

KANSAI UNIVERSITY GLOBAL FRONTIER

Course
Guide
2020





KUGF Curriculum

The courses are taught entirely in English, and cover a range of subject areas. KUGF courses are open to both Japanese and international students. The purpose of these courses is to improve language proficiency and communication skills, develop a high level cross-cultural understanding, and foster global leadership skills.

Credit and Course System

Each course convenes weekly for 15 weeks.
All courses are 2 credits, which equates to 90 hours' worth of learning as standard at Kansai University.

*Please refer to the specific credit transfer regulations at your home institution.

Academic Calendar

Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
← Spring Semester →			Summer Vacation		← Fall Semester →			Winter Vacation	→ Spring Vacation		

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English level Requirements

CEFR B2~(B2~C2)	■	GTEC 280~ TOEFL ITP 520~, TOEFL iBT 72~ TOEIC 600~
	◆	GTEC 260~ TOEFL ITP 505~, TOEFL iBT 60~ TOEIC 580~
CEFR ~B2	▲	GTEC 180~260 TOEFL ITP 430~497, TOEFL iBT 40~60 TOEIC 375~580
CEFR ~A2	●	GTEC ~180 TOEFL ITP ~430, TOEFL iBT ~40 TOEIC ~375

Time Table

Period	Time
1st	9:00 - 10:30
2nd	10:40 - 12:10
Lunch Break	
3rd	13:00 - 14:30
4th	14:40 - 16:10
5th	16:20 - 17:50

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)

	This course has a component during the semester which connects students online with an overseas partner university classroom or a group. The design of a KU-COIL course is subject to change.
	This course will be collaborating with an overseas university during the semester, and those who participate in the activity as such will be given opportunities to study abroad at the partner institution.

Module 1



Engineering Approach to Urban Issues

◆ Disaster Transport Planning

Spring Semester
Wed 1

The transport planning for disaster in urban area is discussed. Since the fundamental analysis techniques are summarized for normal condition, the transport planning methods in disasters can be developed. In particular, the mechanism of earthquakes is mentioned as a major type of disaster in Japan. The essential topics for disaster transport planning are discussed for practical problem solution. Finally, urban transport planning is summarized in terms of disaster prevention and mitigation.

◆ Natural Disaster Risks

Spring Semester
Wed 2

We are prone to many kinds of natural disaster in Japan. Earthquakes, typhoons, flooding, tsunami etc. cause serious damage to local communities every year. Three researchers will outline the state of flood, slope failure, liquefaction and damages of structure.

◆ Social Decision Making in Systems Design Engineering

Spring Semester
Thu 4

This course is designated to develop knowledge and skills in order to make better decision in systems design engineering. For that purpose, students will study several techniques, focusing on how they can be applied in practice to problems, interpreted their outputs, and leveraged in decision making. If necessary, we will practice using software such as Excel and SPSS to improve understanding for this course. Elementary Statistics and Mathematics is prerequisite for this course.

◆ Planning and Modelling for Sustainable Society

Fall Semester
Wed 1

This course addresses the sustainability of modern society and its methodologies regarding an engineering point of view. One of the essential approaches is an abstraction of the problems so that the computational tools can be applied to find a solution. The other approach is to visit the historical clues and to observe the actual phenomena to study the cultural and logical reasons that bring the current circumstances to be analyzed. The essential and practical topics for modeling, planning, and analysis are discussed for sustainability in the society.

Module 2



Food Science & Biotechnology

◆ Science of Washoku (Japanese Cuisine)

Spring Semester
Fri 2

Washoku was registered an Intangible World Heritage, and ever since belief has wide spread that Washoku is genuinely a healthy diet. Some belief has a sound basis, and others do not. In this course, we try to explain both merit and demerit of Washoku, and guide you to a point of becoming able to compose healthy diet for your own based on what have been learnt during the course.

◆ Biotechnology and Bioethics

Fall Semester
Fri 4

Biotechnology, the field dealing with the transformation of living and inanimate matter to produce products beneficial to humankind, is a fast-paced science that is continuously expanding to an extent of engulfing almost all major sciences. It is a chain of major biological sciences, technology, production and regulation. It has become the 'PILOT' that maneuvers the world's society and moves the global economy. In short, Biotechnology opens great horizons, from job opportunities to entrepreneurship, in food, medicines, therapies, and information technology. Nevertheless, all these promises commence several inevitable bioethical issues that command immediate attention to be addressed. Bioethics, hence, is crucial for guarding the humankind against any adversities that might be rendered by the emerging applications of Biotechnology. Observing good bioethics, disseminating accurate information, protecting the environment and establishing appropriate laws and regulations are deemed essentials in biotechnology applications and for the safeness of all. Biotechnology and Bioethics influence the life of humankind in one way or another. This course will cover concepts, foundation, applications of biotechnology and the bioethical issues behind. Awareness of what it is all about may even pave the way of one to partake in the evolving science of Biotechnology and have an interesting future endeavour.

◆ Food Safety

Fall Semester
Fri 2

Food safety is an essential part of our life, but is not placed as much importance as it actually deserves. This is because people are not provided with appropriate level of knowledge that makes them understand what will be a consequence if basic rule of food safety is not followed. In this course, we will take a look of how food safety concept has been established in our society, and major changes in our way of life that was induced by the accumulated knowledge of food safety. Toward the end of this course, attendants are guided to formulate a simplified HACCP for their food so that they will know what they must cast a big attention in the aspect of food safety.

◆ Polysaccharide Science

Fall Semester
Thu 1

Carbohydrates or saccharides are the most abundant class of biomolecules and they are used to store energy, as well as serving other important functions. Saccharides, especially polysaccharides are important class of nutrient. The course will provide student to learn and understand the fundamental of several polysaccharides such as Starch, Alginate, Pectin, Carrageenan, Chitin/chitosan as well as the fundamental knowledge of saccharides.

◆ Marketing of Food, Alcohol and Cosmetics

Fall Semester
Fri 1

In order to understand what can be added by Marketing to our business, we will study the history of Marketing, theory, and practical examples in which Marketing has demonstrated its significance.



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English level Requirements

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- ▲: GTEC 180~260, TOEFL ITP 430~497, TOEFL iBT 40~60, TOEIC 375~580, CEFR-B2
- : GTEC~180, TOEFL ITP~430, TOEFL iBT Test~40, TOEIC(L&R)Test~375, CEFR~A2

Module 3

International Business & Entrepreneurship

Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 5	Fri 2

This lecture intends to explain the corporate system, industrial organisation and global management strategy of major Japanese companies. In this lecture, the current position and future prospective of Japanese economy and companies are discussed.

