The University of the Philippines Diliman Center for International Studies (UPCIS) was established in October 2000. It was envisioned to generate knowledge about the countries of the world and their interrelated cultures and ecological, social, economic, political, ideological, and gender systems. It aims to enable Filipino students to appreciate their multicultural origins as well as enrich their own development, to have a deeper understanding of the complex and diverse world toward a more peaceful co-existence among peoples of the world. Thus, UPCI’s mandate is to be a center of scholarship toward such an objective, by developing country and topic specialists particularly in Asia, the Americas, and Europe.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

UPCIS employs a multidisciplinary, crosscultural approach to teaching which focuses on combining theory, research, and practice. It aims to produce students who are appreciative of their multicultural origins and aware of the issues confronting the world.

GRADUATE COURSE

The Center is preparing graduate courses in Global Studies such as Global Studies 297, a special topics course for graduate students with themes ranging from Cultures of Disasters, Peace and Conflict and Migration and Diaspora, etc. GS 297 will be an exploratory course for the creation of a master’s degree in Global Studies. In addition, a certificate course in Disaster Risk Management, which eventually leads to a master’s degree in Disaster Risk Management, is also in the planning stage.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

Special International Collaborative Programs are likewise undertaken.

From 2005 to 2010, travelling classrooms for SEA 30 courses was funded by the Southeast Asian Studies Regional Exchange Program (SEASREP).

Since 2005, its Japan Studies courses have been hosting the UPCIS Noh Theater Ensemble and UPCIS Bunraku (Puppetry) Ensemble, whose members are provided with a unique experiential learning opportunity to train with Noh Master for Shite (Lead Actor) of the Kanze School Naohiko Umewaka et al. and Naoshima Onna Bunraku and Joruri, respectively.

Since 2011, the Global Studies Tour in the Philippines of Yokohama National University students and Global Studies Tour in Japan of UPCIS Japan Studies’ Filipino students have been funded by Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)-Short Stay Program.

RESOURCE COLLECTION AND ARCHIVE

The CIS Resource Collection is a repository of books and other reference materials from domestic and foreign partner institutions.

Naomi “Shoko” Matsumoto Technical Theater Library and Archive is a collection of information and knowledge about Technical Theatre and the intercultural ties between Japan and the Philippines in the said field.
COURSE OFFERINGS

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE

East and Southeast Asia (SEA)

30* Asian Emporiums: Networks of Culture and Trade in Southeast Asia. An introduction to the world of monsoon Asia as formed by interaction among its peoples throughout the centuries. 3 u.

ELECTIVE COURSE

Global Studies (GS)

197 Special Topics. Cannot be taken more than twice, topics to be indicated for record purposes. 3 u.

Japan Studies (JS)

100 An Overview of Contemporary Japanese Culture and Society. Survey of contemporary insider and outsider views of Japanese culture and society. 3 u.

101 Japanese Culture and Society I. Thematic discussions on the core elements of Japanese culture and society, the elements borrowed from other cultures and the way they are fused. 3 u.

*Can be taken to fulfill AH or SSP GE requirement; can be credited only once