

Mainstreaming Risk Management in Development (Fall 2026)

2026-2

IDC521 Mainstreaming Risk Management in Development CAMPUS Asia Plus Team-Taught Course

Instructor information:

- Instructor: Najung Kim & Professors from CAMPUS Asia Plus partner universities
- Office: #433, International Studies Hall
- E-mail: najungkim@korea.ac.kr
- Office hours: By appointment

Course Information

- Course number: IDC521
- Location: #215, International Studies Hall
- Course hours: Friday, 2:00-4:40pm (*This course is a team-taught course and the course date/time which was decided in coordination with other CAMPUS Asia partner universities)
 - In fall 2026, September 25 (Friday) and October 9 (Friday) are national holidays. The instructor will propose alternative dates in due course – however, if no suitable date can be found that accommodates all students, a pre-recorded lecture will be made available instead.
- Communication: All communication with the instructor should be conducted via email, in-person conversations, or scheduled appointments. If you do not receive a response to your email within 48 hours, please send a reminder, as technical issues may occasionally occur.

Course Description

This team-taught course aims to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to a wide range of global risk management topics, including major global risks and development policies/projects designed to address them, consisting of both local lectures and joint lectures. The jointly taught sessions (via Zoom) will be delivered in turn by five universities in the Campus Asia Plus Program: Korea University, Fudan University (China), Kobe University (Japan), Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), and the National University of Laos. During these sessions, GSIS students will gather in the classroom and participate live via Zoom with dozens of students from partner universities, particularly Kobe University and Fudan University, providing a unique opportunity for international learning and exchange. As the course is jointly organized across five universities, the schedule of some sessions may be adjusted to accommodate the shared academic calendar (e.g., a pre-recorded lecture may be provided during Korea University's midterm week). This course will cover various global risk management topics, including climate-related issues, skills imbalances, natural disasters, economic crises, regional cooperation, and public health, enabling students to explore a wide range of risks and policy approaches.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will:

- Build basic knowledge of risk management as well as key global risks and efforts to address them
- Understand interconnection among global risks as well as between development and global risks
- Strengthen practical skills related to international development projects related to addressing global

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risks including the drafting of mission documents

- Develop drafting/presentation/communication skills, critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and adaptability

Assessment

Evaluation criteria	%	Description
Class participation	30%	• IMPORTANT: Active engagement in class discussions including during regular lectures, joint/special lectures, student-led discussions and student presentation will be critical for maximizing your learning experience and overall achievement in this course. • Regular attendance and active participation are essential for success in this course. Absences may be excused for the following reasons with notice prior to class, when supported by documentation: medical reasons, academic commitments such as conference presentations, professional obligations such as job interviews. • Submission of reflection notes (1–2 pages) on assigned readings will be requested at times to summarize main arguments and articulate personal insights.
(Mid-term) In-person written exam	25%	• In-person written exam (composed of multiple questions, short answers, short essay) assessing understanding of the overall course content covered in the first half of the course.
Individual Presentation (*Subject to change to group presentation according to the # of registered students)	20%	• Students will deliver an individual presentation on a selected case study (projects by international organizations completed not earlier than 2010) involving a global risk and corresponding local actions (country- or province-level) that contribute to achieving the SDGs. The presentations should comprise context (background, challenges, interventions, (expected) outcomes, lessons learned/policy recommendations). • The presentation may take the form of: ○ Academic conference: As a researcher or a graduate student, you will present your research findings at an academic conference ○ Expert presentation: You are invited to an international conference by an international organization to share your expert insights ○ Lecture: You are a scholar/professor who are giving a lecture on a given topic • All presenters are asked to upload the agenda 24 hours before on LMS. • Assessment rubric: Logical flow of the session (5%), Facilitation (e.g. agenda sharing) (3%), Quality/Relevance of argument (5%), Delivery (e.g. speaking to audience rather than reading) (7%)
(Final) Mission Plan Development	25%	• Students will work individually to develop a Mission Plan Document—a format commonly used in international organizations when preparing for field missions for data collection. In the context of this assignment, the mission is a hypothetical assignment designed to support the drafting of a report on a specific global risk – in the areas concerning topics from one of the course sessions - and related local actions. The plan should include mission objectives, country/region context, key stakeholders, meeting schedule, proposed data collection tools (e.g., interview, focus group meeting, etc.), and expected outcomes. More details on the assignment will be provided in Week 1. • Assessment rubric: Relevance of the topic and mission objectives (5%), Logical flow and quality of mission planning (10%), Professional writing (5%), Completeness, formatting and submission (5%) (Due 11:59PM, Saturday, December 19)