Major Japanese companies stormed the world economy in the 1980s; however, they are turned adrift in these three decades (this often referred as the “lost three decades”). What is the fundamental source of Japanese companies’ competitiveness? Why they are losing their competitive advantage? This may be related to their unique corporate structure and culture that remain substantially unchanged for a long time. A number of companies from emerging economies such as South Korea, Taiwan and China appeared as unbeatable competitors for Japanese companies. This lecture also intends to explain the current picture of global competitions between Japanese and other Asian companies.

The medium of teaching language is English with infrequent use of Japanese, when necessary. Every lecture ends with a group discussion, in which Japanese students are invited to discuss the current issues related Japanese company and management.

Business for SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Spring Semester
Tue 4

This course provides for an examination of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that comprise the core materials of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for governments, businesses, civil society and citizens. The particular focus of the course will be on how SDGs can be incorporated into private sector business activities including those relating to product and service innovation, marketing, the development of new business models and systems, and entrepreneurship.

Teaching sessions will adopt an interdisciplinary and international perspective on global human society and will consider how the global goals of the SDGs can be delivered in local business undertakings. More specifically, social, technological and cultural problems relating to the SDGs in various countries will be considered in order for students to begin to develop an awareness of how both local and global business can seek to addressing a range of pragmatic concerns and issues with implementation of the SDGs. The course will also provide a forum for critical discussions that seek to explore global to local (Japanese) perspectives, and also highlight several pressing global issues from cross-cultural perspectives.

International Business for Entrepreneurs

Fall Semester
Tue 5

This course is for students who are seeking new business ideas and practical knowledge for starting their own businesses. This class provides an opportunity for hands-on learning and to have an entrepreneurial experience. Students will be able to work in groups to develop their business ideas by going out there and gathering data from customers, partners, competitors. This class is team based and the customer discovery process should be done in teams. The teams will share their customer discovery process, feedback will be gathered, and agile development will be used to iterate the product or service into something customers would want to use or buy. This course may include a 7 week cross cultural online collaboration with students from another university in the US. It is encouraged that you come to the first day of class with some problems that you want to solve or business ideas you want to explore.

Business & Japanese People

Fall Semester
Tue 4

This course is for students who want to learn about the Japanese business environment, how businesses are started, and what it’s like to work for a company in Japan. We will examine the business practices and management styles of small companies like startups to large corporations. This class also provides the unique opportunity for students to learn from various guest speakers about their experiences starting businesses, working, and changing jobs in Japan. This course will help prepare you for work in Japan whether you are considering starting your own business or want to work for a Japanese company in the future.

Marketing in Japan

Fall Semester
Thu 3 / Thu 4

This is an interactive course which focuses on recent developments in marketing with attention to actual processes and strategies in each industry. It aims to introduce the practical views and opinions of experienced players in the field of marketing.



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Module 4

Japan Studies

Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts

Spring Semester
Tue 1

This Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts course explores main philosophical thoughts in Japan from ancient to modern times. This course traces some of the influences of social, political, and economical factors on the development of the philosophical ideas. It also gives students an opportunity to study these concepts through an examination of various contemporary issues Japan is faced with today. This course will mainly be student-driven, and thus students are expected to actively engage with others in the course and prepare to discuss the topics in class. They will also have an opportunity to prepare and deliver an individual or group presentation towards the end of the semester.

Some topics examined in this course include “wa, nationalism, internationalism, and globalism,” “Kamakura Buddhism and apocalyptic thought,” and “Confucianism, Neo-Confucianism, feudalism, and Bushido.” No prior knowledge of Japanese philosophy and thoughts required.

Japanese Arts

Spring Semester
Fri 3

This course introduces students to the history of the visual and performing arts of Japan. The arts will be treated chronologically, from the earliest times to the present. Subjects covered will include painting, sculpture, architecture, tea, literature, clothing, Noh, kabuki, bunraku, shingeki, music, movies, and more.

Japanese History (The History and Culture of Medieval Japan)

Spring Semester
Tue 3

This course will look at society and culture in Japan roughly between 1200 and 1600. Medieval Japan was influenced at all levels by the rise in power of the samurai, and their distinctive culture holds much fascination for students of Japanese history and society. Social and cultural contributions by warriors are a central theme throughout the course. However, peasants and those outside the periphery of power were also an extremely important factor in the development of medieval Japanese culture. Various facets such as the arts and religion will be considered in my series of lectures. By the end of the course, students will have learned about the unfolding of historical processes during this turbulent time in Japanese history, as well as the evolution of many aspects of traditional culture and ideals.

Japanese Literature (Intro. to Classical JPN Literature)

Spring Semester
Fri 4

This course offers a survey of classical Japanese literature from the Nara Period through the Edo Period or from 700 CE to 1800 CE and attempts to provide a general idea of the literary expression trends in ancient Japan. We will also study the representative works of this period and reflect on the objects of Japanese aesthetic appreciation.

Japanese Culture (JPN Culture and Contemporary Literature)

Spring Semester
Mon 4

This Japanese Culture and Contemporary Literature course examines contemporary Japanese literature, including works written by Haruki Murakami 村上春樹 and Yoko Tawada 多和田葉子. These two writers spent living abroad and are often referred to as “globally oriented Japanese authors” whose writing styles are considered non-traditional by the Japanese literary establishment. In fact, Murakami himself states that he is an “outcast,” and Tawada seems to identify with “outsiders” whom she portrays in her works. However, at the same time, many Western critics and readers find that Japanese culture is very much a part of their works. By reading stories of these Japanese writers who have strong connections with the Western world, students explore historical and cultural issues that have dominated Japanese society and examines crucial ideas and positions currently shaping Japanese thought-which are viewed from both the inside and outside of Japan.

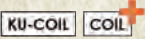
This course is mainly student-driven, and thus students are expected to actively engage with others in the course and prepare to discuss various topics in class. Since it is a communication intensive course in which students are required to have a series of discussion and deliver group presentations, class attendance and participation are mandatory.



English level Requirements

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◆ Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture)



Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 3	Fri 1

What is culture? What is popular culture? What constitutes distinctly Japanese popular culture? Are there discrete layers to culture, such that one could talk of mass-culture, or pop-culture, or highbrow-culture? Are cultures repositories of knowledge and social resources that both shape individual conduct and in turn are produced through individual conduct? The focus of contemporary studies of popular culture appear to tend to focus on the unusual or dramatic-the spectacular. This is exemplified by both scholarly and everyday accounts of Japan and Japanese life and can be seen quite readily in studies of Japanese popular culture, that often focus (and perhaps fetishize) things such as love hotels, maid cafes, extreme forms of manga and anime amongst other things. While these may of course be of interest in their own right, what is often lacking is attention directed towards the everyday, the ordinary, the entirely mundane and (apparently) unremarkable aspects of popular culture.

