

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COURSES (UNU-IC)

UNU CENTRE, TOKYO, JAPAN

11 MAY TO 19 JUNE 2009



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

CONTENTS

- CONTENTS 1
- Introduction 1
- Organization of Courses 1
- Daily Schedule 2
- Learning Outcomes for Participants 2
- Learning Environment and Facilities 2
- International Teaching Staff 2
- Tuition 2
- Fellowships 2
- Accommodation 3
- Application 3
- Selection Criteria 4
- Course Requirements 4
- Course Outlines 5
- Core Course* 5
- UN System: Pressing Issues and Sustainable Solutions** 5
- Optional Course - 1* 7
- Peace and Human Rights** 7
- Optional Course 2* 8
- Global Change and Sustainability** 8
- Optional course - 3* 9
- International Cooperation and Development (ICD)** 9
- Japanese version 10

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COURSES (UNU-IC)

Introduction

United Nations University will organize the ninth regular session of its six-week UNU International Courses (UNU-IC) at UNU Centre in Tokyo, Japan, from 11 May through 19 June 2009. The UNU-IC programme is designed for postgraduate students and young professionals (with a college or university degree) in various occupations in Japan and abroad who wish to pursue careers in international fields in public-service or private organizations, including the United Nations, multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations as well as national foreign service organizations. The courses are designed to provide analyses of global issues from both theoretical and empirical perspectives.

The UNU International Courses are taught in a cooperative fashion by a team of scholars and practitioners comprising both in-house and outside experts. One of the unique features of the UNU-IC is that many of the practitioners come from United Nations organizations. Another important characteristic is the direct access to teaching faculty and the support provided to course participants by the UNU in-house academic staff who serve as academic counsellors. The UNU-IC also draw on the research projects undertaken at the UNU Centre in Tokyo and at various UNU Research and Training Centres and Programmes (RTC/Ps) located around the world. The courses, though advanced in nature, are open to graduate students and professionals in various occupations who are not necessarily specialists in the field.

Organization of Courses

The composition of the courses to be offered in May and June 2009 are:

Core Course: UN System: Pressing Issues and Sustainable Solutions

Optional Courses:

- I. Peace and Human Rights
- II. Global Change and Sustainability
- III. International Development and Cooperation

(A brief description of each of these courses is presented in the “Course Outlines” section.)

Core Course:

- This is compulsory for all students.
- There shall be one lecture of 120-minute duration; 60 minutes of lecture and 60 minutes of Q&A.
- Two sessions of tutorials of 90-minute duration per session. In total, a student will attend the lecture and two tutorials.

Optional Sessions:

- Students are allowed to choose one or two courses. There will be eighteen 90-minute sessions per course — i.e., three sessions per week over the six-week course period. The courses will involve considerable reading and study, but will be scheduled to allow students to have sufficient preparatory and review time for each session.

Fellowships:

Those who are applying for a UNU fellowship* – in addition to the Core Course - they must chose one of the optional courses. Candidates who chose only the Core Course will not be eligible for fellowships. Please refer to the fellowship section for further information.

Daily Schedule

There will be three sessions of courses each day (10:00–12:00, 14:00–16:00 and 17:00–19:00), though no one course will take the entire three sessions of one day. The final schedule will be available in May 2009.

Learning Outcomes for Participants

The expected learning outcomes for UNU-IC participants include:

- Deep, sophisticated understanding of the subject at a high level
- Sharpened analytical and problem-solving skills
- Intellectual interaction with a wide cross-section of lecturers and fellow participants from around the world from diverse academic and professional backgrounds
- Social interaction with fellow participants from diverse cultural backgrounds

Learning Environment and Facilities

The learning environment and facilities prepared for the UNU-IC include:

- Complementary theoretical and practical perspectives, from academic experts and practitioners, respectively
- Guest lectures by leading specialists and practitioners in Japan and overseas, including those in the UN system
- Access to the library and other resources of UNU
- Close contact with UNU in-house specialists in small-group settings
- An opportunity to sample life in one of the world's great metropolises

International Teaching Staff

The UNU-IC will be administered and coordinated by UNU Centre. Each of the courses will be handled by a responsible UNU academic officer (or a team of UNU academic officers), who also will teach part of the course. In principle, each course will be taught by a combination of the academic staff of UNU Centre and UNU Research and Training Centres/Programmes, adjunct professors and other scholars involved in related UNU research projects, and representatives of various UN agencies and other internationally oriented organizations, as well as prominent professors from universities in different parts of the world and professional experts in relevant fields.

Tuition

The tuition fee is ¥100,000 per course — about US\$1,000 — or ¥150,000 (about US\$1,500) for two courses ¥200,000 three courses — about US\$2,000 .

