

# COURSE DETAIL

## SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**Country**

Japan

**Host Institution**

International Christian University

**Program(s)**

International Christian University

**UCEAP Course Level**

Graduate

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Sociology

**UCEAP Course Number**

201

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

2.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

1.70

## Course Description

This course addresses various dimensions of social problems both theoretically and empirically using a social constructionist perspective. The course begins with brainstorming social problems, categorizing them by its nature, extracting common features of these various problems, as well as discussing key concepts of social problem construction such as "claims-maker," "audiences," "constructing victims/villains," "objectivism vs constructivism" by the text book. The class then engages in a "social problems game," addressing their own topics, or following big issues: Anthropocene, Domestication, Zoonosis, Climate change, One health approach, SDGs (contradiction or compromise), Sufficiency economy, Green new deal, etc.

The second half of the term focuses on problem solving, particularly poverty alleviation. Students are invited to one mountain village in an Asian country, virtually, where they analyze the problems in that village and formulate the development project using PCM (Project Cycle Management) tools. After this practical exercise, the class further studies the theoretical base of social deviation, or the formation of social order, reading Adam Smith on moral philosophy and Amartya Sen's capability approach.

Throughout the course, participants are expected to consider: i) whose social problems we address; ii) causes and consequences of them; and iii) what changes needed. The contents of the course are subject to change according to participants' interests and progress.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

QPSC508

## Host Institution Course Title

SOCIAL PROBLEM AND POLICY

## Host Institution Course Details

<https://campus.icu.ac.jp/public/ehandbook/PreviewSyllabus.aspx?regno=12209&year...>

**Host Institution Campus**

International Christian University

**Host Institution Faculty**

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

Social and Cultural Analysis

**Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

[Print](#)