

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COURSES (UNU-IC)

UNU CENTRE, TOKYO, JAPAN

12 MAY TO 20 JUNE 2008



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

CONTENTS

- CONTENTS..... 1
- Introduction..... 1
- Organization of Courses 1
- Daily Schedule 1
- Learning Outcomes for Participants..... 1
- Learning Environment and Facilities 2
- International Teaching Staff 2
- Tuition..... 2
- Fellowships 2
- Accommodation 2
- Application..... 2
- Selection Criteria..... 3
- Course Requirements..... 4
- Course Outlines 5
 - GOVERNANCE OF EMERGING GLOBAL ISSUES 5
 - ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE: MANAGING RISKS 6
 - GLOBALIZATION AND THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM 7
 - INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT 9
- Japanese version..... 9

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 12 May through 20 June 2008. 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 four courses to be offered in May and June 2008 are:

- I. Governance of Emerging Global Issues
- II. Environmental Change: Managing Risks;
- III. Globalization and the Multilateral System; and
- IV. International Trade and Development.

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

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.

Daily Schedule

There will be three sessions of courses each day (10:00–11:30, 14:00–15:30 and 17:00–18:30), though no one course will take the entire three sessions of one day. The final schedule will be available in May 2008.

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.

Fellowships

Participants from developing countries* who take two courses and who can demonstrate a need for financial assistance are invited to apply for a limited 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;

* 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.

- (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 **10 January 2008**. 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 10 January 2008.

Your completed application form, together with supporting materials, must be received by **10 January 2008**. **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 15 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 2007

Course Outlines

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

GOVERNANCE OF EMERGING GLOBAL ISSUES

Purpose

This course explores the effectiveness and limits of multilateral governance approaches to emerging global issues that transcend sovereignty and territorial boundaries of nation-states — issues such as global health (infectious diseases: SARS, avian flu), environmental concerns (pollution, climate change, land degradation), transnational movement of illicit drugs and harmful products (unsafe foods, tobacco) and global financial flows/transactions — as well as how these challenges are reshaping the discourse of international peace and security. In other words: Do existing governance instruments by international organizations, especially the United Nations and its specialized agencies, regulate these emerging global issues effectively?

The norms, regulations and treaties within the contemporary world order, founded on a coalition of nation-states as dominant actors in the international system, are becoming ineffective in managing the emerging threats and challenges posed by globalization. This course offers critical and conceptual discourse on the challenges faced by international organizations in effectively dealing with emerging global issues. It analyses the existing models of Westphalian governance tools in the context of global health, environmental, (human) security and food-safety issues.

Week One — The Discourse: Governing Emerging Global Issues

- Westphalian/Inter-state Model
- Multicentric Model

Week Two — Emerging Global Issues as Security Issues

- Securitization of Emerging Global Issues
- Infectious Diseases, HIV/AIDS, Terrorism, Food Safety, Environmental Degradation

Week Three — Global Health Governance

- The Governance Architecture of Global Health and Major Actors
- Case Studies: Globalization of Infectious Diseases, SARS, Avian Flu and the Limits of the Westphalian System

Week Four — Global Environmental Governance

- The Governance Architecture of the Global Environment and Major Actors
- Case Studies: Globalization of Environmental Threats, Climate Change, Ozone Layer Depletion, Greenhouse Emissions and the Limits of the Westphalian System

Week Five — Food Safety

- The Governance Architecture for Food Safety and Major Actors
- FAO, WHO, WTO, and the Dispute over Genetically Modified Organisms and the Use of Hormones in Food
- Future Policy Direction

Week Six — Illicit Drugs and Harmful Products

- The Governance Architecture for Illicit Drugs and Harmful Products

- Case Study: The Regulation of Tobacco by the WHO Framework Convention
- Concluding Discussion and Course Review

Lecturers

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

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE: MANAGING RISKS

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 One — Climate Affairs and Risk Communication

- Global Warming and Creeping Environmental Problems
- El Niño and La Niña
- Superstorms

Week Two — **Chemical Risks: Wastes and Chemicals, Life-Cycle Assessment**

- Managing Wastes and Chemicals
- Life-Cycle Assessment: Theory and Applications

Week Three — **Managing Water: Global and Local Risks**

- International Basins
- “Virtual Water”
- Water and Climate Change

Week Four — **Natural Disaster Risk Management**

- Floods and Earthquakes

Week Five — **Land Management**

- Biological Diversity
- Addressing Land Degradation
- Agriculture Sustainability

Week Six — **A Change of Vision: Future Perspectives**

- Zero Emission: Sustainable Production
- Sustainable Consumption
- Course Review

Lecturers

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

GLOBALIZATION AND THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

Purpose

The aim of this course is to foster a better understanding of how the United Nations system looks at globalization. As new opportunities are being initiated within the globalization process, it becomes clearer that access to these opportunities is not equally shared; when it comes to benefiting from the positive effect of globalization, some countries are clearly lagging behind, compared with others. Furthermore, it appears that inequalities are not just between countries, but also within countries as some communities and people benefit more than others. The effects of globalization also can be negative in that, in an increasingly competitive and globalized world, some countries, communities, and actors will not be able to participate fully because their capacities are limited (and thus need to be further strengthened).