Fellowships

Participants from developing countries* who take two courses (Core and an Optional Course) and who can demonstrate a need for financial assistance are invited to apply for a limited

* Please refer to <http://www.worldbank.org/data/countryclass/classgroups.htm> — applicants from all countries other than those classified as high-income economies are eligible to apply for a UNU fellowship.

number of UNU full and partial fellowships. These fellowships will be awarded on the basis of academic merit and financial need. Competition for fellowships is extremely fierce; applicants or potential applicants are advised to approach their home institutions, funding sources or foundations for financial support early in the application process. In the majority of cases, fellowships will be awarded to cover the costs of accommodation, travel and per diem expenses, with candidates expected to pay their own tuition costs (US\$1,500 for two courses). Those who wish to apply for a UNU fellowship should complete the [UNU Fellowship Application form](#), which is available at our website.

Accommodation

UNU has located [a low-cost hotel](#) in downtown Tokyo to accommodate course participants from outside Tokyo and Japan. Please make an early reservation, if you plan to use the facilities.

Application

Applicants for the UNU-IC should submit their application dossier, consisting of

- (i) a completed [Application Form](#) with photo and signature;
- (ii) original transcripts of academic records at the college or university level, or certified copies of original transcripts (these will not be returned to the applicant, so please do not include original certificates of diplomas or degrees);
- (iii) TOEFL scores (minimum: paper-based 550/computer-based 213) or equivalent proof of English-language proficiency for non-native speakers;
- (iv) three confidential letters of reference on official letterheads or using the [UNU Recommendation Form](#) (these will not be returned to the applicant); and
- (v) a [UNU Fellowship Application](#) for those who are applying for a UNU Fellowship (see “Fellowships”).

All of the above-mentioned documents must be received at **UNU-IC Secretariat, United Nations University Centre, 53-70 Jingumae 5-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925, Japan** by **31 January 2009**. Applicants may apply to take one or two courses, and can reapply in subsequent years to take additional courses. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

If you wish to apply for the courses, please visit our website at <http://www.unu.edu/ic/> for a copy of the brochure and UNU-IC application forms. If you have further questions, please contact: Ms. Wilma James, Training Assistant, UNU-IC Secretariat, United Nations University Centre, Tel: +81-3-3499-2811; Fax: +81-3-3499-2828; E-mail: james@hq.unu.edu.

The deadline for applications is 31 January 2009.

Your completed application form, together with supporting materials, must be received by **31 January 2009**. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. Due to the high volume of applications that we receive for the courses, UNU is unable to acknowledge receipt of your application or each individual document. Short-listed candidates will be contacted on or after 31 March. Do not contact the UNU-IC Secretariat for results. Your application documents will not be returned to you. Reapplication by unsuccessful candidates will be necessary for the following year.

You can download the forms for Application for UNU-IC, Recommendation and UNU Fellowship Application from our website at <http://www.unu.edu/ic>.

Please note that your application will be reviewed by our Selection Committee only upon receipt of the fully completed application form with photo and signature, together with all other original documents. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all required materials are received in time for inclusion in the review of the application.

Selection Criteria

The application will be reviewed by the UNU-IC Selection Committee, consisting of the course coordinators for the four courses that will be offered in May–June 2008. The Committee will review applications primarily based on the following criteria:

- Relevance and level of the applicant's educational and professional background;
- Linkage of the chosen courses with the applicant's future career plans;
- Demonstrated interest by the candidate in issues of global concern;
- Analytical capacity;
- Academic and professional performance;
- English-language skills

UNU is committed to achieving geographical and gender balance and genuine diversity in all its research and teaching activities.

Course Requirements

In addition to regular class attendance and active participation in class discussions, course participants are required to prepare short weekly written assignments, to give a group or individual presentation, complete the Course Evaluation form and to submit an extended essay (of about 2,500 to 3,000 words) towards the end of the programme. Participants who successfully complete at least one course will receive a UNU Certificate of Completion.

1 October 2008

Course Outlines

(The weekly topics for each course are subject to change.)

Core Course

UN System: Pressing Issues and Sustainable Solutions

Purpose

The IC Core Course will bring all participants together and introduce them to the UN System—the only truly comprehensive multilateral institutional framework. UNU’s mission is to seek sustainable solutions to the world’s most pressing problems. Accordingly, the IC Core Course will examine major challenges - climate change, armed conflict, human rights violations, barriers to free trade, under-development, lack of access to technology and innovation. These challenges are complex, multidimensional and can only be solved multilaterally. And here is the dialectic – the challenges are pressing, however the solutions should not be quick fixes - decision-makers should think about the effects on future generations, when addressing the most pressing issues of today. The UN System, with its large potential for international co-operation needs to become a global leader of sustainability, offering long-term strategies, uniting all actors towards solving global problems.