Note

- Late submissions will take 10 points off the score (with maximum score scaled to 100).
- Plagiarism will be checked and shall not be tolerated.

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Weekly Course Schedule

Week # (Date)	Description
Week 1 (Sept 4)	• Local session: Course overview & Introductions (instructor & participants)
Week 2 (Sept 11)	• Local session: Global risks that matter ○ Overview of global risks that are highlighted in key international reports and development policies and projects that are designed for risk management purposes ○ Readings (<i>**All weekly readings are subject to change once semester starts</i>) ▪ WEF (2026) Global Risks Report 2026: https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Global_Risks_Report_2026.pdf ▪ OECD Global Risks that matter Survey: https://www.oecd.org/en/about/programmes/oecd-risks-that-matter-rtm-survey.html ▪ WEF (2025) Global Gender Gap Report: https://reports.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2025.pdf ▪ UNEP (2023) Climate Risk Landscape: https://www.unepfi.org/themes/climate-change/2023-climate-risk-landscape/ • Group discussion
Week 3 (Sept 18)	• Local session: Introduction to risk management ○ Basics of risk management in international development ○ Interlinked trends in global risks that require interdisciplinary and localized responses, cross-cutting risks ○ Readings ▪ Huyer et al. (2020) Can we turn the tide? Confronting gender inequality in climate policy. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13552074.2020.1836817 ▪ Manuamorn et al. (2020). What makes internationally-financed climate change adaptation projects focus on local communities? A configurational analysis of 30 Adaptation Fund projects. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378019308362 ▪ Brookings Institution (2021). Bridging the global digital divide: A platform to advance digital development in low- and middle-income countries. https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/bridging-the-digital-divide_final.pdf • Group discussion • Grouping advertisement
Week 4 (Sept 25) *National holiday	• National holiday: The session will be held on an alternative date or delivered via a pre-recorded lecture, depending on class consensus. • Local session: Global risks and international organizations ○ Diverse efforts made by international organizations (e.g. UNDP, World Bank, IDB, etc.) to facilitate risk management for addressing a multitude of global risks ○ Reading • UNDP & SDC - https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-09/UNDP-Risk-Informed-Development-Strategy-Tool-for-Integrating-DRR-and-CC-Adaptation-into-Development_0.pdf • World Development Report 2014: Risk and Opportunity – Managing Risk for Development

