

Global Environmental Studies

Course Code	Course	Credit	Content of Subject
40GES001**	Introduction to Global Environmental Studies	2	In order to get to the essence of global environmental issues, such as “drastically reducing greenhouse gas emissions” and “realizing a decarbonized society in the second half of this century,” it is necessary to have an interdisciplinary perspective that transcends the boundaries of conventional academic disciplines, and a transdisciplinary method is required in which not only researchers but also various stakeholders, including citizens, governments, and companies, work together to solve problems. “Global Environmental Studies” at RIHN systematically constructs such perspectives and methods as “convergent knowledge” that can be understood as a whole, not just partially divided or quantified in the interaction cycles between humans and nature. The goal of this course is to understand and acquire this “convergent knowledge,” and the faculty members of the Global Environmental Studies Program will give lectures in an omnibus format with specific examples of their research.
40GES002**	Topics of Global Environmental Studies	2	When the interaction of the natural environment becomes dysfunctional, it emerges as a problem that needs to be solved by society. The causes of the problem are intricately intertwined and can be difficult to solve. In such cases, it is necessary to recognize the problem from multiple perspectives from both the humanities and social sciences and the natural sciences, and to co-create solutions with various actors in society, such as governments, companies, and residents. In this course, we will discuss research methods for recognizing global environmental problems and cocreating solutions with specific examples.
40GES003**	Introduction to Transdisciplinary Approach	1	Today’s environmental problems, such as climate change, natural disasters, and infectious diseases, are difficult to solve because global and regional issues are intricately intertwined across borders and industries. Thus, various actors from industry, academia, government, and the private sector must co-create solutions through dialogue that transcends their respective social positions and implement them in society. This omnibus-style lecture will provide theories and practical cases of transdisciplinary research as a methodology for co-creation for and with society.
40GES004**	Global Environmental Studies Seminar III	1	Given that each global environmental problem encompasses a variety of spatiotemporal scales and complex causal relationships, academic research that contributes to solving these problems is also carried out based on a variety of approaches and goals. This course (collection of seminars) is aimed to introduce examples of past cases, to be aware of their impact, and to find common features in them. Each seminar session will focus on a specific project carried out by research institutions such as the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature. Project leaders or participants will present the structure of problems and their causes, the objectives and academic achievements of innovative research approaches, and the remaining challenges for future study, based on their empirical data. (Total: 8 sessions)
40GES005**	Global Environmental Studies Seminar IV	1	The goal of this seminar is to introduce case studies on global environmental issues conducted under various approaches and objectives and to help participants discover clues for their own research. Each seminar session will focus on a specific project carried out by research institutions such as the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature. Project leaders or participants will present the structure of problems and their causes, the objectives and academic achievements of innovative research approaches, and the remaining challenges for future study, based on their empirical data. (Total: 8 sessions)
40GES006**	Global Environmental Studies Seminar V	1	This course is not offered in FY2025.
40GES007**	Global Sustainability Seminar	1	This course is aimed for students to acquire basic knowledge and skills for academic international exchange and networking through participation in meetings as young researchers or poster presentations at international conferences that are decided in consultation with each student’s supervisor. Prior to participating in the conference, students will prepare for the application documents and poster production through individual guidance by the instructor of this course or a small-group seminar.