

TUJP-Basic Course Description as of September, 2021

| Class title: | Name: | Course objectives and synopsis: |
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| Orientation & Campus tour | | 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 Class | 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: Yōkai | Kiya Kaur | 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 B: Suzume Odori | 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.</p> <p>In the live session, students will also watch an experienced dancer's performance and then practice dancing together.</p> <p>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> |
| Japanese Culture C: Japanese Sake | Rumi Watanabe | <p>This class will be taught by staff from a famous Japanese sake brewery.</p> <p>In this class, students will learn about the history of sake and how it is made. They will also take a quiz on sake etiquette.</p> |

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| Japanese Culture D: Ukiyo-e | Elena Fabbretti | This is going to be an introductory course to the 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 relations between Eastern and Western art. |
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| Intercultural Collaborative Learning & PBL: 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. |
| Intercultural Collaborative Session: Deepening Interactions with Tohoku University Students in TUJP | Yukiko Shimmi | In this session, you will participate in collaborative learning and exchange activities with Tohoku University students who are assisting TUJP students as "Buddies." You will deepen your understanding of Japanese language and culture while making friends, with the aim of enabling future Buddy activities to go more smoothly. International Co-learning Supporters (Tohoku University students) will assist with the planning and running of this session |
| Exchange Activity with TU Students | @home | In this TUJP Basic class, you can learn Origami, the typical Japanese pastime. You can make various things by just folding paper. We will teach how to fold, and we choose easy shapes so that you can just enjoy it. Let’s try Origami with us! Also, we will do Sugoroku which is Japanese traditional game especially played in the New year. We made a special Sugoroku with questions about Japanese and your country’s culture, so you will be able to know about Japan. We are looking forward to seeing you all in the class! |
| Introduction of exchange programs and graduate schools in TU: On demand | | 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 | | Using what they learned during the program, students will prepare a PowerPoint presentation in Japanese. The details of the presentation will be announced in the Japanese language classes. 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. |