This has led to a considerable scholarship that seeks to draw insights, connections, and linkages between the spectacular aspects of a culture and theories and models which attempt to provide explanations of how such spectacular cultural phenomenon produce, and are also produced by, culturally specific thought and behavior. In dealing with this apparent divide, between the spectacular and the mundane, Miller and McHoul (1998) suggest we may be able to gain some critical purchase on the slippery beast of culture by taking an orientation which seeks to examine the ordinariness of cultural objects. These everyday cultural objects are firmly grounded in local, highly specific conditions. In short, they argue that to understand how people do things in mundane, ordinary, everyday ways then there is no need to speculate or engage in grand theorizing (i.e., invoking cultural theory to explain what people are doing, why they are doing, or indeed how they are doing it). Rather, they suggest that we observe what people are actually doing. In this course, while we will be examining things that might be considered representative of the spectacular (depending on your own cultural orientation) we will also seek to explore the everyday aspects of Japanese popular culture: those taken-for-granted phenomenon that might not otherwise receive much in the way of scholarly attention.

◆ Japanese Law and Politics

Spring Semester
Tue 3

This is an introductory course on Japanese politics, political institutions, and policies. The course will begin with lectures on the role of the Diet (parliament), the government, and non-state actors in Japanese politics. From Week 6 onward, students will give presentations on selected policies and intensively participate in discussions. Overall, the course is designed to familiarize students with contemporary political and legal issues in Japan.

◆ Comparative Asian Cultures Studies

Spring Semester
Tue 5

This is a survey course that introduces students to the cultures of Japan, China, and Korea. The course does not assume prior knowledge of the languages or cultures of East Asia; it provides a general background for further study. Excerpts from a variety of sources will be used as reading material. Students are expected to read the handouts before coming to class in order to participate in class discussion.

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◆ Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo:An Intro. to Kendo)

Spring Semester
Mon 3

The most visible vestige of samurai culture remaining in Japan today is budo the traditional martial arts. Considering the tremendous international popularity of martial arts such as judo and karate, budo is undoubtedly one of Japan's most successful cultural exports. People around the world practice these arts not only for self-defence or as sports, but also as a pursuit for spiritual development and enlightenment. This course will offer the student an insight into the history of the Japanese martial arts with actual hands-on experience. The first three lectures will be conducted in the classroom and the remainder will be conducted in the gymnasium where students will be given an introduction into the art of kendo. Each class will commence with a lecture on an important concept followed with a practical lesson. Schedule permitting, the students will be given the opportunity to sit in an actual grading examination. (For safety reasons student numbers will be limited to 25 people).

◆ Seminar in Japanology (War and Conflict through JPN Film)

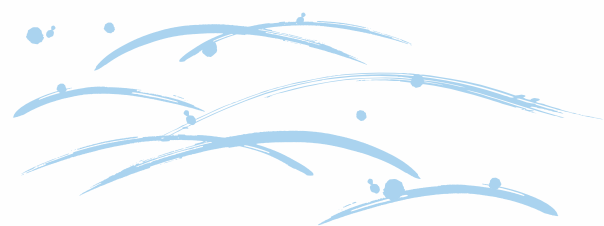
Spring Semester
Thu 3

This course will draw on Japan's rich film tradition to explore war and conflict in international and domestic contexts during the modern era. Students will critically screen selected films that examine the causes and effects of this larger theme, paying particular attention to the development of the nation-state. Other topics associated with the main theme and related to nation-state building include industrialization, identity formation, imperialism, social movements, and modernity. Students should be aware that many of these films deal with mature subject matter and may contain explicit language and adult content. All films will be shown in Japanese (with English subtitles).

◆ Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 4	Thu 4

In this seminar, we are going to cover various topics relating to the Japanese language and society, such as dialects, gender, honorifics, all of which you may often encounter in your daily life in Japan. In order to understand these topics, it is not enough to examine the language system, which is composed of phonology, morphology and syntax, because the language system functions only in relation to its speakers and the society where it is spoken. This academic discipline which tackles the relationship between language and society is called sociolinguistics. You will be encouraged to share your own experiences and observations with regard to the Japanese language.



◆ Japanese Religion

Fall Semester
Tue 4

This will be an exploration of the religious traditions of Japan, their historical development as well as their role in contemporary society. Much attention shall be paid to Shinto, which comes closest to being the "indigenous" Japanese religion, and Buddhism, the global faith that began in India and entered Japan in the 6th century. We will also touch upon the roles of Confucianism, Christianity, and so-called New Religions.

An attempt will be made to cover the social, artistic, philosophical, and doctrinal characteristics of these religions, and thus we will be looking at their artistic and literary expressions as well as reading classic and contemporary texts.

There will be reading material for each week, including classic texts in English translation as well as more recent scholarly articles. Classes will be a mixture of lecture by the instructor and class discussion, so students should come prepared to engage in discussion each week.

◆ Japanese History (Bushido: The Way of the Warrior)

Fall Semester
Tue 3

The warrior culture of Japan is viewed with fascination by Japanese and non-Japanese alike, and in recent years there has been a distinct resurgence of interest in samurai ethics and philosophy (bushido). In many ways, the reverence of 'the Way of the warrior' is glorified nonsense. Some scholars have even described samurai as being no more than 'valorous butchers', and beautified notions of samurai morality as being overstated if not totally invented. There is a significant element of truth to this cynical analysis, but I also believe that there are many aspects of samurai culture which can add to our lives today. People around the world are searching for ethical anchors in an age when honour, integrity, bravery, sincerity, and self-sacrifice for the greater good are virtues hidden by the tidal-wave of political scandal, corruption, crime, and greed. Reinterpretations of bushido are seen as one possible moral anchor. In this course I will outline the history and components (both fact and fiction) of the seemingly timeless, and in some ways border-less culture of Japan's samurai warriors.

◆ Japanese Literature (Survey of Post-1945)

Fall Semester
Fri 4

This course is a survey of post-1945 Japanese literature. We will study representative works of Japanese literature, literary movements, and genres with the main focus being on how literature is an integral part of society and culture. Classes will include a mixture of lecture, discussion and close readings of selected texts in English.

◆ Japanese Economy (Topics in Japanese Economy and Discussion)

Fall Semester
Mon 2

While looking at the development of Japan's post-World War II political economy, this course especially focuses on policy-related issues in the Japanese economy and financial markets since the 1990s. Japan's transition from the high-growth period to a matured economy around

the end of the 1970s, trade disputes with advanced industrial economies and international economic coordination in the 1970s and 80s, the bursting of the bubble/ financial crisis/ and economic stagnation in the 1990s, and recent economic reforms during the Koizumi and Abe governments are key events to be analyzed and discussed.