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	https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/8b0ce20f-98e5-5a1b-a069-9ddc42addc76 Group discussion
Week 5 (Oct 2)	Local session: Global risks related to poverty and education & gender - Consultation session on group presentations & midterm preparations
Week 6 (Oct 9): *National holiday	National holiday: The session will be held on an alternative date or delivered via a pre-recorded lecture, depending on class consensus. Local session: Global risks related to poverty and climate & labour/migration - Consultation session on group presentations & midterm preparations
Week 7 (Oct 16)	Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #1,2 Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by National University of Laos on Risk Mitigation: Evaluation of Agricultural Insurance in Developing Countries (Prof. Viriyasack Sisouphanthong) - This session examines risk management in agriculture, focusing on the role of agricultural insurance as a key mitigation tool in developing countries. Dr. Viriyasack Sisouphanthong will present empirical evaluation methods—including CVM and DCE—to assess farmers' willingness to pay and improve insurance scheme design. The lecture highlights how public support and tailored policies can enhance resilience in climate-vulnerable rural economies. - Readings: "1. Phongoudome, C., Phouyyavong, K., Sonethavixay, S., Vagneron, I., & Clayton, T. E. (Eds.). (2020). *Building an evidence base for policy formulation in the agriculture and rural development sector in Lao PDR*. National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) & Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). https://www.nafri.org.la 2. Mercadé, L., Gil, J. M., Kallas, Z., & Serra, J. (2009, September 3–6). *A choice experiment method to assess vegetables producers' preferences for crop insurance* [Conference presentation]. 113th EAAE Seminar "A resilient European food industry and food chain in a challenging world," Chania, Crete, Greece. 3. Mutaqin, D. J., & Usami, K. (2019). Smallholder farmers' willingness to pay for agricultural production cost insurance in rural West Java, Indonesia: A contingent valuation method (CVM) approach. *Risks, 7*(2), 69. https://doi.org/10.3390/risks7020069"
Week 8 (Oct 23) *Mid-term week: A pre-recorded lecture will be provided. However, if there is a consensus, we may hold an in-person session instead.	Mid-term week 1:30PM-2:45PM: In-person written exam Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Korea University on Skills Imbalances Risk (Najung Kim) - This session will introduce some of the actual projects by selected international organizations (e.g. OECD, World Bank) designed to promote development of relevant skills needed in the changing labour market to help mitigate the risk of skills imbalances (e.g. skills mismatches, skills shortages, and skills surpluses) that can compromise individual, social and national productivity. - Reading (Please read "<i>Section 3.3 Developing skills that matter</i>" of the OECD Report below) - OECD (2020). Towards a Skills Strategy for Southeast Asia: Skills for Post-COVID

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	Recovery and Growth. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/towards-a-skills-strategy-for-southeast-asia_6db0907f-en.html
Week 9 (Oct 30)	• Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #3,4 • Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Korea University on Climate ODA for Climate Risks: Importance, Trends and Key Concepts (Najung Kim) ○ This session will provide an overview of the climate-related ODA provided by DAC members, highlighting its importance, trends, and key concepts (e.g. Rio Markers). The session will also highlight the risks and challenges involved in climate-related ODA from DAC members to ASEAN countries, highlighting the imbalance of the ODA provision in light of the vulnerability and readiness of ASEAN countries. ○ Readings: ▪ Center for Global Development (2021). <i>If We're Going to Fund Climate Mitigation from ODA, We Need to Double It</i>. https://www.cgdev.org/blog/if-were-going-fund-climate-mitigation-oda-we-need-double-it ▪ OECD (2021). Climate-related official development assistance in 2021: A snapshot
Week 10 (Nov 6)	• Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #5,6 • Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Special Lecture by international organization on its work on risk management (TBC)
Week 11 (Nov 13)	• Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #7,8 • Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Yu ZHENG on International Economic Crisis: Past and Future ○ Drawing on lessons from three decades of recurring international financial turmoil, this lecture will examine the persistent systemic vulnerabilities that regulators and risk managers continue to face. We will then analyze the unique political forces that shape each crisis, asking why "this time is different" and what that means for anticipating and managing future economic shocks. ○ Readings: • Ross P. Buckley, Emiliós Avgouleas, and Douglas W. Arner. 2020. "Three Decades of International Financial Crises: What Have We Learned and What Still Needs to be Done?" ADB Economics Working Paper Series No. 615. • Jonas Pontusson, and Damian Raess. 2012. "How (and Why) Is This Time Different? The Politics of Economic Crisis in Western Europe and the United States," Annual Review of Political Science 15: 13-33."
Week 12 (Nov 20)	• Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #9, 10 • Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Fudan University on Risk Management on the politics of disasters (Prof. Bingdao ZHENG) ○ This lecture explores how natural disasters are not merely physical occurrences but are profoundly political events, capable of shaking the foundations of state legitimacy and altering the course of governance. By analyzing the historical cases, we will see that true disaster risk management extends beyond immediate relief to navigating the complex political transformations and societal upheavals that follow in a catastrophe's wake. ○ Reading • Ying Bai. 2022. "Shaking Legitimacy: The Impact of Earthquakes on Conflict in Historical China."

