



## **HUMAN ECOLOGY: RIVERS**

GCE301 Summer Practicum for SAIMS 2014

July 28 to August 9

Credits: 2

[This syllabus is subject to change. For the latest version and general inquiries, please email Professors Ito or Watanabe.]

Updated on April 2, 2014

### **INSTRUCTORS**

Takeshi Ito	takeshi.ito@sophia.ac.jp
Tak Watanabe	takwatanabe.sophia@gmail.com

### **ABOUT THIS COURSE**

This is a practicum course designed for both social science and engineering majors who want to learn about environmental issues in contemporary Japanese society. Through hands-on experience with local environmental projects in Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost prefecture, the course will examine the complex interaction between human society and the natural world. In 2014, the seminar will focus on the Kushiro Wetlands (Japan's largest wetlands and registered under the Ramsar Convention) and Lake Akan in Eastern Hokkaido.

The first three days will be a preparation period in Tokyo, during which we will learn about environmental issues in Hokkaido and conduct preliminary research. Then, we will embark on a nine-day field trip to Hokkaido, during which students will participate in programs led by local community organizations, and complete a group research project.

Please note that course participation may involve transportation and accommodation costs. Consult instructors for details.

### **PREREQUISITES**

The following are prerequisites for this course. (Please note that SAIMS students from Southeast Asia are exempt):

1. Score of 550 for TOEFL (or 79 for iBT) (FLA and Green Science / Engineering students are exempt, as are exchange students from universities that use English as the main language of instruction)
2. Students must have completed or in the process of completing four credits among the following 9 courses:
  - ▶ Nature & Society (ANT461, 4 cr)
  - ▶ Agrarian Societies (POL407, 4 cr)
  - ▶ Introduction to Trans-Disciplinary Human Development (SAIMS GCE207, 2 cr)
  - ▶ Conservation (GCE208, 2 cr)
  - ▶ Urban Ecology (GCE301, 2 cr)
  - ▶ Environmental Change and Human Development (GCE209, 2 cr)
  - ▶ GCE209 Environmental Science (2 cr)
  - ▶ GCE210 Sustainable Development (2 cr)
  - ▶ GCE302 A Critical Approach to Sustainable Development (2 cr)

### **COURSE REGISTRATION**

To register for this course, all students must submit an application form (attached to this syllabus) to the Office of Global Education and Collaboration (formerly known as the International Liaison Office). Students will be screened based on academic transcript and TOEFL scores. If needed, interviews will be conducted. This course can only accommodate 15 students.

The following are important dates to remember.

- Information sessions will be held on April 14 (Mon) and 15 (Tue) during lunchtime.
- Application Form is due by April 17 (Thu) at 5PM.
- The results of the screening will be sent out on April 18 (Fri).
- Course registration period ends on April 21 (Mon).
- Deposit and contact info form due in April or May (TBA).

## **REQUIREMENTS**

Students will work in groups to design, execute, and present on research projects that are connected to the internship work. Groups will present their findings two times in class and also submit a report for their research group. Each student is also expected to submit a final report at the end of the practicum.

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- Class Participation & Attendance: 20%
- Group Presentations 20%
- Group Report: 30%
- Blog Posts: 10%
- Individual Essay: 20%

Class Participation & Attendance (20%)

Participation and attendance is mandatory. Missing any part of the course can result in a failing grade. During the Hokkaido field trip, students must participate in all meetings and activities for this course.

### Group presentation (20%)

Students will work in groups to do two presentations, one in Yotsuya and one at the end of the Hokkaido trip. Each presentation will be 30 minutes in length.

### Group Report (30%)

Students will submit a written group report based on their research in Hokkaido. Group report should be at least 3,000 words. The report is due on August 15th.

### Blog postings (10%)

Students are required to post 3 blog articles on the course blog, based on their research and daily experience in the field. Posted articles in addition to the three are awarded extra credit of 1% (only one post per day).

### Individual Essay (20%)

Each student will write a 1,500 word essay about the course. The topic is your choice, but we would like to know what you learned in this course, how your experience through the course may have impacted your study and career plans, or suggestions for improving this course. Due on August 15th.

## **ONLINE TOOLS**

We will use Dropbox to share files (including the readings), Facebook to communicate, and Wordpress.com to publish our findings on our course blog.

Students registered for the course must also gain access to the course site by May. This is to ensure that we have a proper communication

channel in preparation for the August practicum. The course site will be set up on Facebook.

To access the course sites, please email Professor Watanabe ([takwatanabe.sophia@gmail.com](mailto:takwatanabe.sophia@gmail.com)) from the email address you will be using for this course and he will send you access information to these sites. Your email must have a Facebook account associated with it. You may use an existing account or choose to create a new one for this course.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

Readings and other course materials will be announced during the pre-course mandatory meetings in May, June, and July.