◆ Japanese Culture (Modern culture and Post-war History)

Fall Semester
Thu 3

Japanese Culture (Modern Culture and Post-war History) is a combination lecture that examines Japanese post-war history from the end of WWII to the present day. This course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the main events and developments of the post-war that include intellectual trends and social movements, material culture, political and economic changes, gender relations, and issues affecting the ordinary person. In our investigation of Japanese post-war history and culture, we will draw on a number of mediums including television, film, manga, and social media.

◆ Japanese Society

Fall Semester
Fri 3

This course introduces students to important issues in contemporary Japanese society. Topics covered include demographic and generational variations; business and the workplace; education; gender and ethnicity; the political system; popular culture; and social control and dissent. Neighborhoods, communities, and rituals will also be covered as anthropology.

◆ Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. To Naginata)

Fall Semester
Mon 3

The most visible vestige of samurai culture remaining in Japan today is budo-the traditional martial arts. Considering the tremendous international popularity of martial arts such as Judo and Karate, budo is undoubtedly one of Japan's most successful cultural exports. People around the world practice these arts not only for self-defence or as a sport, but also as a pursuit for spiritual development and enlightenment. A relatively unknown traditional Japanese martial art is Naginata. The naginata is a weapon comprising of a wooden shaft approximately 1.2 to 2.4 meters in length with a curved blade (30 to 60 centimetres) attached to the end. It was the principal weapon of foot soldiers from the eleventh until the fifteenth centuries, and was also widely used by warrior-monks. With the onset of peace in the seventeenth century, Naginata became established as a martial art primarily studied by women. It survives today as an exciting sport and budo discipline similar in many ways to kendo, but also retains many distinguishing characteristics.

This course will offer the student an insight into the history of the Japanese martial arts with actual hands-on experience. Naginata classes will be conducted in the gym. Each class will commence with a lecture on an important concept in Naginata followed with a practical lesson. (For safety reasons student numbers will be limited to 20 people).

English level Requirements

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Module 5



Language Teaching & Communication

■ Second Language Acquisition

Spring Semester
Tue 4

In this course, students learn theories and concepts of second language acquisition (SLA) processes. Students will learn socio-culturally oriented view of L2 learning as well as the traditional cognitive view of L2 acquisition.

■ Early Foreign Language Education

Spring Semester
Fri 2

Students are going to learn a variety of issues involved in English language learning for young learners, especially in Japanese public schools.

■ Structure of Language (discourse and meaning)

Spring Semester
Wed 1

As we converse with others in our daily lives, we pass on a variety of information to our listeners. Of course, we pass on much factual information about the world around us that we believe will be relevant to the listener. However, we also pass on much social information through the way we talk. For example, listeners may make assumptions about our gender and the gender of those we are speaking to, our age group, the mood we are in, the relationships we have with those around us, and the communities we live, just because we speak in a particular way.

In this course, students will learn about how people use spoken language in specific ways to convey social information about themselves and others and to achieve a variety of communicative goals through their interactions with others.

■ Individual Differences in Language Learning

Fall Semester
Tue 3

The aim of this course is to understand English language teaching/learning from learners perspectives especially by focusing on individual differences such as motivation, learning strategies, learning styles which are claimed to influence English language learning. Students first understand the definitions, concepts, and their influences on learning/teaching through literature review. Then, they will learn how to develop effective strategy training materials.

■ Ed. Tech. & Materials Development in FLT

Fall Semester
Fri 2

The participants study the roles of 'media' in language learning classroom. Foreign language teaching/learning needs to shift its style from one-way lecture, or "Chalk and Talk", to more contingent and interactive one in which students communicate to learn and learn to communicate by using ICT and other mediation tools. The participants will be able to demonstrate both theoretical knowledge and practical skills to use media in language classroom.

■ Linguistic Analysis(English)

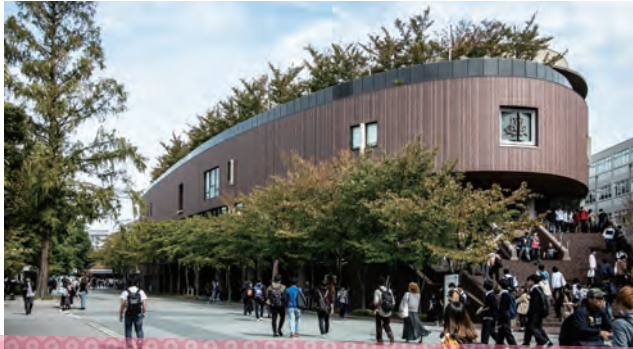
Fall Semester
Fri 3

This course introduces how to analyze English from a linguistic point of view. The course explores the underlying systematic rules of English usage mainly from syntactic and semantic points of view. Since the course will consist of both lecture/discussion and problem-solving/analysis sessions in which English and Japanese data are always examined contrastively, students should have some knowledge of both English and Japanese grammar and grammatical terms.

■ International Business Communication

Fall Semester
Mon 3

This is an immersion class—conducted entirely in English—that aims to help students to become first-class business professionals in this globalised world. This course follows three approaches to achieve this aim. First, the course takes a student-centred critical-thinking approach: students are encouraged to think about problems, discuss them, and devise their own unique solutions. Second, the course takes an intercultural approach to develop new ways of thinking: students are encouraged to reflect on cultural values and business practices from around the world. Third, the course helps students to develop the communication skills that are necessary to convey their ideas, to negotiate, and to persuade their target listeners.



Module 6



Studies on Foreign Affairs

◆ International Development

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 5	Mon 1

This course introduces basic theories, institutional structures, and practice of international development. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the course addresses and examines some important questions: What does development mean? What are the contemporary theories/approaches and issues of development? Why some countries are poorer than others? How does development take place in national, regional, and international level? Who are the development actors/stakeholders and how have they sought to address the issues and challenges of development over time? This course is aimed at exploring answers to such questions by providing an overview of existing knowledge in the field of international development. It will focus on the role of different actors in various development issues and practice, which would allow students to develop their knowledge in contemporary development studies.

◆ Area Studies(Europe I)

Spring Semester
Tue 4

This course will include lectures on development of capitalism and accumulation of wealth in Europe which led to the development of the modern world.

The thoughts and society of modern Europe played a crucial role in shaping the international order and world view in international society.

Modern Japan in the Meiji Era imported science, technology and strengthened its economic development and national power.

