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**CLIMATE ACTION: BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AND THE UNITED NATIONS
GLOBAL COMPACT**

Global Collaborative Summer Program (3 Credits)

Kyung Hee University

Seoul, Korea

June 29 to July 17, 2020

From shifting weather patterns that threaten food production, to rising sea levels that increase the risk of catastrophic flooding, the impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. As the global climate emergency continues to threaten the livelihoods of both people and the planet, we are already seeing business operations and economies disrupted around the world. For governments and business, working together to build a prosperous, net-zero carbon economy by 2050 is critical. Companies have an opportunity to step up as leaders at the forefront of the climate movement, reimagining the way they can work together with both governments and the United Nations to shift industries and transform the way we do business (From *1.5 C: Business Leadership, UNGC*).

Thankfully, more and more individuals and organizations are waking up to the social, environmental and ethical costs of a global marketplace and are making a sound business case for a new era of moral capitalism. Leading the way in this regard is the United Nations with its groundbreaking Global Compact initiative. Launched in 2000, the UN Global Compact (UNGC) as of June 2020 had more than 14,400 participants—including 10,000 businesses and 4,500 non-business participants in 160 countries around the world—making it the world’s largest voluntary corporate social responsibility project. The course will explore the meaning of sustainable development and how a net-zero carbon economy might be realized in the foreseeable future.

OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce the student to the possibility of a net-zero carbon economy and to the United Nations Global Compact and why its focus on human rights, labor rights, environmental issues and corruption is so attractive to the many stakeholders of society.
2. To develop the ability to think clearly about the impacts of climate change and how one integrates environmental, social and governance issues into corporate management.
3. To develop a sensitivity to the moral and ethical values that enable companies to restore public trust in business.

4. To understand how a number of companies are implementing the principles of the Global Compact to advance climate action by examining case studies.
5. To examine and understand the changing role of business in society.