## **GROUP RESEARCH TOPICS**

Students are asked to form research groups. Each group will conduct field research, participate in community-based programs, and complete research reports to be presented during the field trip and published online on the group page.

- (1) River Restoration
- (2) Woodland Conservation
- (3) Wildlife Protection
- (4) Green Energy
- (5) Indigenous Politics

## **SCHEDULE**

There will be three mandatory meetings in May, June, and July, before the course begins.

Note that the finals week for 2014 spring semester is from July 23 to 30. If you have any schedule conflicts with an exam held during that week, please inform the instructors.

1. **July 28 (Mon) Yotsuya**  
Introductory Class  
Lecture: Rivers
2. **July 29 (Tue) Yotsuya**  
Lecture: Hokkaido - Nature, Culture, History  
Research Methodology  
Group Work
3. **July 30 (Wed) Yotsuya**  
Group Work  
Group Presentations
4. **July 31 (Thu) Tokyo to Kushiro**  
Flight from Haneda Airport to Kushiro Airport  
Chartered bus from Airport to Kayanuma  
Accommodation: Ikoi no Ie Kayanuma
5. **Aug 1 (Fri) Kushiro**  
Location: Kayanuma  
Topic: River Restoration / Construction  
Lecture & Guided Canoe Tour  
Accommodation: Ikoi no Ie Kayanuma
6. **Aug 2 (Sat) Kushiro**  
Location: north of Lake Takkobu  
Topic: Woodland Conservation  
Lecture & Tree Plantation  
Accommodation: Ikoi no Ie Kayanuma
7. **Aug 3 (Sun) Kushiro**  
Location: Kushiro City  
Topic: Green Energy  
Lecture & Tour  
Accommodations: Ikoi no Ie Kayanuma

8. **Aug 4 (Mon) Kushiro**  
Location: Kushiro Wetlands Wildlife Protection Center & Tsurui Village  
Topic: Wildlife Protection  
Lecture & Meeting with local ranchers  
Chartered bus from Kushiro to Lake Akan  
Accommodations: Lake Akan Inn (TBA)
  9. **Aug 5 (Tue) Lake Akan**  
Location: Akanko  
Topic: Forest Conservation  
Lecture, Guided Tour of woodlands, conservation activities  
Accommodations: Lake Akan Inn (TBA)
  10. **Aug 6 (Wed) Lake Akan**  
Location: Akanko  
Topics: Marimo Conservation / Ainu Culture  
Lecture, Tour, & Show  
Accommodations: Lake Akan Inn (TBA)
  11. **Aug 7 (Thu) Lake Akan / Akkeshi**  
Location: Akanko / Akkeshi  
Chartered bus from Lake Akan to Akkeshi
  12. **Aug 8 (Fri) Akkeshi**  
Location: Akkeshi  
Presentation  
Wrap-up
  13. **Aug 9 (Sat) Travel Day (Akkeshi - Kushiro - Tokyo)**  
Chartered bus from Akkeshi to Kushiro Airport  
Flight from Kushiro Airport to Haneda Airport
- Aug 15th - individual report & group report due

# APPLICATION FORM

## GCE301 Summer 2014

### HUMAN ECOLOGY: RIVERS

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION BY THURSDAY APRIL 17, 2014 TO THE OFFICE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION (Building No. 2, 1st floor)

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

4. Are you participating in the SAIMS program? Yes or No

If so, which university are you from, or which university are you going?

Chulalongkorn      Bogor      Gadjah Mada      Mahidol      Ateneo de Manila      De La Salle

**~~~ SAIMS students from Southeast Asia do not need to fill out the rest of this form ~~~**

5. Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Faculty: \_\_\_\_\_

7. What year student are you?      1st year      2nd year      3rd year      4th year or more

#### 8. COURSES TAKEN

*You need to have completed at least 4 credits in total from the following list. Please mark the courses you have taken, when (semester and year) and note the letter grade you received.*

Course No.	Course Title	Semester & Year	Grade
ANT461	Nature & Society (4 cr)		
POL407	Agrarian Societies (4 cr)		
GCE207	Intro to Transdisciplinary Human Dev (2 cr)		
GCE208	Conservation (2 cr)		
GCE301	Urban Ecology (2 cr)		
GCE209	Environmental Change and Human Development (2 cr)		
GCE205	Environmental Science (2 cr)		
GCE210	Sustainable Development (2 cr)		
GCE302	A Critical Approach to Sustainable Development (2 cr)		

9. TOEFL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that FLA, Green Science / Engineering, and SAIMS students do not need to supply TOEFL scores.*

#### 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR NON-SAIMS STUDENTS

*All non-SAIMS students must submit a copy of the official academic transcript & a printout of the current Loyola registration page. All students, except FLA, Green Science / Engineering, and SAIMS students, must also submit a copy of their TOEFL scores.*