

Course title	Introduction to Legal English 2				
Responsible person to enter grades	CARPENTER Keith		開講区分	単位数	
			2nd semester	2.0	
Numbering Code	J2ML600	Day・Period, etc.	Tues5(対面)	Timetable Slot Code	3J378

Lesson topic

This course will be at an introductory level for those wishing to develop the four (speaking, listening, writing and reading) English language skills in relation to legal subjects. The language covered will include both academic language (used by those studying law) and professional language (used by lawyers).

Lesson target

By the end of the course, students will have improved their ability to:

1. listen to and understand both native and non-native speakers' of English talking about legal matters in situations such discussions and lectures/presentations;
2. speak about legal matters in a variety of situations such as advising, negotiating, explaining complicated legal issues to both lawyers and non-lawyers;
3. read and understand legal texts such as statutes, case reports, legal correspondence;
4. write letters of application and emails/memoranda of advice

Syllabus and plan

The lectures are expected to be conducted with students attending in the classroom. In the event that the infection levels of the covid virus deteriorate and classes are required to be given online, details will be provided on BEEF. Depending on the circumstances, possible changes may be required.

There will be a total of 15 lectures. The following gives an indication of the topics to be covered by the lectures. Numbers of lectures for each topic and the order might be changed.

Lectures 1-4: Commercial law

Lectures 4-8: Litigation & arbitration

Lectures 8-10: Employment dispute case study

Lectures 10-12: International law

Lectures 12-15: Comparative law

The course instructor is a native English qualified lawyer and has over 20 years' professional experience of working in an international legal environment.

Evaluation method

Students will be assessed as follows:

- 50%: level of active performance during lectures
- 30%: written homework
- 20%: final exam

Evaluation baseline

50%: by the level of their active participation and performance during lectures: this will include the extent of attendance of classes and will be especially focused on understanding (listening) and expression (speaking) ability during class activities.

30%: by written homework: there will be three written assignments set during the term, each carrying 10% and covering grammar, technical vocabulary, structure and format.

20%: final exam which will cover all the material covered during the semester.

Notice (include info. on related class)

Participating in this course will help develop appropriate skills for students who are considering studying at a foreign university under an exchange programme. It will also be useful for an international internship.

Exchange students can attend this course.

This course is recommended for students who wish to progress to the Advanced Legal English course.

Review and preparation

Students will be required to do some reading of the textbook in preparation for lectures and to do written and review work as homework after lectures.

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

Contact can be made by email to: keith@people.kobe-u.ac.jp

There will also be time to ask questions at the beginning or end of classes.

Message for student

In order to talk about legal matters, it is not sufficient merely to know the correct legal terms and so the course will cover language for discussing, comparing, suggesting etc. This functional language will be useful for other business and social situations. Students should consider the lectures as an opportunity to practise expressing their opinions in new ways and not be afraid of making mistakes.

Students must bring their laptop to every class.

Improvements in Teaching

Text

Information about the textbook will be given at the first lecture. It will not be necessary to have the textbook for the first lecture.

Reference Material

Please see above

Classroom Language

English

The lectures will be conducted in English

Keywords

International legal English communication

Laptop

Exchange student (Special auditing student)

Term paper

A faculty member with professional experience