Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2024	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	INTA499		
Course Title	Seminar (Interdisciplinary Arts)		
Prerequisites	1. Declared Major by previous semester 2. Attended relevant information session(s) 3. 4th-year student 4. Completed Study Abroad and its credit transfer process (if applicable) 5. Completed all Foundation courses (except GRP) 6. Completed 7 lectures (21 credits) from Major area		
Course Instructor	RAFIEYAN Vahid、ASHMORE Darren、BLOW Michael、STOCKER Sam	Year Available (Grade Level)	4
Subject Area	Interdisciplinary Arts: Interdisciplinary Arts	Number of Credits	1
Class Style	Seminar	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	Participation in the Seminar is compulsory for graduation: · It contributes 1 credit towards meeting the 124-credit requirement. · The Seminar must be completed one semester before the GRP, once all criteria are met. · Concurrent enrollment in the GRP and Seminar requires special permission from iCLA Management after strict review. We strongly encourage students to consult their advisors early in the process for guidance. The final decision ultimately rests with iCLA Management. ·If you are simultaneously enrolled in both the Seminar and GRP carefully read requirements on week 1, 4 and week 6. [IMPORTANT] CLA+ test: · The CLA+ test is an important part of this course and counts for 20% of your final grade*. The test is designed to evaluate your critical thinking, analytical reasoning, problem-solving, and written communication skills. Its implementation in the Seminar/Foundation for College Success reflects the importance of these skills for academic success and beyond. By taking the test, you will receive an objective measure of these skills and identify areas for improvement in learning outcomes. The CLA+ test aligns with the diploma policy of iCLA and is an essential component of your academic journey. 　* Taking the CLA+ test is a requirement in order to earn credits for the Seminar/Foundation for College Success. It is important to note that missing the test will result in an automatic FAIL for the course.
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	Streamlined Document Submission: Recognizing the complexities associated with document submission in the past, we have implemented a more efficient system. Most of the assignments and other documents can now be submitted effortlessly through UNIPA. File Naming Conventions: To ensure easier document identification and organization, file names will adhere to the following format: [Course Code] [Your Student ID] [Your name], Seminar. Course codes: DATA499: Interdisciplinary Data Science; ECON498: Global Business and Economics; INTA499: Interdisciplinary Arts; JPN499: Japan Studies; PSCI499: Political Science; PSYC499: Psychology. Templates: Draft proposal and Annotated Bibliography template has been prepared in single file.

Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	None
Learning Goals	By the end of this Seminar, students should be able to: 1) Think critically, investigate deeply, and develop habits of independent study and inquiry to develop a comprehensive understanding of the research subject. (DP1, DP2) 2) Develop creative and innovative approaches to problem-solving by applying knowledge and skills from different fields and disciplines to generate new insights and solutions. (DP2) 3) Value collaboration and discussion in research to advance knowledge of the chosen subject. (DP3) 4) Refine communication skills by writing reports and delivering oral presentations that effectively communicate research findings and arguments. (DP1) 5) Apply ethical principles and practices throughout the research process, including research design, methodology, data collection, and analysis, to ensure the protection of human subjects, privacy, and confidentiality, and to promote the integrity and credibility of the research. (DP4)

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1／DP2／DP3／DP4

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Group Work／Presentation
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	Group Work: Students collaborate on tasks related to their research topics, fostering a deeper understanding of the subject matter and enhancing collaborative skills, which are crucial for conducting large-scale research projects. Presentation: Students present their research findings to the class, enhancing their ability to communicate complex ideas effectively and preparing them for the final presentation of their Graduation Research Project.
Use of ICT	UNIPA for communication purpose and the Office 365: It has Word for writing and PowerPoint for presentations.

Contents of class preparation and review	# Weekly Assignments: Determined by the instructor. # Research Tasks: Conduct preliminary research for your Graduation Research Project (GRP). This includes finding relevant literature, datasets, and methodologies that suit your chosen topic. # Presentation Preparation: Prepare presentations outlining your research progress and findings for class discussions. # Class Review: Reflect on Feedback: Carefully consider feedback given by the instructor and peers regarding your work. Discussion Points: Summarize key discussion points from the class and note new insights that could improve your research. Update Research Plan: Adjust your research plan as needed based on feedback and the seminar's direction. This could mean revising your research question, methodology, etc. Prepare for Next Steps: Identify what actions you need to take for the following week's seminar or to progress with your GRP (further research, proposal refinement, CLA+ test preparation, etc.).	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	1 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	1 hours
Feedback Methods	In the weekly meetings, students are expected to provide updates on their research progress to their instructor. If relevant, they should also share their progress with fellow Seminar students. Following each presentation, there should be concise discussions to delve into the presented material.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
CLA+ test	20%	See the breakdown in the attachments.
Seminar specific evaluation	80%	See the breakdown in the attachments.

