

Course title	Introduction to Legal English 1				
Teacher(s)	CARPENTER Keith			開講区分	単位数
				1st semester	2.0
Numbering Code	J2ML600	Day · Period	Mon5	Timetable Slot Code	1J287

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 as meetings, discussions and lectures;
2. speak about legal matters in a variety of situations such as advising, negotiating, summarising, explaining complicated legal issues to both lawyers and non-lawyers;
3. read and understand legal texts such as contracts, statutes and case reports, law journal articles, law text books and legal correspondence;
4. write case notes and letters/emails of advice

Syllabus and plan

There will be a total of 15 lectures. The following gives an indication of the topics to be covered by the lectures

Lectures 1-2: Introduction & studying law and law subjects

Lectures 3-6: Contract law

Lectures 7-9: Contract dispute case study

Lectures 10-12: Tort law (civil wrongs)

Lectures 13-14: Company law

Lecture 15: review & progress confirmation

Evaluation method

Students will be assessed as follows:

50%: level of active performance during lectures

30%: written homework

20%: test

Evaluation baseline

50%: by the level of their active participation and performance during lectures: this will include the level 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 3 written assignments set during the term, each carrying 10% and covering grammar, technical vocabulary and format.

20%: test which will cover all the material covered during the term

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.

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.

Improvements in Teaching

Text

Students will need to buy their own copy of the textbook but it will not be necessary to have the textbook for the first lecture.

Introduction to International Legal English / Amy Krois-Lindner : Cambridge University Press ,2008
, ISBN:9780521718998

Reference Material

Please see above

Classroom Language

The lectures will be conducted in English

Keywords

International legal English communication
Exchange student(Special auditing student)