and non-discriminatory environment allowing all its representatives for efficient and successful communication. Class activities will include reading and analyzing research papers and textbook chapters on a variety of sociolinguistic topics such as gender and regional variations coded in the language, in order to develop discussions incorporating students' reflections on their experiences. The evaluation of the course will be based on active participation in class discussions, reflective written assignments in preparation for the class discussions, short academic essays, and final presentations in English. | Thu / 2 | In-person (Hongo) | 7V0101003 7V0101003-G |
| 4 James Ellinger | DIY and Open Science | In this class students will use an open-source software tool called GB Studio to create interactive, digital stories. Promotion and dissemination of open-source software and technology is crucial for achieving the United Nations' SDGs. Furthermore, the ability to communicate effectively to a wide range of people is also important for achieving SDGs. In this course students will learn some simple computer programming; however previous programming experience is not required. By completing this course, students will: 1) Improve English communication and storytelling 2) Improve digital literacy and basic programming skills 3) Learn about the importance of open-source software and technology | Thu/4 | In-person (Hongo) | 7V0101004 7V0101004-G |
| 5 Manuel Senna IV | Underground and Clandestine Media | Japanese and international students are welcome to this course in which we will discuss the underground media and publishing methods used by oppressed and underrepresented groups around the world. Students will examine the technologies that allow these voices to be heard (including zines, the Internet, podcasts, independent newspapers, and literal underground printing presses), as well as their role in creating communities of practice and promoting social and political change. Topics range from subverting government censorship and control, taboos and subcultures, gender and ethnic minorities, to contemporary uses of underground media. While this course includes some writing, it is primarily discussion-based. Students are expected to prepare by reading online texts or watching videos before class, participate in weekly class discussions, and write a weekly response paragraph(s). Once during the semester, each student (in a group) must lead the class discussion on a subtopic of their choice. At the end of the course, in order to experience underground publishing firsthand, students will collaborate to create a zine on a topic that aligns with one of the SDGs (gender, diversity, poverty, hunger, peace and justice, health, education, sustainable cities, climate, environment, innovation, and global citizenship) as it relates to life in Japan. | Wed/2nd | In-person (Hongo) | 7V0101005 7V0101005-G |
| 6 Raquel Moreno-Peñaranda | The "SDGs" Contested | Do you enjoy watching good movies? Are you interested in global environmental issues such as the SDGs? If your answer to both questions is "yes", this course is for you! First, we will explore academic literature in the field of political ecology relevant to sustainability and the SDGs; then, we will put the knowledge gained into practice by watching (good) movies and discussing how the films that we as global citizens consume can help us understand environmental and sustainability issues, and in which ways our own personal perceptions and academic views on nature-society links are shaped by the process. Concepts from political ecology that will be covered in the course include environmental justice, ecosystem services, nature contributions to people, ecological economics, de-growth, or ecofeminism, among others. This is a fun, rewarding course both personally and academically. To take this course you do not need to have any specific background (students across any arts & sciences fields are all welcome); yet students are required to taking the time to diligently watch all the movies in whole, with a critical, academic eye. While some (initial) films will be chosen by the instructor, as the semester advances, students will propose films to watch and will lead the follow-up class discussion about them. | Fri/2nd | Hybrid (Komaba) | 7V0101006 7V0101006-G |
| 7 Tom Gally | The Problems of English in Today's World | The English language has a complex, often contradictory status in today's world. While it is increasingly regarded as an international lingua franca, it is also a diverse, rapidly changing language, and even fluent English speakers can struggle to understand each other. Although called a "global" language, it remains closely linked in many people's minds to a few English-speaking countries, and there are many countries where English is barely used. In Japan, all children must study English in school, even though relatively few adults use English in their work or daily lives. In this class, we will try to understand these contradictions by discussing topics such as the following: - The characteristics of English as a natural language - "Standard" English and the diversity of English - The status of English around the world - English, politics, and ideology - The economics of English - English and culture - The status of English in Japan - Controversies about English and English education in Japan - Advances in artificial intelligence and the future of human language | Tue/2nd | Online | 7V0101007 7V0101007-G |

※The above information is subject to change. Please confirm by checking the information on UTAS when it becomes available.