



**Inter-Graduate School Program for
Sustainable Development and Survivable Societies**

**Interdisciplinary Seminar (1 session course)
【 # 15-(1)】**

**Invasive species as emerging
“man-made” disaster: causes and
consequences**

**By: Dr. Chin-Cheng YANG
(Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere)**

Date: June 9, 18:15- 19:45

Venue: Shishukan Hall (HIGASHI ICHIJOKAN, basement floor)

<Summary>

Globalization has resulted in increasing trade, transport, travel and tourism around the world, all of which significantly facilitate spread of species outside their native ranges. The non-native species, once established, are particularly troublesome and considered as “invasive” as they generally exert enormously adverse impacts on economic development, ecosystem sustainability, food security, agricultural yield and human health. To mitigate problems associated with invasive species, a better understanding of their causes and consequences represents one of the most crucial tasks to achieve the goal, and a framework for preventing the introduction of other species that possess similar invasive characteristics can be developed accordingly. In this seminar, the causes and consequences of invasive species will be addressed, along with several examples that elaborate on magnitude and severity of threats imposed by invasive species as well as on interplay between invasive species and anthropogenic (man-made) activities. In addition, ants, an emerging invasive taxon of global importance, will be discussed in more detail especially in the context of the causes underlying the ecological success and the direct/indirect effects that occur following invasion. Conclusively speaking, students in GSS program are able to strengthen the awareness of invasive species through simple yet fundamental case studies in the seminar, thus capable of pursuing an interdisciplinary development of a management strategy for this globe-threatening issue.