

ICS100 Project Based Learning Introduction-A

3rd quarter, Freshman

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Style of Class	Seminar
Number of Credits	2
Day and Period	Friday, Periods 3-5

Course Description

Students are divided into small teams and undertake a number of visits in their teams to local sites where a range of issues are emerging, and specific sites such as companies and local government bodies. Each team conducts preliminary research, interview design, and ex post analysis, and at reporting sessions they share their own discoveries and perceptions of problems.

Course Objectives

- (1) To understand parts of the actual activities of companies, government bodies, organizations, etc. in the local community, and acquire the ability to think consciously about future directions in one's own studies and activities.
- (2) To understand parts of the actual problems occurring in the local community, activities of people active in the community, and organizational models.

Prerequisites

Introduction to University Education Seminar

Class Materials

There is no textbook covering the entire course.
Readings will be introduced as necessary in line with research sites.

Course Method

The course mainly comprises group work in the classroom and field interviews off campus. In the classroom the focus is on discussion within groups. To prepare for discussion, each student needs to gather and summarize information and data on the topic in advance.

Evaluation/Assessment

Reports submitted before/after interviews and after the final presentation, as well as peer review and instructor's observational evaluation of attitude toward course activities

Grading

Reports: 80%
Peer review and observational evaluation of attitude toward course activities: 20%

Course Schedule

(Each class will in principle be held over two successive periods once a week.)

Week 1: Orientation and preparation for interview surveys

Gain a general idea of the companies, local government bodies, organizations etc. where surveys will be conducted, list the interests your group will pursue through the surveys, and make a plan for information-gathering up to the next Class.

Week 2: Deciding on survey sites and preparing for interviews

Decide on where your group will conduct its interview surveys, and make a plan for preliminary study to clarify the items to be interviewed.

Week 3: Determining and presenting your survey plan

In your groups, create an interview survey sheet and present preliminary information on the survey sites and your survey items to the Class.

Week 4-5: Visiting survey sites, conducting interviews

Visit the two sites your group has chosen and conduct your interviews.

Week 5: Ex post analysis

Analyze the results of your interviews, discuss follow-up survey items, and make a survey plan.

Week 6: Follow-up interviews and/or data collection

Re-check items with your interview subjects, and/or collect data using published literature and online sources.

Week 7: Preparing for final presentations

Based on the content of your surveys, prepare to make a report on the survey sites, new insights gained by your group, and what to study next.

Week 8: Final presentations

Final reports by each group.

Preparation and Follow-up

- (1) Individually and in groups, investigate and discuss the content covered in each class, and prepare for the next class (preparation).
- (2) Reflect individually on each class and activity in preparation for writing the final report (follow-up).