The Core Course’s aim is also to provide all IC participants with opportunities to engage together and share their diverse experiences and expertise. They will learn jointly from the world’s leading faculty and enrich their knowledge across traditional disciplines. The course will also act as a forum for students to exchange what they have learned in the three optional modules. Finally, the Core Course format in effect simulates the structure, diversity and inclusiveness of real world multilateral fora.

Week One: UN System: Origin, Structure, Current Development (11 May -)

- UN Charter: Purposes and Principles
- UN Organs and Mechanisms
- Evolution of the UN and Current Developments

Week Two: Climate Change (18 May -)

Problems:

- GHG Emissions
- Natural Disasters - Lack of Early Warning;
- Desertification and Threats to Bio-Diversity
- Scarcity of Natural Resources
- Security Implications

Solutions:

- Policies of Mitigation
- Policies of Adaptation

Week Three: Conflict and Peace (25 May -)

Problems:

- Causes and Types of Conflict; Changing Nature of Conflict
- Violations of Human Rights
- Proliferation of weapons

Terrorism

Solutions:

Freedom from Fear

UN Roles: Prevention, Peacemaking, Peacekeeping, Peacebuilding

Responsibility to Protect

Respect and Promotion of Human Rights

Week Four: Poverty and Development (1 June -)

Problems:

Poverty and Conflict Trap

Barriers to Trade

Lack of Development

Incompetent Governance

Solutions:

Freedom from Want

Trade Regulations

Transparency, Anti-Corruption

Good Governance

Week Five: Science and Technology (8 June -)

Problems:

Lack of Access to Knowledge and Scientific Innovation

Social and Political Challenges Posed by New Technologies

Insufficient Sharing of Medical Advances

Solutions:

Investment in Science

Intellectual Property Rights

Best Strategies for Dialogue

Week Six: UN System in 2020 (15 June -)

UN Shortages and Need of Reform

North-South Divide

UN: Between Ideas and Realities

Democratization

- WHO Framework Convention

Lecturers

The course will be taught by UNU staff and prominent external experts from the field.

Optional Course - 1

Peace and Human Rights

Aims and Objectives

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the legal concept of human rights has been developed and the norm of human rights came to enjoy global support and acknowledgement. While the promotion and endorsement of human rights are recognised as indispensable for international peace and security, it is claimed that, under certain situations, human rights cannot and/or should not be applied in a strict manner because of potential impacts on international peace and order. The international community has been witnessing this dilemma through the theory and practice of humanitarian interventions, the ‘Responsibility to Protect’ and ‘Responsibility to Prosecute’.

The course aims to analyse the significance and importance of human rights in light of peace and security, highlighting both mutually supportive and conflicting aspects of the two, as well as the existing gaps between norms and reality. The course starts with an overview of the philosophical and legal basis of the concept of human rights by focusing on the historical development of relevant international rules and norms. It will then set the framework of the debate surrounding peace and human rights by focusing on the relation between state sovereignty and human rights. Having examined the protection of human rights under armed conflicts and issues of international criminal justice, the important relationship between peace, human rights and development will be highlighted by focusing on the emerging concepts of human development and human security. The course expects the participants to acquire better knowledge and understanding of the theory and practice of human rights in the context of pressing global issues of peace.

Outline of the Course

Week 1: Concepts and Norms

- Historical development
- Legal Framework – international human rights law
- Development of human rights norms
- Cultural relatives vs. Universalism
- Civil and Political Rights and Social, Economic and Cultural Rights

Week 2: Human Rights in an International Society of States

- Challenges of state sovereignty
- United Nations Charter
- Humanitarian intervention
- ‘Responsibility to Protect’
- Engagement vs. Sanction debate

Week 3: Human Rights in Armed Conflicts:

- Historical background—just war theory and the development of international humanitarian law
- International and internal armed conflicts
- Soldiers, women and children in armed conflicts
- Issues of refugees and IDPs

Week 4: International Criminal Justice:

- Gaps in norms and implementations (?)
- individual criminal responsibility under international law
- UN ad hoc international criminal tribunals and hybrid courts
- ICC
- Peace and/or justice debate

Week 5: Human Rights and Development:

- Social, economic and cultural rights, and Right to development
- 'In Larger Freedom' (SG Report): peace, development and human rights
- Human development and the concept of Human Security

Week 6: Presentations by the Students:**Optional Course 2****Global Change and Sustainability*****Purpose***

Our environment is defined, to a large extent, by the global energy and water cycles that form a complex inter-connected system, wherein a change of events in a far away location can affect the climate, water and bio-diversity at our doorstep. If the flow rates of these cycles are changed, we could be starting a chain reaction whose consequences are difficult to predict. It is, then, only prudent to learn to live in harmony with the cyclic nature of energy, water and material flows without tipping the delicate balance that has been achieved through continuous interactions taking place over millions of years. Adverse environmental changes are also brought about by human production and waste-generation activities that are unsustainable.

