

# UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COURSES (UNU/IC)

UNU CENTRE, TOKYO, JAPAN

14 MAY TO 22 JUNE 2001



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

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## **United Nations University International Courses (UNU/IC)**

### **Introduction**

The United Nations University will organize its second six-week-long regular session of the UNU International Courses (UNU/IC) at its Centre in Tokyo, Japan, from 14 May to 22 June 2001. The UNU/IC programme is designed for postgraduate students and 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 most of the practitioners come from United Nations organizations. Another important characteristic of the UNU/IC 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 counselors. 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 regular 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 2001 are:

- I. United Nations System: Structure and Activities;
- II. Environmental Monitoring and Quality;
- III. Human Rights: Concepts and Issues; and
- IV. International Cooperation and Development.\*

(A brief outline of each of these courses is attached.)

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\* This course will be supported by the *Yutaka Akino Memorial Donation* from the Government of Japan, and will be designated the "*Akino Memorial Course for 2001*".

There will be eighteen 90-minute sessions per course (three sessions per week) during the six-week course period. One of the sessions will be used either for a supplementary or special lecture or a discussion session. 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 on each day - 10:00-11:30 a.m., 14:00-15:30 p.m. and 17:00-18:30 p.m. (no one course may take the entire three sessions of one day). The final schedule will be made available in May 2001.

### **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
- Opportunity to interact intellectually with a wide cross-section of fellow participants from around the world from diverse academic and professional backgrounds
- Opportunity to interact socially 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 the UNU in these areas of study
- Close contact with UNU in-house specialists in small-group settings
- Opportunity to sample life in one of the world's great metropolises

## **International Teaching Staff**

The UNU/IC will be administered and coordinated by the 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 at least part of the course. In principle, each course will be taught by a combination of the academic staff of the UNU Centre and the RTC/Ps, 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.

## **UN Internship and Employment Guidance**

The UNU will provide assistance to those who wish to serve as an intern with the United Nations and other relevant organizations. The UNU will request all relevant organizations, including those in the United Nations system, to take account of the UNU/IC Certificate of Completion when submitted as part of an employment dossier. This will be done in collaboration with relevant offices of the United Nations, national governments and other organizations.

## **Tuition and Fellowships**

The tuition fee per course is ¥100,000 — about US\$935 at the September 2000 UN exchange rate — or ¥150,000 (about US\$1,400) for two courses. Those participants from developing countries who take two courses and who can successfully demonstrate a need for financial assistance are invited to apply for a limited number of UNU fellowships. Those who wish to apply for a UNU fellowship should request the UNU Fellowship Application form separately.

## **Accommodation**

The UNU has located a low-cost hotel facility in Tokyo to accommodate course participants from outside Tokyo and Japan.

## **Certificate of Completion**

Participants who successfully complete at least one course will receive a UNU Certificate of Completion at the UNU/IC closing ceremony. Requirements include a short paper/written discussion contributions and regular class attendance as well as active participation in class discussions.

## **Application for the UNU/IC**

Applicants for the UNU/IC should submit their application dossier — consisting of a completed application form, a transcript of academic records at the college or university level, TOEFL scores (for non-native speakers), and three letters of reference — by 31 January 2001. Applicants may apply to take one or two courses at a time, and can reapply in subsequent years to take additional courses.

Those who wish to apply for the courses, please contact:

Ms. Wilma James  
Training Assistant  
United Nations University Headquarters  
5-53-70 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku  
Tokyo 150-8925, Japan  
Tel: +81-3/3499-2811  
Fax: +81-3/3499-2828  
E-mail: [james@hq.unu.edu](mailto:james@hq.unu.edu)

Or, visit our website for a copy of the brochure and UNU/IC Application Form:  
<http://www.unu.edu/ic/>

**Deadline for applications is 31 January 2001.**

20 October 2000

# Course Outlines

## United Nations System: Structure and Activities

### Purpose

In today's rapidly changing world, power, authority, rights and duties are shifting away from the traditional sovereign state actor to actors that operate below, between or above states. This increasing trend toward globalization is being spearheaded by international organizations that are moving beyond their peripheral roles in the interstate system to become central actors in world politics. The United Nations, besides playing its traditional roles, is now being called upon to assume wide-ranging new duties.