The challenges brought by the globalization process — such as how to ensure that we **all** benefit in a more equal manner from this process — are at the core of United Nations’ agencies missions and programmes. This course initially provides an overview of the multilateral system: its structure as well as its future. It explores a variety of challenges brought forward by the globalization process and how the UN system tends to address them. The course examines the core issues and highlights pressing policy concerns — the Doha

Round and development issues, as well as challenges with regards to science and technology, education, labour, culture, and democracy and governance — and the ways that the international community is trying to accelerate human-centred development in these areas.

The course particularly highlights the roles of different UN agencies: the research that they undertake as well as the policies and programmes they implement to try to make the globalization process a more human and fairer process for all.

Week One — **Multilateral System**

- Introduction and Overview of the Multilateral System
- Structure and Future of the Multilateral System: Participation for All?
- The Multilateral System and Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities

Week Two — **The World Trade Organization (WTO) and Globalization**

- The WTO: How to Face the Globalization Process and Its Challenges?
- The Doha Round: Failure or Success for the Development Round?
- Discussion: How Can Developing Countries Participate More Confidently in the WTO, and Can This Enable Them to Benefit More from the Market Economy?

Week Three — **Globalization with a Human Face**

- How Can the UN System Enable Developing Countries to Better Benefit from the Globalization Process?
- Globalization and Growing Inequalities: What Can be Done?
- Discussion: Inequalities and Hidden Dimensions of Globalization: What Role for the UN?

Week Four — **A Fairer Globalization: The World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization and Its Contributions to Making Globalization a Fairer, More Ethical and Inclusive Process**

- Globalization, and Its Social Aspects: Labour, Health, etc.
- Discussion: Globalization — A Path Towards a More Decent Life for All?

Week Five — **Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities for Science and Technology**

- Globalization and Its Impact on the Production and Dissemination of Scientific Knowledge and New Technologies: Who is Benefiting?
- Globalization and Access to Knowledge and Education
- Discussion: Can the UN System Enable a Better Access for All to Science and Technology?

Week Six — **Globalization and Cultural Diversity**

- The UN System and Its Contributions to Promoting and Preserving Cultural Diversity
- Cultural Heritage and Globalization: Road Map
- Discussion: Globalization — Heading Towards the Future While Preserving Our Common and Diverse History?

Lecturers

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

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Purpose

International trade in goods and services is valued at 8,500 billion US dollars per annum and takes place at the speed of one billion US dollars every hour of the day, every day of the week. Trading rules encroach on almost all aspects of economic activity: financial services, intellectual property rights, industrial subsidies, merchandise goods trade, environmental regulation, agricultural support programs. etc. They are legally enforceable through a powerful dispute settlement system, now dealing with matters as diverse as anti-dumping measures, restrictions on trade in hormone-treated beef, doing business with China, patents on pharmaceutical products, genetically modified organisms, electronic commerce and the conservation of endangered species. This course will inquire into the theory and practice of international trade and its role in the global economy. It will be interdisciplinary and approach topical issues from the perspective of international economics, international law and international relations.

Week One — History and Basic Rules and Trade and Developing Countries

- History and Basic Rules of the International Trading System
- Trade and Developing Countries
- Key Components of Doha Development Agenda

Week Two — Dispute Settlement and Subsidies, Anti-Dumping and Safeguards

- Dispute Settlement
- Subsidies, Anti-Dumping and Safeguards

Week Three — Agricultural Trade Liberalization and Manufactured Goods Trade Liberalization

- Agricultural Trade Liberalization
- Manufactured Goods Trade Liberalization

Week Four — Intellectual Property Rights and Trade in Services

- Intellectual Property Rights
- Trade in Services

Week Five — Trade and MEAs, Trade and Sustainable Development, and Trade and Civil Society

- Inter-Linkages: Trade and MEAs
- Trade and Sustainable Development
- Trade and Civil Society

Week Six — Systemic Issues

- Achieving the Goal of Sustainable Development
- Regional Trade Agreements
- The Future of the Trading System
- Conclusion

Lecturers

This course will be taught by staff of UNU and selected guest lecturers from academic organizations around the world.

