EMSE 6992-80: Global Connections: Standards in Technology, Business & Public Policy

This new, foundational course, offered in Spring, 2016, covers the creation of national and international technical, business and policy consensus standards, the structure and operation of national and international standards development organizations, the process of standardization, the function and practice of conformity assessment, and the strategic role of standards in society for promoting public policy, safety, interoperability, sustainability and prosperity. A case study on the development of global environmental management standards is interwoven with all class sessions and serves to strengthen and cement concepts on both standards and the international processes that support their development. This course addresses a major gap in professional understanding of the indispensable role and complementarity of such standards to the mandatory rules and regulations from Government. The wheels of industry and technology would come to a screeching halt if such standards did not exist and yet students are graduating from prestigious universities with virtually no knowledge about their existence or how they come about. This inter-disciplinary, graduate-level course is a welcome corrective to that deficiency and fills the gap by developing students’ knowledge and skills to operate effectively and provide leadership in the standards arena. It gives special attention to the exciting potential for voluntary consensus standards to promote prosperity and safety at a time when governments find it difficult to act.

Class Logistics:
Course numbers: EMSE 6992.80/TSPPPA 6085.80
Course name: Global Connections: Standards in Technology, Business & Public Policy
Course credits: Three credit hours
Time is 2.5 hours/session, one session/week, Thursdays 6:10 – 8:40 PM, 15 weeks
Location: Lehman Auditorium, Science and Engineering Hall (SEH)
Office Hours: Cascio -- Tues: 4-6 pm (Tompkins Hall, Suite 103). cascio@gwu.edu; 994-3005
Crawford – Thur: 4-6 pm (Media & Public Affairs Building, Suite 625).
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