Environmental risk assessment and management are processes that aim to reflect scientific knowledge and expertise in environmental policy, in order to minimize possible adverse impacts of environmental change — such as natural disasters, health hazards or disruptions of the ecosystem. Risk assessment is a scientific tool that allows us to analyse the nature of a risk; risk management, in turn, utilizes the results of this assessment to help decision makers (in governments, industries or NGOs) decide on appropriate actions to reduce the risk and to increase the level of preparedness.

“Risk”, here, refers to the probability that a particular hazard — be it linked to personal, economic, social, political or environmental circumstances — will lead to losses or other unfavourable outcomes. While risk is an unavoidable part of life (we cannot, at all times, be sure of how matters around us will develop), we can decrease the risk of a particular hazard by taking suitable precautions, and we can minimize the scale of the loss that might be incurred by being prepared (that is, by putting into place relief and recovery mechanisms that will allow speedy action once a disaster has occurred).

This course is aimed at those who are interested in environmental risk management from a policy perspective. The course provides current status information and an introduction to scientific theories. It also examines case examples of risk assessment and management in designing local, national or multilateral policies for sustainable development in different environmental areas.

Week 1: Climate Change, Science and Mitigation

- Observations of Climate Change
- Low Carbon Society
- Emission Scenarios and Climate Change Models

Week 2: Climate Change, Adaptation

- Water Resources, Ecosystems and Agriculture
- Impacts and Vulnerability
- Socio-Economic Implications

Week 3: Biological Diversity

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its Follow Up
- Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services – Global and Regional Long Term Scenarios
- Are Satoyama and Satoumi concepts transferable across Asian countries?

Week 4: Sustainable Material Cycles

- Material Flows
- Industrial Ecology
- Life Cycle Assessment

Week 5: Chemical Management

- Water Pollutions and Ecosystem Impacts
- Chemical Risk Assessment Methodologies
- Sound Chemical Management Policies

Week 6: Disaster Management

- Urban Disaster Risk Management
- Hard and Soft Disaster Mitigation Measures
- Risk Communication

Lecturers

The course will be taught by the staff of the UNU and prominent external experts from the field of environmental research and studies.

Optional course - 3**International Cooperation and Development (ICD)****Purpose**

The aim of this course is to foster a better understanding of the most pressing issues in development as well as the linkage between international cooperation and development outcomes.

The course begins by providing an overview of the evolution in development thinking and practice, and how the main actors of development have evolved since the implementation of the Marshall Plan, including states and non-state actors, such as the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions, the private sector and civil society. It analyzes guiding concepts such as *national interest* and *international solidarity* with the aim of exploring the real

effectiveness of aid in addressing the main challenges we are confronted with. The course further highlights issues relating to development financing and aims to provide an in-depth analysis of bilateral and multilateral aid while putting these into perspective with trade. Core issue areas in development will be addressed; the course aims at highlighting pressing policy concerns — such as growth, poverty, inequalities, sustainability, education, health, gender, culture, democracy and governance — and the ways in which the international community is trying to foster human-centred development in these areas through best practices.

The course further gives substantial attention to political issues, questions of gender, and the social dimension of development, as well as to alternative approaches to development thinking. The analysis of case studies is an important element of the course; both renowned scholars and practitioners will lecture in this course which helps to bring about a balance between theory and practice.

Week 1: Development Theory, History and Policy

- Introduction and Overview of Development Thought and Practice
- Evolution of Aid and International Cooperation for Development: From the Marshall Plan until the High level Event on the Millennium Development Goals (25 September 2008)
- The Millennium Development Goals Approach: Scope and Limitations

Week 2: Actors of Development

- Actors of Development: States and Non-state Actors, an Overview
- National Interest versus International Solidarity
- The Global Partnership for Development versus the Real Face of Aid

Week 3: Financing for Development

- Donors and Beneficiaries: Who's Who?
- Pledges versus Implementation: the Limits of Monterrey
- Aid, Trade and Fair Trade

Week 4: Aid Effectiveness

- Aid Effectiveness: Basic Facts
- Bilateral and Multilateral Aid: the Real Figures
- Case Study

Week 5: Development and Globalization

- Globalization of Inequalities or Globalization with a Human Face? (Economic Growth and Inequalities: Can Economic Growth Benefit the Poorest? Why Do Inequalities Continue to Grow?)
- Development and New –or not so new?- Challenges (Food Crisis, Financial Crisis, Climate Change): the Nexus between Development and Humanitarian Assistance

Week 6: Global Issues and Development (From a Practitioner's Perspective)

- Roles of Women in Development
- Gender Perspectives on Poverty Reduction / Development Practice and Gender Mainstreaming
- Governance, Democratization, Participation: Empowerment the Way Forward?