After the two world wars Europe was divided into two: the West and the East. Moreover, in the post-cold war era Europe became unified and formed the European Union.

In this lecture we examine the universal values of democracy, human rights, liberty, equality, on which European society is based in the contemporary world.

We also examine the role of Europe in the globalization age and discuss topics dealing with [Europe and America], [Europe and Asia], and [Europe and Japan].



English level Requirements

- :GTEC 280~,TOEFL ITP 520~,TOEFL iBT 72~,TOEIC 600~,CEFR B2~(B2~C2)
- ◆:GTEC 260~,TOEFL ITP 505~,TOEFL iBT 60~,TOEIC 580~,CEFR B2~(B2~C2)
- ▲:GTEC 180~260,TOEFL ITP 430~497,TOEFL iBT 40~60,TOEIC 375~580,CEFR~B2
- :GTEC~180,TOEFL ITP~430,TOEFL iBT Test~40,TOEIC(L&R)Test~375,CEFR~A2

◆ Area Studies(India)

Spring Semester
Mon 4

This lecture aims to discuss significance of transformation of Indian culture from a glocal perspective. Glocal, as a sociological term, is a combination of global and local, referring to certain economic, political and social processes of globalization that global and local realities are connected and interacted. Entailing a strong force of universalization and homogeneity in contemporary social, political, and economic systems, this type of globalization emphasizes tendencies of particularization and heterogeneity of identities, modalities and practices when the incoming global is examined by certain social actors. Due to the rapid economy development after the 1990s, the Indian culture has transformed itself according to influence of such globalization. This lecture is designed to help students to understand ongoing transformation of the Indian culture within the globalized setting.

◆ Area Studies(Europe II)

Fall Semester
Tue 5

“What is Europe?”, “Europe and Asia” have been the two major topics in the history of the modern world. They apply to the contemporary world taking into consideration the enlargement of the EU and the rapidly developed Asian economy. Moreover, since the end of the cold war, the concept of Euro-American western world is beginning to change due to the deepening of economic globalization and confrontation between Europe and America concerning politics, economy and security problems. The lecture will examine the role of Europe and its key issues in the contemporary world.

◆ Japan in International Affairs

KU-COIL

Fall Semester
Fri 3

This course is designed to give students opportunities to consider how Japan is situated with regard to key contemporary social issues in international settings, taking both international and domestic perspectives. We will examine a range of broad themes relating to foreign policy, international law, trade and finance, and defense and security. In addition, we will explore more specific areas of contemporary interest, for example aspects of popular culture, health and wellbeing, and gender issues. The course aims to be topical and draw upon themes and materials as they develop, so there will likely be changes to the course structure each semester in order that we can examine a range of breaking issues and stories as the occur.

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)

KU-COIL

This course has a component during the semester which connects students online with an overseas partner university classroom or a group. The design of a KU-COIL course is subject to change.

COIL+

This course will be collaborating with an overseas university during the semester, and those who participate in the activity as such will be given opportunities to study abroad at the partner institution.

Module 7

Fundamentals for Social Science Studies



◆ Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 4	Wed 4

This course provides students with a range of tools and strategies for developing critical thinking skills that can be utilized in both university and everyday settings. The course draws on a range of disciplines to examine truth and knowledge claims by examining logic and reasoning, rhetoric and argumentation, perspective taking, propaganda and the integration and synthesis of ideas. In addition, the course will utilize ideas from enquiry based learning (EBL) to enable students to blend and generate ideas and empirical evidence from many different domains to enable an integrated approach to evaluating, challenging and generating claims. The course will also consider the role of critical thinking in relation to moral and ethical issues. Students will undertake a blend of individual and group-based activities examining truth claims in scholarly and mainstream media materials. The course is interdisciplinary in scope and will draw on a range of disciplines including education, psychology and philosophy, and will consider materials drawn from both academic and everyday settings.

◆ Research Methods for Social Sciences KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 4	Tue 4

This course covers a range of conceptual and practical issues relating to designing, implementing and evaluating social science research projects. With a focus on both quantitative and qualitative approaches to social science research, the course will introduce students to a number of basic skills required in interpreting, evaluating and undertaking social science research. It provides students with an introductory understanding of a range of quantitative and qualitative analysis methods including statistical analysis and thematic analysis. In addition, a range of quantitative and qualitative data collection methodologies will be examined, including interviews, focus groups, unstructured observation and ethnography, participant observation and naturally occurring data collection strategies. The course will provide more detailed coverage and practical workshops on key approaches depending on student interest and experience. As the course is conducted in a seminar format, and depends on the nature of student projects and research interests, detailed information on the course structure and content is not detailed in this syllabus.

◆ Global Sociology KU-COIL

Spring Semester
Fri 4

The course is an introduction of sociology as an academic discipline of global relevance. This topic is an interdisciplinary social science course with a multi-perspective approach to the study of human society. This explains a global perspective on society grounded in sociological theory and research. It expounds the divisions and dynamics of the global society and its challenges for the future. Discussions will explore and focus from global to local (Japanese) perspective. Related to the global perspective, the course also strives to understand different global issues from a cross-cultural view. The aim of the course is to contribute to a critical understanding of social changes in the contemporary world. These changes are associated with concepts such as modernity, globalization, post-colonialism, cultural and gender identities.

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)

KU-COIL	This course has a component during the semester which connects students online with an overseas partner university classroom or a group. The design of a KU-COIL course is subject to change.
COIL+	This course will be collaborating with an overseas university during the semester, and those who participate in the activity as such will be given opportunities to study abroad at the partner institution.

◆ Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication) KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Fri 2	Fri 2

The use of language appears to be universal in that it makes our daily interaction with others possible. But depending on the languages we use, the ways in which we code our ideas can vary slightly or even greatly. Looking at English and Japanese in comparative terms, we are going to see how their lexical and grammatical items differ. Or putting the relevant expressions in a context, such as the relationships of the conversational participants, we may see similar ways or different ways in which the message is coded into language. The former is related to a semantic analysis of language, and the latter to a pragmatic one. Thus in this course students are expected to get accustomed to some key ideas of semantics and pragmatics while looking at examples from English and Japanese.

◆ Contemporary Gender Studies KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 3	Thu 3

This course will consider how gender, as a sociological, psychological, and discursive concept is produced and constructed in social contexts and settings. The course will examine the multiform practices by which gender is assigned, negotiated, or contested and is manifest as a ubiquitous element of human social interactions. How gender intersects with a range of other categorizations, discourses, and orientations will be a key focus of the course, with course topics selected as providing an opening for discussion and consideration of how gender may (or may not) be crucial to understandings in particular domains of social inquiry. The course will attempt to consider the study of gender as the doing-of-gender (i.e., gender in situated social practices and interactions) in addition to considerations of gender as conceptual or through ideological perspectives. The course will also attempt to place a focus on gender as manifest in Asian, particularly Japanese, cultural settings. The course will be conducted in a seminar format and is designed to be highly interactive.

