

Course title	Comparative Constitutional Law				
Responsible person to enter grades	Shih-An WANG		開講区分	単位数	
			2nd semester	2.0	
Numbering Code		Day・Period, etc.	Tues1(対面)	Timetable Slot Code	3J398

Lesson topic

This course aims to introduce major topics in the scholarship of comparative constitutional law. To achieve this goal, we will study crucial constitutional developments in Asia - a region marked by its diverse political landscapes, cultural traits, economic developments, and historical trajectories. Each constitutional topic will be examined through a case study, ranging from Northeast to Central Asia, to understand how constitutions emerge and operate within a particular Asian context. We will focus on the dynamics between law and politics, instead of taking a traditional approach of legal doctrines.

Lesson target

By the end of this course, students shall be able to (1) appreciate the major topics in comparative constitutional law; (2) appreciate crucial constitutional issues in the Asian countries we explore; and (3) analyze constitutional issues of their own countries from a comparative perspective. Additionally, students can enhance their English communicative skills by exchanging their opinions in class.

Syllabus and plan

1. Introduction to the Course: Constitutions and Constitutionalism
2. Constitutions and Constitutionalism
3. Constitutional Drafting and Revision
4. Constitutional Revision and Constitutional Change
5. Governmental Structure and Constitutionalism
6. Electoral System
7. LGBTQ Rights
8. Socioeconomic Rights
9. Religion
10. Judicial Review
11. Judicial Review of Constitutional Amendments
12. Judicial Review of Political Parties
13. Emergency Power
14. Civil-Military Relations and Constitutionalism
15. Final Exam

Evaluation method

- Class participation (15%).
- Final exam or research paper (85%).

Evaluation baseline

- Class participation (15%). All students are expected to participate and exchange their perspectives on the course materials in class. Students who contribute regularly will receive extra credit that will significantly figure into their final grade. Students will not be penalized for making errors in English.
- Final exam or research paper (85%).
 - o Final exam: The exam will require students to write responses to a few questions in English. Grades will be determined by how well students can master and analyze course materials and the topics discussed in class. To the extent that their responses are clear and apprehensible, students will not be penalized for making grammatical errors in English.
 - o Research paper: Students may write a research paper instead of taking the exam. Students should consult the instructor about paper topics if they want to do so. The paper should be roughly 20 pages in English, font 12, double-spaced. The deadline for paper submissions will be announced in class. Grades will be determined by the

Notice (include info. on related class)

Students interested in studying in English-speaking countries may participate in this course to develop their familiarity with English materials and communicative skills.

Review and preparation

Course materials will be distributed on BEEF+, and students are expected to complete readings by the beginning of each class. All course materials are in English.

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

sawang@people.kobe-u.ac.jp

Message for student

The course aims to be intellectually engaging, so students should feel comfortable to ask questions and express their viewpoints in class. Students are also encouraged to discuss the readings and lectures with classmates or anyone else.

Both undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to take this course.

Improvements in Teaching

Text

No textbook is required for this course. All course materials will be distributed on BEEF+.

Reference Material

Students interested in further reading are welcome to schedule a meeting with the instructor for details.

Classroom Language

English

Keywords

Comparative Law

Constitutional Law

Constitutionalism

Asian Law

Exchange Student (Special Auditing Student)