

Elective Course Description (1. Fall Semester)

Subject (English)	Japanese Culture A		Semester	Fall	Day/Slot	
科目名 (日本語)	日本の文化A					
Course Code		Course Numbering	UJY-OHU101E		Period	Oct. – Feb.
Instructor (Post)	K. SHIDARA (Part-time lecturer)				Campus	
					Building	
Faculty	Institute for Excellence in Higher Education		Credits	2	Class Room	
Class subject	Japanese culture					
Object and summary of class						
<p>An exploratory culture course, Japanese Culture A is offered for foreign students to learn about and share insights into various aspects of the living culture of Japan. The course comprises three basic approaches: discussion of certain cultural aspects of the country; reading literature; field trips to places of cultural significance. Japanese Culture A and C courses overlap in part due to the nature of certain special events taking place during the semester.</p>						
Keywords	history that's alive, 2011 earthquake and tsunami, rebuilding, Sendai mission to Vatican					
Goal of study						
<p>Students will gain a new perspective of the culture of this nation by examining the interconnection of various elements including the history and culture of Tohoku Region, rebuilding effort from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and the intent to reach out to the rest of the world.</p>						
Contents and progress schedule of class						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General course guidance & short lecture "What's in a name?" 2. Overview of the history of Tohoku 3. Fieldwork: Nenoshiroishi's Kamuri Festival and Mt. Izumi 4. Sendai Castle: Historical roles and destiny 5. Hiking the former Sendai Castle grounds 6. Building the Millennium Hope Hills in Iwanuma City: An innovation for tsunami protection 7. 17th-century mission to the Vatican from Sendai 8. Surviving the 2011 tsunami 9. Coming to terms with the 2011 tsunami: Reading <i>Warm Hands</i> 10 & 11. Fieldwork in Ishinomaki: Inspecting rebuilding effort from 2011 tsunami 12. Reading: <i>The Samurai</i> by Shusaku Endo 13. Visiting the Sendai City Museum: Seeing artifacts Sendai samurai brought back from Europe 14. Student presentation 15. Student presentation 						
Preparation	Weekly posting of reflections on the topic of each lecture on class web forum site					
Record and evaluation method	Evaluation will be based on attendance, weekly web assignments, final paper and presentation.					
Textbook and references	<p>Textbooks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Surviving the 2011 Tsunami: 100 Testimonies of Ishinomaki Area Survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake</i>, the Editorial Office of the Ishinomaki Kahoku 2. <i>Warm Hands</i>, Miki Onosaki <p>References:</p> <p><i>Japan: The Story of a Nation</i>, Edwin O. Reischauer</p>					
Self study	Same as "Preparation" above					
In addition	-					