Required Textbook(s)	Required materials and/or textbooks will be decided by the advisor.
Other Reading Materials/URL	n/a
Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism involves presenting another individual's work as one's own, which is dishonest. Similarly, submitting the same work for assessment multiple times is categorized as plagiarism too. It is also important to address the emerging concern of AI-giarism, where artificial intelligence is misused to generate content without proper attribution. Detection of plagiarism, including AI-giarism, results in a failing grade (F) for the Seminar. Therefore, it is imperative for students to familiarize themselves with the "Plagiarism Guidelines" and actively engage in the online Ethics for Student Research course provided by the Academic Progress and Research Integrity Network (https://www.aprin.or.jp/en/rse). The iCLA acknowledges the rapid advancements in the field of artificial intelligence (AI). To ensure that our policies remain relevant and effective, the iCLA will actively monitor the progress of AI technologies and will make necessary amendments to its policy as required.

Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	▉ Other Policy: ▸ Advisor Consultation: Students must proactively schedule meetings with their academic advisor to discuss their projects and receive guidance throughout the research process. ▸ Concurrent Seminar and GRP Enrollment: ⚕ For optimal performance in the GRP, it is highly recommended to complete the seminar beforehand. The seminar equips students with essential research skills and knowledge crucial for tackling their research project. ⚕ In exceptional circumstances, students may request permission to take the seminar and GRP concurrently. This request is subject to rigorous review by iCLA Management and is granted on a case-by-case basis. Students considering this option should discuss it with their academic advisors early on to understand the challenges and application process. The decision to approve concurrent enrollment rests with iCLA Management. ⚕ Students approved for concurrent seminar and GRP enrollment must pass the CLA+ test and demonstrate the ability to handle the workload required for seminar and GRP. Their advisors will assess their performance in week 6 and report to iCLA Management. ▸ Extension Protocol: ⚕ Extensions may be granted in cases of documented hardship (e.g., illness, bereavement). ⚕ Requests must be submitted with supporting evidence to the Administrative Office at least 7 days prior to the original deadline. In the event of unforeseen, extreme circumstances, students must immediately contact both their advisor and the Administrative Office with relevant documentation for individual assessments. In exceptional cases where a request is made beyond the 7-day window, iCLA Management will review the situation on a case-by-case basis. Circumstances within student control (e.g., time management, technical issues) are not eligible for extensions. ⚕The final decision on extension approvals rests with iCLA Management. ▸ Communication: ⚕ Use email for all seminar-related inquiries. ▸ Late submission penalties ⚕ Assignments submitted late without a prior approved extension will face the following penalties: # Week 10 Submissions: 5% deduction per day, up to a maximum of 5 days. # Week 15 Submissions: 10% deduction per day, up to a maximum of 5 days. # Submissions more than 5 days late will result in a failing grade. Important Note: Extensions may be granted in cases of documented hardship. Contact your instructor and the Administrative Office immediately.

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Weekly Meeting [For those who are taking the Seminar and GRP conccurently, check the requirement about submission of GRP proposal in the GRP Syllabus]
Class 2	Weekly Meeting
Class 3	Weekly Meeting
Class 4	Week 4 [mandatory] Take CLA+ test (further details will be announced through UNIPA). Failure to take the CLA+ test will result in a Fail grade for the seminar.
Class 5	Weekly Meeting

Class 6	Weekly Meeting [For Students concurrently enrolled in the Seminar and GRP only] The advisor will evaluate the progress of the student and notify the committee regarding the student's potential to complete the GRP.
Class 7	Weekly Meeting
Class 8	Weekly Meeting
Class 9	Weekly Meeting
Class 10	[Week 10] Draft Proposal (GRP) and list of bibliography/reference # Submission Deadline: 17:00 JST, Friday # Submission Method: Submit to the admin office via UNIPA Required Document: (use template for week 10) # Draft Proposal (GRP): Word Count: 400-500 words # Bibliography/List of References: Minimum of 10 references # Format: .doc or .docx (Microsoft Word file format); No PDF will be accepted # File Naming: [Course Code] [Your Student ID] [Your name], Seminar Pre-requisite: Student must have taken the CLA+ test. Please ensure that all required documents are complete and in the specified format before submission. Late submissions (see. Late submission policy) or submissions in the incorrect format may not be considered.
Class 11	Weekly Meeting
Class 12	Weekly Meeting
Class 13	Weekly Meeting
Class 14	Weekly Meeting

Class 15	Submission Deadline: Friday, 17:00 (JST) Submission Method: Submit via UNIPA Required Documents: Final GRP Proposal and Annotated Bibliography # Use template for Week 15 # Word Count: 800-1,000 words # Minimum of 10 references, minimum of 100 words per reference # Submission Format: File Format: .doc or .docx (Microsoft Word file format) Note: No PDF submissions will be accepted. # File Naming: [Course Code] [Your Student ID] [Your name], Seminar Please ensure that all required documents are complete and in the specified format before submission. Late submissions (see. Late submission policy) or submissions in the incorrect format may not be considered.
Class 16	
Class 17	
Class 18	
Class 19	
Class 20	