

TUJP-1 Course Description

as of March 23, 2021

Class title:	Instructor(s):	Course objectives and synopsis:
Orientation	GLC	The orientation will give students an introduction to Tohoku University, the program content, schedule, buddy system, and other important points. Also, participants will give a short self-introduction.
Japanese Language	Japanese language instructors	In this basic class, students will acquire the linguistic and cultural knowledge needed for student life in Japan. The class uses original videos to provide a "virtual study abroad" experience and teach vocabulary, kanji, and authentic expressions with conversations. It also provides them chances to encounter the diversity of the Japanese language, increase their awareness of using situationally appropriate language, and expand their communicative skills. The program aims to increase student motivation for learning Japanese.
Japanese Culture A: Introduction to Sendai's Traditional Culture - Suzume Odori (Sparrow Dance)	Shota Hayashi & Yukiko Shimmi	<p>Suzume Odori is a traditional dance of Sendai, which was first performed in 1603. In this session, students will learn about the Suzume Odori's history and outline. In the live session, students will also watch an experienced dancer's performance and then practice dancing together. Before participating in this class, please watch the short Suzume Odori videos and be ready for the performance!</p> <p>Pre-lecture preparation: If possible, please prepare two paper fans for the performance. (It is okay to participate without fans.) If you do not have any fans, you can make them. We will provide sample fans on Google Classroom for the participants. Please print them out and make two fans. They should be light green on one side and orange on the other side. If you have something that you can use as a substitute, that would be fine too.</p>

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Japanese Culture B: Introduction to Japanese Ukiyo-e	Elena Fabbretti	This is going to be an introductory course to Ukiyo-e, the Japanese art of woodblock prints. During the Edo period, Ukiyo-e prints were representations of the floating world for ordinary townspeople's enjoyment. We will see some main works of masters, such as Hokusai and Hiroshige, and how their prints influenced Western modern art (Japonism). If there is time left, we might discuss popular prints as art and the relation between Eastern and Western art.
Japanese Culture C: Introduction to Japanese Culture and Sendai by Tohoku University Students	Rumi Watanabe	In this class, Tohoku University students will introduce traditional and popular Japanese culture and Sendai using activities such as quizzes etc. There will also be Q&A sessions. Students will enjoy interacting with each other while learning about various topics, including seasonal Japanese events, customs, trends among the youth, and recommended spots around Sendai.
Japanese Culture D: Introduction to Japanese yōkai	Kiya Okhlopkova	This is an introductory course on Japanese "yōkai" (supernatural creatures of Japanese folklore), their perception through the times, and the development of the "kwaidan" culture. We will examine the history of "yōkai" studies in Japan and their classification, and also look into their gender aspect and urbanization. If there is time left, we might also hold a short discussion about ghostly stories.
Japanese Culture E: Introduction to Japanese Classical Literature	Le Yu	<p>This lecture will introduce Japanese classical literature, especially the war tales composed during the medieval period, and will focus on the narrative of the battles to reveal the dominant thoughts about and understanding of conflict and wars in pre-modern Japan. Examining the thoughts reflected in the war tales will help develop a better idea of the historical views of the Japanese, which have largely shaped the Japanese culture.</p> <p>Pre-lecture assignment: Read the distributed text of the Tale of the Heike (the chapters titled "The death of Moritoshi" and "The death of Atsumori" from Book Nine, translated by Royall Tyler (2012) The Tale of the Heike, New York, NY: Viking), and find basic information about the battle of Ichi-no-tani described in Book Nine.</p>

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Intercultural Collaborative Learning: Smile Project: Collaborative project with Tohoku Univ. students	Kazuko Suematsu	This workshop is designed to enhance participants' understanding of Japanese culture from the perspective of "warai," which is translated as "smile" or "laugh." Project-based learning as well as intercultural collaborative learning methods, where learners from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds exchange ideas and develop a project together, will be used. The participants are expected to gain new perspectives on the issues related to the project theme.
Exchange with TU Students	@home	Students will interact with Tohoku University students through quizzes and activities about traditional Japanese culture, language, and pop culture.
Introduction to TU Programs	GLC	This session will introduce students to the four Student Exchange Programs offered at the Global Learning Center and to Tohoku University's graduate schools.
Final Presentation and Closing Ceremony	GLC	<p>Using what they learned during the program, students will prepare a PowerPoint presentation in Japanese.</p> <p>The details of the presentation will be announced in the Japanese language classes.</p> <p>At the closing ceremony, there will be a comprehensive review of the program overall. Participants will make closing remarks, and there will be group photos etc.</p>