◆ Japanese Computerization and Society KU-COIL

Fall Semester
Tue 4

This course introduces students to the role of information and communication technologies (ICT) in Japanese society. Students will be able to research their own interests in fields utilizing ICT such as business, entertainment, or education. Topics of study include Japanese companies that utilize ICT, the latest news about technology in Japan, Japanese language computing, Internet, mobile technologies, social media, economics, immigration to Japan, tourism, Japanese culture, and modern society. We will analyze data on ICT in daily life, business and education. We will also examine Japanese attitudes toward technology and communication through various media, including distance and online education. Students will receive guidelines on academic writing for the short semester paper, and for the creation and delivery of presentations. There will be a class Facebook Group and a Website with links to readings on ICT in Japan.

Module 8

Applied Science and Engineering



◆ Information and Communication Technologies

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2	Tue 3

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are instrumental to daily life, work, and society. This course will focus on the academic study of ICT, focusing on the C in ICT (Communication over mechanical aspects of IT), and how people become empowered with online content creation skills. Students will learn about applications of ICT to various sectors of society in Japan and the world. They will also learn about specific technologies and platforms such as the Internet of Things and social media. Students will receive guidelines on academic writing for the short semester paper, and for the creation and delivery of presentations. Students may choose areas of their own interest to research and present to the class.

◆ Introduction to Applied Science

Spring Semester
Fri 1

As scientists are rapidly accumulating evidences for mechanisms underlying birth and maintenance of organismal lives and ecosystems, there is a growing concern on the prospective changes of application of the technologies developed for life sciences. This course covers the interdisciplinary topics in molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, immunology and global ecological issues. Wide ranges of topics from cellular and organismal models, experimental strategies and genome science are chosen to address the essential issues of life science research and its application. The contents are organized into discussions over environmental and health sciences.

◆ Japanese Science and Technology

Fall Semester
Wed 2

Various topics related to Japanese science and technology will be presented by multiple professors representing the four different engineering fields of Environmental and Urban Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Communications Engineering, and Chemistry and Materials Engineering. Each professor will introduce their specialized area, and explain state-of-the-art technology currently being developed in each field.

◆ Environmental Biology

Fall Semester
Fri 3

This course introduces basic concept of ecology. Based on the understanding of ecological processes, contemporary environmental issues will be discussed. Topics include population and community ecology, conservation ecology, environmental risk assessment, and biodiversity.



English level Requirements

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◆:GTEC 260~,TOEFL ITP 505~,TOEFL iBT 60~,TOEIC 580~,CEFR B2~(B2-C2)
▲:GTEC 180~260,TOEFL ITP 430~497,TOEFL iBT 40~60,TOEIC 375~580,CEFR-B2
●:GTEC~180,TOEFL ITP~430,TOEFL iBT Test~40,TOEIC(L&R)Test~375,CEFR~A2

Skill Up for Studying Abroad

▲ Foundation for Academic English

Spring Semester	Fall Semester	S
Wed 3	Fri 2	

This course develops English proficiency and academic study skills needed for those interested in taking English-mediated content courses at Kansai University or study-abroad destination. The course makes use of mini-lecture series based on the KUGF curriculum (Global Frontier subjects), draws on academic journal articles of various subject areas, and integrates online resources and tools for independent learning and out-of-class practice. Students are strongly recommended to have at least TOEIC Score 530 (TOEFL iBT Score 55/PBT Score 480) or G-TEC score 235 in order to obtain a passing grade from this course. Those who do not have the requested scores but wish to enroll need to consult with the instructor prior to registering.

● Academic Writing Practice

Spring Semester	Fall Semester	W
Tue 4	Tue 4	

In this course, students will learn how to write essays in English for academic purposes. We will learn the fundamentals of paragraph writing, and will extend them to essay writing. We will first focus on how to organize information in English, noting that its organization differs from the Japanese language. Second, we will learn what good writing is by reading academic papers in students' areas of interest. Third, students will learn to become competent and independent writers by engaging in the process of writing and by being encouraged to explore and organize their ideas in writing.

▲ Academic Discussions & Debates

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Fri 3	Fri 3

Academic Discussions and Debates are key elements of both academic and political discussion and the key methods of promoting an issue through rational, civilized discourse. This course introduces the key ideas and principles of modern formal discussions. It analyzes the history and development of debate and shows students how to participate in formal debates by teaching the core structures and strategies of the art. Students will learn to create, support and refute arguments, study the different forms of discussions and participate as teams in direct competitive debate on subjects of topical importance. Each week's lesson will consist of two sections: Discussion of topical issues from Japanese and world news, and study of how discussion works as a skill.

▲ Presentation Skills

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 5 / Wed 3	Tue 5 / Wed 3

This class introduces you to the basic principles for delivering effective oral presentations by developing clear, well-organized, and audible speeches, engaging and gauging your audience, using effective delivery techniques, and using PowerPoint. Students will practice these skills in a variety of situations, from short impromptu talks to polished scripted speeches. This class may adopt COIL practice (Collaborative Online International Learning).

● TOEFL Score up Training I

Spring Semester	Fall Semester	S	W
Mon 5 / Wed 3 / Thu 3	Mon 5 / Tue 3 / Tue 5		

This course is designed to help students prepare for standardized tests of the English language. Its main objective is to help students feel confident and well-prepared when taking TOEFL test (primarily focusing on the TOEFL Internet-based Test [iBT]), which is widely used by foreign universities as an evaluation criterion of a prospective student's English fluency in the academic context. In this Spring class, students will familiarize themselves with various types of tasks concerning grammar, reading, listening, writing, and speaking, placing special emphasis on strategies to deal with the TOEFL iBT. This course provides students with an opportunity to take TOEFL trial test of all four sections during the class hours. Furthermore, the material covered in class will help them improve their English communication for use in academic and professional setting. The students are expected to know their learning styles and gain new strategies effective to generate improved scores in TOEFL and other standardized English tests.

▲ TOEFL Score up Training II

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 5 / Wed 5	Mon 2 / Wed 5

This intensive English skills development course is designed to help students at intermediate to high-intermediate level of English to prepare for standardized tests of the English language. Its main objective is to help students feel confident and well-prepared when taking TOEFL/TOEIC tests, which are widely used by foreign universities as an evaluation criterion of a prospective student's English fluency in the academic context. This course provides students with an opportunity to take TOEFL/TOEIC trial tests followed by discussions on the answers. Each class session will be devoted to the study of a particular skill and test-taking strategy, and the material covered in class will help them improve their English communication for use in academic and professional setting. In this class, students will be able to:

Reading: Preview, read faster, use contexts, make references, skim and scan, make connections, and summarize.

