

<b>Course number</b>	U-LAS70 10002 SE50				
<b>Course title (and course title in English)</b>	ILAS Seminar-E2 :Introduction to cross-cultural communication (異文化コミュニケーション入門) ILAS Seminar-E2 :Introduction to cross-cultural communication	<b>Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation</b>	Disaster Prevention Research Institute Senior Lecturer, LAHOURNAT , Florence		
<b>Group</b>	Seminars in Liberal Arts and Sciences	<b>Number of credits</b>	2	<b>Number of weekly time blocks</b>	1
<b>Class style</b>	seminar (Face-to-face course)	<b>Year/semesters</b>	2025・First semester	<b>Quota (Freshman)</b>	10 (10)
<b>Target year</b>	Mainly 1st year students	<b>Eligible students</b>	For all majors	<b>Days and periods</b>	Thu.5
<b>Classroom</b>	3A, Yoshida-South Campus Academic Center Bldg. North Wing			<b>Language of instruction</b>	English
<b>Keyword</b>	cross-cultural communication / cultural awareness / cultural competence				

#### [Overview and purpose of the course]

This seminar is designed as an introduction to cross-cultural communication with a focus on cultural awareness. The objective of this seminar is to provide students with knowledge and tools to reflect on and approach multi-cultural communication in a culturally-competent way: appropriately and effectively.

With an emphasis on approaching and understanding other cultures and communication without bias, it will cover basic concepts and principles necessary for the promoting and improving of cultural self-awareness and inter-group, cross-cultural communication.

With the basic question of what culture is as a starting point, we will explore the mechanisms of culture and inter-group relationships and their implications in our perceptions of ourselves and others along the following themes: cultural awareness, cultural identity, ethnocentrism and cultural relativism, stereotype and prejudice, cultural competence.

#### [Course objectives]

The objectives of this seminar are for students to:

- gain an understanding of the key notions related to culture, cultural awareness, the mechanisms of communication
- acquire awareness and understanding of cultural processes (including our own preconceptions), and the impact of culture on communication
- gain confidence formulating ideas and opinions, and engaging in discussions on specific topics.

#### [Course schedule and contents]

This is a seminar-type class. Sessions will include a short lecture and rely on discussion and group work based on the week's topic and readings.

- 1- Orientation and overview
- 2- Deconstructing culture
- 3- Linking culture and communication
- 4- How communication works
- 5- Group work

- 6- Social and cultural identities
- 7- Bias, stereotype, prejudices
- 8- Models of culture
- 9- Group work
- 10- Language and verbal communication
- 11- Nonverbal communication
- 12- Towards cultural competence (P.1)
- 13- Towards cultural competence (P.2)
- 14- Final project

Total: 14 classes and 1 feedback

Note: The detailed definitive schedule will be handed out during the first class.

### **[Course requirements]**

There are no specific requirements for taking this seminar.  
However, students must be willing to prepare for each session by completing the weekly readings and assigned tasks, and to participate actively in class.

### **[Evaluation methods and policy]**

Evaluation will be based on:

- class attendance (30%)
- active participation (30%), including group works and discussions
- weekly assignments (20%)
- final project and presentation (20%)

Active participation means actively engaging with the class content, participating during discussions and group work, and contributing to the class by sharing opinions, experiences and reflections.

Students absent 4 times or more will fail this class.

Tardiness (by 15 minutes or more) will be treated as absence.

Systematic tardiness and/or unexplained early departures will greatly reduce your attendance and participation grade.

### **[Textbooks]**

There is no textbook for this seminar.

Weekly readings will be available for download.

Printing and preparing the material is the responsibility of the student.

### **[References, etc.]**

( References, etc. )

Introduced during class

### **[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]**

Students are expected to prepare for each class by reviewing their notes and completing the weekly readings and assigned tasks.

**[Other information (office hours, etc.)]**

- This is a seminar-type class, and as such will rely heavily on in-class discussion and student participation. It will be conducted in English. All readings and material will also be in English.

- As stated in the evaluation section, students are expected to engage actively during class. The level of engagement will greatly influence the final grade.

- Office hour is after class or by appointment.

This class is conducted in a remote format where the instructor delivers classes from outside the classroom. So students are required to bring their own devices.

**[Essential courses]**