Course ID Number: DCC5410

Course Title: Poverty and Human Security

No. of Credits: 2
Graduate School of International Relations
International University of Japan
Term: Fall 2012

Instructor: Shinichi Watanabe
E-mail: watanabe@iuj.ac.jp
Office: 320
Phone: 417

Course Introduction

This course studies the causes and consequences of poverty and war from the viewpoint of human security. Peace study is a managerial science of the dynamic interaction between opportunity and risk in our lives. It studies the institutions and organizations as well as economic, social, political and military conditions that affect the opportunity and risk in the lives of individuals and peoples in the world. It has a clear practical policy goal: it aims at finding a way to improve local as well as global institutions and organizations that help individuals and peoples expand their opportunities and reduce at the same time threats to their life, daily lives and dignity individually or collectively.
This course studies the causes and consequences of poverty and war from the viewpoint of human security. Peace study is a managerial science of the dynamic interaction between opportunity and risk in our lives. It studies the institutions and organizations as well as economic, social, political and military conditions that affect the opportunity and risk in the lives of individuals and peoples in the world. It has a clear practical policy goal: it aims at finding a way to improve local as well as global institutions and organizations that help individuals and peoples expand their opportunities and reduce at the same time threats to their life, daily lives and dignity individually or collectively.

The opportunities and risks in our lives vary significantly among individuals, depending on the opportunities open to them and the risk they need to manage, their capabilities to find and exploit new opportunities and reduce risks individually or collectively. This course takes up two important classes of risks in our lives, one associated with poverty and the other armed conflict. We will study the mechanism that cause poverty and armed conflict, evaluate their effects on the opportunities and risks in the lives of individuals and peoples, and explore alternative institutions and organizations that help individuals expand their opportunities and reduce the risks they face and achieve the kind of lives they value.

In order to replicate in the class the discussion concerning the important policy issues in the world, we will organize our discussion around UN activities, in particular those related to the UN Millennium Declaration and the eight MDG goals, one of the focal points of the current global policy agenda at the UN.

First we will review the basic concepts of risk management and crisis management, and develop them into the basic notions of peace studies, including the concepts of human development and human security. Then we will proceed to analyze the mechanisms of poverty and armed conflict and take up the issues of managing opportunities and risks in our lives associated with each or both of them. Lastly we will evaluate the existing institutional arrangements and organizations that aim at eliminating nuclear weapon and other weapons mentioned in the UN Millennium Declaration (2000).

Main References
I. Opportunities and risks in our lives and their management

Week 1, October 4

1. Basic concepts

1.1 Hazards, exposure, vulnerability, and risk
1.2 Risk management
1.3 Crisis management

2. Mortality rates of small children in the world
2.1 Under-5 and Infant mortality rates
2.2 Effects of armed conflict on mortality rates
2.3 Effects of income and wealth on mortality rates
2.4 Africa

Week 2, October 11
3. Actions for expanding opportunities and reducing the risk in our lives
3.1 UN Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
    UNDP (2003)
3.2 Treatment Action Campaign (TAC)

4. Opportunity and risk in our lives: reformulation
4.1 Human development
4.2 Human security
    UNDP (1994), Chapters 2 & 3
    UNDP (2010), Chapter 1
    Commission on Human Security (2003), Chapter 1
    WB (2001), Chapters 8 & 9

II. Development, poverty and human security

Week 3, October 18
5. Diffusion of industrial revolution and global economic development
    (on reserve at MLIC)
6. Driving forces of socioeconomic development: prototype models
6.1 Innovations of education and ways of lives (Lucas)
6.2 Innovations of institutions and organizations (North)
6.3 Innovations of social capital (Putnam)
7. Poverty in advanced countries and social policies
7.1 Discovery of the working poor (Rowntree)
7.2 Social policies

Week 4, October 25
8. Poverty in the midst of global development
8.1 Successful developers
    Collier and Dollar (2002), Chapter 1
8.2 Global income inequality and poverty
    WB (2005), Part I, 25-71
8.3 Poverty trap
    Collier and Dollar (2002), Chapter 5
9. Actions to reduce chronic poverty
9.1 UN mechanisms for Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
9.2 ODA
    WB (1998)
9.3 Grameen Bank
10. Disaster and actions to reduce acute poverty
10.1 Acute poverty caused by natural and/or man-made disasters
10.2 Actions to reduce acute poverty from disaster

III. Armed conflict and human security

Week 5, November 1
11. Civil war
11.1 Civil war and other violent conflicts

11.2 Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDP)
    Collier et al. (2003), Chapters 1 & 2

Week 6, November 8
12. Mechanisms of civil war and conflict trap
12.1 Case studies
12.2 Statistical identification of conflict trap
    Collier et al. (2003), Chapters 3, 4

Week 7, November 15
13. Crisis/risk management for sustainable peace
13.1 Building peace
13.2 Actions of UN
    Collier et al. (2003), Chapters 5&6
    Commission on Human Security (2003), Chapters 2 & 4
    UN (1992): An agenda for peace, preventing diplomacy, peacemaking and
peace-keeping

(Topics for the group paper will be assigned during the class.)

Week 8, November 22
14. Critique by Collier
15. Organized crime and human security

IV. Nuclear weapon and human security

Week 9, November 29
16. Nuclear weapon
16.1 Hiroshima and Nagasaki
16.2 Exposure to radiation
16.3 Nuclear weapon and the security of humanity
17. Eliminating the risk of nuclear war
UNGA (1945): Resolution No.1
http://www.pugwash.org/about/manifesto.htm
ICJ (1996): “Legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, Advisory opinion of 8 July 1996.”
Middle Power Initiative
http://www.middlepowers.org/

V. Presentation of group papers

Week 10, December 6
(Presentation of group papers)

Grade will be based on individual and group assignments (30 points), the term paper (60 points), and the overall class participation (10 points). Term paper is due one week later at the midnight of December 13 (Thursday).
Office: Room 320, phone: 417
Office hour: Wednesday 17:00 – 18:00 or convenient time by appointment. (Please call me or e-mail me for appointment in either case.) watanabe@iuj.ac.jp