This course introduces the participants to the United Nations system, its core components, the roles they play in the international system, and the UN system's work in the promotion of peace and maintenance of security. More specifically, the course offers a discussion of the historical evolution and contemporary significance of the United Nations; it discusses and analyses the UN's roles in meeting some of the most pressing international problems, such as in the areas of peace, security, human rights and governance; and it addresses proposals to reform the UN system to allow it to play a more constructive and crucial role in the creation and maintenance of international peace and security.

### Week One

- I. Introduction: The International System
- II. The League of Nations
- III. Brainstorming Session on "Global Government or Global Governance?"

### Week Two

- IV. The UN Charter
- V. The General Assembly
- VI. Brainstorming Session on "The General Assembly as a Global Parliament"

### **Week Three**

VII. The Security Council

VIII. The Secretary-General and the Secretariat

IX. Brainstorming Session on “The Role of the SC and SG in Promoting World Peace”

### **Week Four**

X. Specialized Agencies

- Panel session and discussion with representatives of UN agencies with an office in Tokyo

XI. Promotion of Human Security and Good Governance

XII. Brainstorming Session on “UN and Democracy: Doesn’t Charity Begin at Home?”

### **Week Five**

XIII. Promotion of Peace

XIV. Peace-keeping, Peacemaking and Peace Enforcement

XV. Brainstorming Session on “The Elusive Quest for Peace”

### **Week Six**

XVI. Complex Emergencies, Humanitarian Intervention & Reconstruction

XVII. Review, Evaluation & Reform of the UN

XVIII. Group Project Presentations on “The New UN” and Course Wrap-up

### **Lecturers**

The course will be taught by the staff of UNU’s Peace and Governance Programme and selected guest lecturers from UN Headquarters in New York and universities in Japan.

# **Environmental Monitoring and Quality**

## **Purpose**

This course is designed to inform the participants about the scientific and institutional aspects of environmental monitoring, particularly at the regional and global scale. The first half of the course will focus on the fundamentals of environmental monitoring – introducing the participants to a variety of methodologies and technologies and their application to various environmental sectors. An overview of the latest monitoring technologies and approaches will be provided, including geographic information systems (GIS) and satellite-based monitoring. The second half of the course will focus more on the institutional aspects of monitoring with emphasis on the wide range of existing global environmental monitoring networks. Due attention will be given to the interlinkages between various monitoring regimes, particularly the role of various UN agencies.

## **Week One – Fundamentals of Environmental Monitoring**

- Environmental compartments and processes
- Monitoring strategies – monitoring network design, sampling frequency, statistical analyses, data quality issues
- Environmental impact assessment

## **Week Two – Monitoring Environmental Compartments**

- Monitoring methods for water quality
- Evaluating air quality – linkage to environmental pollution and global warming
- Terrestrial monitoring – linkage to food security and forest protection

## **Week Three – Remote Sensing & Information Technology**

- Aerial and satellite monitoring
- Existing satellite networks
- Recent advances in information management
- Data management and use of geographic information systems (GIS)
- Internet as a tool for information dissemination

#### **Week Four – Institutional Aspects of Environmental Monitoring**

- International cooperative monitoring networks
- Coordination of monitoring networks
- Global observing system and the UN system – weaknesses and strengths
- State of the Environment Assessments – GEO, regional and national initiatives

#### **Week Five – Major Issues in Information Sharing and Use**

- Access to information – equity issues
- Using monitoring for environmental impact assessment
- Information for decision makers

#### **Week Six – Future of Monitoring**

- Interlinkages between various monitoring and environmental regimes
- Identifying hot spots
- Course review

#### **Lecturers**

UNU Centre Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD) Programme academics, including GEIC, academic staff from and the UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU/IAS).