Speaking: Anticipate the first question, support their answers, understand the task, adapt notes, prepare key phrases, and pace themselves.

Writing: Respond to the topic, use an outline sentence, identify sources, make connections, include a variety of structures, and edit their writing.

Listening: To get organized, preview, use visuals, read screen text, and understand campus context.

▲ ASEAN Studies

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 4	Thu 2

In this course, students will learn about the culture and society of countries in ASEAN (Association of South - East Asian Nations) Region. Students will work in groups, with each group choosing one of the ten countries to study in more details. Areas of study may range across a number of dimensions, including history, ethnic demography, gender roles, societal changes in the contemporary area, relationship with Japan, youth culture, social welfare, education system, and social issues specific to the country. Each group will share the results of their investigations with other group members.

The course will feature (i) guest speakers who are from the ASEAN countries during the semester, and (ii) virtual communication with the peers in these countries with the use of ICT tools specifically COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning).

● ▲ Cross-Cultural Competence

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 3 / Wed 4	Wed 1 / Wed 2

In this course, students are given opportunities to develop cross-cultural and intercultural competence through various activities, such as contrasting and comparing aspects of various culture, or participating in discussions among participants from different backgrounds. It enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate, and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. This course gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. This course will engage in international collaborative (on-line) learning activities, which is called COIL (Kansai University/ Collaborative Online International Learning).

● KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 4 / Fri 4	Wed 4 / Fri 4

This class aims to develop all areas of English skills through a variety of formats. Students will learn how to write formal emails and write academic paragraph using logical thinking. They will be required to make class presentations individually and in pairs. They will also be required to participate in discussions and debates in class. Students will be required to study independently, attend Mi-room sessions and collaborate with other class members. Students wanting to join this class must have a positive mind, a will to co-operate and collaborate with others and possess a strong work ethic. This class is a foundation class, so returning exchange students and final-year students are advised to join more suitable KUGF courses to their needs and abilities.



English level Requirements

- : GTEC 280~, TOEFL ITP 520~, TOEFL iBT 72~, TOEIC 600~, CEFR B2~(B2-C2)
- ◆: GTEC 260~, TOEFL ITP 505~, TOEFL iBT 60~, TOEIC 580~, CEFR B2~(B2-C2)
- ▲: GTEC 180~260, TOEFL ITP 430~497, TOEFL iBT 40~60, TOEIC 375~580, CEFR-B2
- : GTEC-180, TOEFL ITP-430, TOEFL iBT Test-40, TOEIC(L&R)Test-375, CEFR-A2

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)



This course has a component during the semester which connects students online with an overseas partner university classroom or a group. The design of a KU-COIL course is subject to change.



This course will be collaborating with an overseas university during the semester, and those who participate in the activity as such will be given opportunities to study abroad at the partner institution.

▲ KUGF Independent Study
(Doing a research in English)

KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 5	Fri 4

This course will help students develop skills necessary for research so that they can become independent researchers. The class will cover topics that help students to think critically and foster skills that are essential when writing research papers and presenting in English. Through class assignments, the class will encourage students to express their opinions and explain their ideas using references. Over the semester, students will increase their knowledge about researching in English and will conduct their own research. At the end of the semester, students are expected to present their research to class and hand in an academic paper to the adviser.

▲ KUGF Field Study
(Global Awareness I/Global Awareness II)

COIL+

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Fri 4	Mon 5

This course will deepen Kansai University students' global awareness by introducing them to an interdisciplinary approach to international and global studies, and drawing on real-world examples from diverse cultural regions to illustrate 21st-century trends and challenges through Collaborative Online International Learning exchange. In COIL projects, Kansai University students will work collaboratively with students from overseas universities to complete tasks given throughout the project. The student who successfully completed this course is eligible to participate in short-term study abroad program the U.S. (the partner institution only). Scholarship may be available for participating students. More details on the scholarship can be found on Global NAVI website. This short visiting study abroad program is a faculty-led program and the instructor will supervise and provide language assistance (English) to the participating students during their short visit.



Japanese as a Second Language



※ Japanese (a) = oral communication skill training class (listening and speaking)
※ Japanese (b) = literacy skill training class (reading and writing)

Japanese(1-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 & Wed 1	Mon 1 & Wed 1

This course is designed for students who have had less than 50 hours of Japanese classes. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary for daily communication in Japan. The course content focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., listening and speaking in Japanese. The class is limited to a small number of students in order to provide personal attention to each student's improvement.

Japanese(1-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 & Thu 1	Tue 1 & Thu 1

This course is designed for students who have had less than 50 hours of Japanese classes. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary for daily communication in Japan. The course is centered around developing basic Japanese grammar and building proficiency in reading and writing Hiragana, Katakana (Japanese alphabetical systems), and basic Kanji (Chinese characters used in Japanese). The class is limited to a small number of students in order to provide personal attention to each student's improvement.

Japanese(2-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 & Wed 2	Mon 2 & Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese for around 150 hours. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the very basics. This course will focus on oral communication skills, i.e., listening and speaking in Japanese. The students will practice using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts. They will further develop skills in comprehending and participating in conversations about topics regularly encountered in daily life and classroom situations.

Japanese(2-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 & Thu 2	Tue 2 & Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese for around 150 hours. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the very basics. This course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. Students will practice Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts. The learners will become able to read and understand typical expressions and sentences written in hiragana, katakana, and basic kanji.

Japanese(3-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 & Wed 1	Mon 1 & Wed 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied elementary Japanese in Kansai university(up to level 2-a, 2-b) or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course students will develop their understanding of grammar, useful expressions and phrases for low intermediate proficiency up to entry to N3 Level in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will gain the ability to make short speeches on topics they knew well.

Japanese(3-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 & Thu 1	Tue 1 & Thu 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied elementary Japanese at Kansai University(up to level 2-a, 2-b) or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course students will develop their understanding of grammar, useful expressions and phrases for low intermediate proficiency up to entry to N3 Level in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will gain the ability to read short written passages on various topics. They will also practice writing short essays using grammar they have studied.

Japanese(4-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 & Wed 2	Mon 2 & Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied pre intermediate Japanese at Kansai University(up to level 3-a, 3-b), or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will study intermediate level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for intermediate proficiency, N3 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will gain the ability to make short speeches on both casual and academic topics. They will develop further interactional competence through various communication activities, such as open role-plays, guest lectures, discussions, and debates in groups. With some use of communication strategies and teacher's assistance, they will be able to construct an argument stretching over multiple paragraphs.