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	Marianna Belloc, Francesco Drago, and Roberto Galbiati. 2016. "Earthquakes, Religion, and Transition to Self-Government in Italian Cities." <i>The Quarterly Journal of Economics</i> 131, no.4 (July): 1875–1926. https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjw020.
Week 13 (Nov 27)	Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #11, 12 Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Kobe University on Risk Management in Education: Building Safe, Inclusive, and Adaptive Systems (Prof. Wang Kexin) - This course introduces key concepts and practices in risk management for education, with a focus on building systems that are safe, inclusive, and adaptable to crises such as pandemics. It explores how schools and education systems can ensure continuity of learning—particularly for students affected by poverty, gender inequality, and disability. A special emphasis is placed on digital learning readiness as a core dimension of education resilience. Through case studies and practical tools, participants will develop the skills to assess a country's digital learning readiness and design inclusive strategies that support long-term system adaptability and equity. - Reading - Rajasekaran, S., Jena, N., Rillo, K., Uka, A., Wang, K. Olszak-Olszewski, A. (2024). Kosovo-Education Digital Readiness Assessment 2024. World Bank. - Rajasekaran, S., & Casap, L. (2022). Moldova-Digital Education Readiness Assessment 2021-22. World Bank. - World Bank. (2024). Georgia Education System Digital Readiness Assessment. World Bank.
Week 14 (Dec 4)	Local session (2-3PM): Student Presentation #13 Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Kobe University on Regional Cooperation: Disaster Risk Management in ASEAN, ASEAN+3, and TCS (Kobe, Prof. Mizan BISRI) - This session introduce various regional cooperation encompassing the cycle of disaster risk management in East Asia through ASEAN, ASEAN+3, and the TCS mechanism. At the end of the session, students will be asked to briefly reflect the type of regionalism at play in those regional cooperation praxis. - Readings "1) Yeo, A. (2016). Overlapping regionalism in East Asia: determinants and potential effects. <i>International Relations of the Asia-Pacific</i>, Volume 18, Issue 2, May 2018, Pages 161–191, https://doi.org/10.1093/irap/lcw015 2) Bisri., M.B.F., Lutfhiananda, F. (2023). Common Resilience Challenges in ASEAN and Potential Areas of Collaboration in Disaster Management. Policy Brief #2, in the ASSC Research and Development Platform series, Jakarta: ASEAN Secretariat. https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/20230321_Policy-Brief_Disaster-Management-2.pdf 3) Spandler. K. & Sonderbaum, F. (2023). Sovereignty and Regionalism: A New Framework. UNU-CRIS Working Paper. https://cris.unu.edu/sovereignty-and-regionalism-new-framework"
Week 15 (Dec 11)	Local session (1:30PM-2:45PM): Session on Career Development in International Development (Focusing on International Organizations) Joint session (3:10PM – 4:40PM): Lecture by Kobe Chulalongkorn University on

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	Risk Management in health (Chaowarit Ngernthaisong, Pinyo Jaroensuk) ○ This session describes importance of applying innovation and technology for risk prevention in health by focusing on critical and long-term care services. The session will also demonstrate examples of the successful cases and discusses about each country. ○ Readings • Ward, M. E., Geary, U., Brennan, R., Vining, R., McKenna, L., O'Connell, B., ... McDonald, N. (2024). A systems approach to managing the risk of healthcare acquired infection in an acute hospital setting supported by human factors ergonomics, data science, data governance and AI. <i>Ergonomics</i>, 1–19. https://doi.org/10.1080/00140139.2024.2396527
Week 16 (Dec 18)	• No Class (Final assignment due) • Due 11:59PM, Saturday, Dec 19