

Course number	G-LAS02 80005 SE48				
Course title (and course title in English)	アカデミックディスカッションII Academic Discussion II		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation	Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences Senior Lecturer, LeBlanc Catherine	
Group	Common Graduate Courses		Field(Classification)	Language and Communication	
Language of instruction	English		Old group		Number of credits 2
Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Seminar (Face-to-face course)		Year/semesters 2025・Second semester
Days and periods	Wed.4		Target year	Graduate students	Eligible students For all majors

[Overview and purpose of the course]

The purpose of Academic Discussion is to equip learners with the necessary communication skills to engage with the academic community, expand their intellectual interests, and improve critical thinking skills. Current topics from the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences will be explored from an interdisciplinary perspective with a primary emphasis on academic speaking and listening. Students will be expected to express their ideas in various types of settings (i.e. group discussion, debate, presentations) and prepare for these exchanges by listening to and viewing audio and video materials outside of class.

A central part of this course will be group discussions. Therefore, active participation of students is crucial to the success of this course. Regarding academic speaking, students are expected to exercise their ability to express their views in discussions and debate, as well as improve comprehensibility through pronunciation practice. Regarding academic listening, students are expected to perform self-directed listening tasks using various types of audio and video recordings. These materials will be used to provide additional information to feed in-class discussions. Presentations will be considered in the assessment of students for the completion of this course.

本授業は、学術コミュニティにおいて必要とされるコミュニケーション能力を身につけ、知的好奇心を広げ、批判的思考力を向上させることを目的とする。人文学・社会科学・自然科学の最新のトピックについて、スピーキングとリスニング技能の育成に焦点を当てつつ、学際的な視点から探求する。指定の音声・動画教材を予習し、様々な授業内活動（グループディスカッション、ディベート、プレゼンテーション）で意見交換することが期待される。

本授業では、グループディスカッションが中心的な活動となるため、積極的な授業参加が求められる。アカデミックスピーキングに関しては、発音練習を通して理解されやすい話し方を身につけるとともに、ディスカッションやディベートで意見を表現する能力を育成する。アカデミックリスニングに関しては、様々な種類の音声・動画素材を用いた自学自習が必須であり、これをもとに授業内活動を行う。プレゼンテーションを成績評価の一部とする。

[Course objectives]

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- initiate and maintain a conversation
- articulate a complete idea relating to a specified topic
- respond to other classmates' ideas and opinions
- manage a conversation in various settings using discussion strategies, such as agreeing/disagreeing, asking

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for clarification, changing the topic, etc.

- present and support opinions in a logical manner
- paraphrase an idea in order to clarify or verify information
- orally summarize ideas from in-class discussions and listening materials
- demonstrate comprehension through verbal and non-verbal cues in conversation
- identify the purpose of statements and supporting information in oral discourse

[Course schedule and contents]

The course will cover both student-selected and teacher-selected topics. Classes will rotate between student-led discussions and specialized lectures prepared by the instructor. The order and number of classes for each topic will depend on student enrollment and progression in the course.

- 1 - Introduction and course overview
- 2 - Listening strategies & practices
- 3 - Discussion strategies & practices
- 4 - Topic specific discussions
- 5 - Topic specific discussions
- 6 - Topic specific discussions
- 7 - Student-led discussions
- 8 - Student-led discussions
- 9 - Student-led discussions
- 10 - Student-led discussions
- 11 - Panel discussion preparation & Presentation workshop
- 12 & 13 - Panel discussion presentations
- 14 - Review and course wrap-up
- 15 - Feedback

[Course requirements]

None

[Evaluation methods and policy]

Evaluation will be based on active participation in class (30%), listening participation (outside of class) (20%), speaking assessment (15%), performance self-assessment (20%), presentations (15%)

The speaking assessment format will be determined based on student enrolment. Presentations will be in the form of a group panel discussion to allow students to practice conference-like presentation skills.

[Textbooks]

Not used

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

Students are required to listen to assigned and self-selected materials outside of class, reflect and comment on the themes presented in these materials, and prepare discussion points for in-class participation. Relevant materials will be made available to students through email as the course progresses.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

Class correspondence will be via mailing list. Students are advised to use digital materials for work outside of class. Instruction on use of digital materials will be given in the first few weeks of class.