# **Human Rights: Concepts and Issues**

## **Purpose**

The conception of human rights, though getting more broadly accepted in the international community in recent years, has been, and continues to be, at the centre of much heated debate concerning its scope, its validity in different cultural contexts, or the legitimacy of its application to justify infringements on nation-states' sovereignty. The course is intended to provide participants with the knowledge and awareness to address human rights issues from a proper historical, comparative and global perspective in order to develop feasible solutions to current problems related to human rights. The course will start with a thorough overview of the philosophical and legal basis of the concept of human rights, its historical development and its political implications, with strong emphasis on the different perceptions and definitions of human rights in different national, historical and cultural contexts. Based on this theoretical analysis, the course will review and discuss the roles and activities of various international and non-governmental organizations involved in the promotion and protection of human rights, including case studies on the UN Human Rights Commission, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

## **Week One – Human Rights: Concepts and Norms**

- Course Overview
- Review of Human Rights Concepts and Norms
- Human Rights in National, Historical and Cultural Contexts

## **Week Two – A Legal and Political Analysis of Human Rights Organizations and Activities**

- The UN Charter and Human Rights: Intention and Subsequent Unexpected Development
- Adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Its Significance
- Effectiveness of UN Actions in the Field of Human Rights

### **Week Three – UN Organizations and Human Rights – Part I: UNHCHR**

- Creation of the Position of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Regional Approaches to Human Rights
- Mainstreaming Human Rights with the UN System

### **Week Four and Five – UN Organizations and Human Rights – Part II: UNHCR, UNICEF and UNDP**

- Human Rights of Refugees
- Human Rights of Women
- Human Rights of Children
- Human Rights and Human Development

### **Week Six – Human Rights after the Cold War**

- Human Rights and Foreign Policy
- Human Rights and Non-Governmental Organizations
- International Criminal Courts
- Peace-keeping and Human Rights

### **Lecturers**

- University professors and scholars specializing in human rights issues
- Officials in human rights-related organizations, including UNHCHR, UNHCR, UNICEF and the UN Commission on Human Rights

# **International Cooperation and Development**

## **Purpose**

The aim of this course is to foster a better understanding of the core elements of development and best practice in international cooperation as well as the linkage between international assistance and development. The course initially provides an overview of the main evolution in development thinking and practice and a comparative analysis of the interaction of people, states and markets from different regions across the globe. It explores a variety of theoretical approaches to the analysis of the causes of, and obstacles to, development through international cooperation. The course then examines the core issue areas in development, highlighting pressing policy concerns – poverty reduction, education, health, gender and good governance – and the ways the international community is trying to accelerate development in these areas. Finally, the course looks at cross-cutting issues in development cooperation, highlighting principles for best practice and the roles of different actors. It particularly concentrates on the UN and Bretton Woods system – IMF, World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF and ILO – as well as Japan’s development cooperation agencies.

## **Week One – International Cooperation and Development: Theory, History and Policy**

- Foreign Aid and Multilateral Assistance for Development
- Development Theory and Practice
- The Evolution of Development Cooperation
- Development Challenges in an Era of Globalization

## **Week Two – Economic Growth, Poverty and Social Development**

- Latest Thinking – World Development Report 2000
- Education and Health
- Gender
- Policies to Improve Growth and Human Development

### **Weeks Three and Four – Case Studies**

- Africa
- Asia
- Latin America

### **Week Five – Principles in International Cooperation**

- Donor Policy Coordination
- Ensuring Local Ownership
- Transforming Aid

### **Week Six – The Agencies: Japan, the UN and International Organizations**

- The UN System – UNDP, UNICEF and ILO
- The World Bank and IMF
- Japan's Development Cooperation System

### **Lecturers**

- In-house scholars and university professors who are development specialists
- Officials of development-related international organizations – UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank
- Officials from Japan's international cooperation agencies – MOFA and JICA