

Course title	Global Business and SDGs				
Responsible person to enter grades	HEIKE Masahiro, YODOGAWA Noriko			開講区分	単位数
				1st semester	1.0
Numbering Code		Day・Period, etc.	Other(遠隔)	Timetable Slot Code	1J372

Lesson topic

This course covers the latest trends in international trade policies and regulations from three perspectives, namely human rights, the environment, and economic security. In addition, this course also will explain recent trends in major countries such as Japan, the United States, and European nations.

These trends have been influenced by various factors including geopolitical interests, diplomatic initiatives, industrial policy or civil interest, but they all share the common feature of using corporate and economic activities as “leverage” to achieve objectives in relation to certain initiatives and civil interests. As such, these trends and related regulations have a large impact on corporate activities that, in turn, influence trade. Further, it is expected that trade rules on human rights, the environment, and economic security will be developed by countries multilaterally, through a plurality (among countries sharing common values), or even unilaterally, and with the involvement of non-governmental actors.

Accordingly, companies are expected to keep track of these new trends involving human rights, the environment, and economic security, not only separately (i.e., understanding specific trends), but also comprehensively (i.e., understanding how the trends relate to one another and generally impact regulation). As these trends represent important management issues, companies should react strategically by not only complying with applicable rules based on accurate information collection and analysis, but also by participating in the formulation of such rules when possible and appropriate. It is from this perspective that this course addresses trade policies and regulations involving human rights, the environment, and economic security.

Lesson target

The goals of this course are to understand the trends in trade policies and regulations involving human rights, the environment, and economic security in a systematic manner, and to acquire the ability to follow and understand the latest trends.

Syllabus and plan

All lectures are delivered online in real time.

In this course, lectures in each session will be given by attorneys of Nishimura & Asahi belonging to trade practice group, including:

- an attorney who engaged in trade negotiations and disputes while working in government agencies such as the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Finance;
- an attorney who engaged in establishment of legislation on economic security, while working in government agencies such as the Ministry of Finance;
- an attorney who has long been involved in issues of human rights and business in an international organization and industrial association; and
- an attorney who has practical experience working with cutting-edge trade policies and regulations in overseas law firms and think tanks.

Session 1: Introduction(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 2: Business and Human Rights (1)(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 3: Business and Human Rights (2)(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 4: Environment/Human Rights and Investment(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 5: Business and Environment (real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 6: Business and Economic Security (1)(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 7: Business and Economic Security (2)(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Session 8: Digitalization and Conclusion(real-time online classes via Zoom)

Evaluation method

Grading will be based on attendance (50%) and class participation (such as participation in the discussion sections of each session) (50%).

Evaluation baseline

Whether you attend classes and accurately understand the lecture topics.

Notice (include info. on related class)

The related courses are International Environmental Law, International Labor Law, and WTO Law. However, they are not mandatory.

Review and preparation

Study required before class: for the topics covered in each class, read recent newspaper articles and summarize related questions.

Study required after class: for the topics covered in class, summarize what you learned in class.

Kobe University requires 45 hours of study from students to award one credit, including both in-class instructions as well as study outside classes. Students are required to prepare for each class and complete the review after each class, depending on the respective class goals.

Office hour · Contact information

Please send an email to Masahiro Heike.

Contact details will be notified during the first session of the course.

Message for student

N/A

Improvements in Teaching

N/A

Text

Plan to share the slides during the class.

Reference Material

Kojiro Fujii, Taku Nemoto, Kazuho Nakajima, Masahiro Heike, "Human Rights, Environment, and Economic Security: New Trends in International Trade Regulations and Corporate Strategies" Syojihomu (to be published on March 23, 2023)(Japanese)

<https://www.shojihomu.co.jp/publication?publicationId=20141121>

Classroom Language

English

Keywords

A Faculty with Professional Experience