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)

KU-COIL

This course has a component during the semester which connects students online with an overseas partner university classroom or a group. The design of a KU-COIL course is subject to change.

COIL+

This course will be collaborating with an overseas university during the semester, and those who participate in the activity as such will be given opportunities to study abroad at the partner institution.

Japanese(4-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 & Thu 2	Tue 2 & Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied pre intermediate Japanese at Kansai University(up to level 3-a, 3-b), or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will study intermediate level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for intermediate proficiency, N3 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will become able to understand and manage the Japanese used in everyday situations with more accurate and complex language skills.

Japanese(5-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 & Wed 1	Mon 1 & Wed 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for pre-advanced proficiency up to entry to N2 in the Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese.

Japanese(5-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 & Thu 1	Tue 1 & Thu 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve their grammar and learn the expressions and phrases required for pre-advanced proficiency up to entry to N2 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese.

Japanese(6-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 & Wed 2	Mon 2 & Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 5 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N1 in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university. The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., integration of speaking and listening in Japanese.

Japanese(6-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 & Thu 2	Tue 2 & Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 5 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N1 in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures a more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university. The course particularly focuses on literacy skills, i.e., integration of reading and writing in Japanese. Students will develop skills in reading writings with logical complexity and/or an editorials and critiques, and be able to comprehend both their structures and contents on various topics and follow their narratives as well. In addition, students will demonstrate skills in reading written materials profoundly and in understanding the intent of the writers.

Contemporary Japan(Understanding Japan)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 3	Mon 3

In this course students will pursue a small research project on a topic of interest selected from various Japanese social and cultural issues. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 3 or level 4 Japanese language courses concurrently with this class. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given permission to register upon consultation with the instructor.

Contemporary Japan(Researching Japan)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 4	Tue 4

This course is aimed at providing tools for improving academic writing skills in Japanese. In addition, students will learn basic principles of academic writing and develop critical reading skills for writing academic papers in students’ areas of interest. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 5 Japanese language courses or above concurrently with this course. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given a permission to register upon a consultation with the instructor.

Contemporary Japan(Japan in Mass Media I)

Spring Semester
Tue 3

In this course, students will learn about Japan and how various aspects of Japan (e.g., culture, contemporary living styles, social issues, people, art, etc) are portrayed in mass media. The course will take a broad view of what constitutes ‘mass media’, and will consider such sources and materials as radio, television, paper-based media such as newspapers and magazines, internet-based mediums (e.g., podcast, online newspapers), mobile phone-based mediums (e.g., websites specialized for cell-phone access), film, and various forms of animation. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 5 or above Japanese language courses concurrently with this class. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given permission to register upon consultation with the instructor.

Contemporary Japan(Japan in Mass Media II)

Fall Semester
Tue 3

In this course, students will learn about Japan and how various aspects of Japan (e.g., culture, contemporary living styles, social issues, people, art, etc) are portrayed in mass media. The course will take a broad view of what constitutes ‘mass media’, and will consider such sources and materials as radio, television, paper-based media such as newspapers and magazines, internet-based mediums (e.g., podcast, online newspapers), mobile phone-based mediums (e.g., websites specialized for cell-phone access), film, and various forms of animation. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 5 or above Japanese language courses concurrently with this class. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given permission to register upon consultation with the instructor.

Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 3	Thu 3

The next challenge for those who have reached the proficiency in Japanese in terms of managing various academic contexts in the university is to cultivate a further pragmatic communication skills in work-based contexts. Business Japanese requires one to have a good foundation of Japanese language knowledge and demands further competence in various social interactional tasks, such as negotiating, collaborating, making inquiries, synthesizing, and managing conflicts. Being able to handle these complex actions in Japanese as a foreign language in business settings would be a highly valued asset for the students who seek their career in a Japanese corporation or Japan-related organizations overseas.

Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 4	Mon 4

Having studied Japanese language in general during the university years, one will most likely be expected to make use of anyone who wishes to work for a Japanese company is most likely expected to use appropriate Japanese language skills in business situations. Pragmatic work-based communication skills may be different from "academic Japanese skills" in various ways. This class will help students develop Japanese business communicative competency. The students in this class will be exposed first to various business fields in Japan. There may be some guest speakers who are at the frontline in these fields during the semester. The students will prepare themselves by building vocabulary specific to business communication and various pragmatic communication styles that are used specifically to business interactional contexts. The purpose of this class is to get a general understanding of Japanese corporate culture(s), which will be highly useful for those who may seek employment in Japan or in Japan-related organizations and corporations overseas. The whole class will be conducted in Japanese language with some scaffolding assistance for language learning, adopting a pedagogical approach called CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai I)

Spring Semester
Fri 4

In this course, students will learn about community life and culture in the Kansai region. They will become most familiar with where they live, northern Osaka (e.g., Suita City) in terms of their people, geography, sociocultural history, social issues, and contemporary developments. The students will be given chances to communicate with the residents in the region during the course. Kansai-ben, or local dialects will also be a part of their learning in this class. Required level of Japanese: this class will be conducted in Japanese. LEVEL 3 or higher in the Kansai University Japanese language program (JLPT N4 or higher) is strongly recommended for those who are interested in taking this course. Visiting neighboring areas, such as Ikeda or Itami, may be included some of the sessions.

Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai II)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 5	Wed 5

In this course, students will learn about community life in the Kansai region. The focus of the classes will be on
1) suburban communities in Kansai,
2) how business is conducted in Osaka, and
3) how people established new businesses in the Kansai region, by reading related materials, visiting companies, or/and listening to business people.

Field-Based Learning (Society and Workplace Culture in Japan)

KU-COIL

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 4	Mon 3

In this course the registered students will individually conduct a field research at an appropriate site such as in a Japanese company, a foreign company in Japan, or at other organizations (e.g., NPO) in Japan. The students will gain work-based experience through this field study. They will be able to cultivate their cultural literacy for Japanese business management, and furthermore, they will be able to develop their skills for practical business communication in practice. In the first half of the course, students will be given instructions on how to carry out a qualitative ethnographic research in a field; the students will be exposed to the methods such as participatory observation, data analysis approaches such as (critical) discourse analysis, conversation analysis, and various qualitative interpretation approaches. As a final task of this course, the students will be expected to produce a final research paper with a specific topic focus, based on the field experience. The workload hours for the field study will be determined individually, according to an agreement between each student and the hosting site. This course will be connecting to an overseas institution to practice COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) during the semester.