

Course Number	Course Title An Introduction to Japanese Culture I 日本文化入門 I		Credits 2	Instructor(s) Yu Ming Hwang
Keywords		Japanese Culture		
Course Description (including Goal and Objectives)		This course utilizes local resources in Yamagata for students to experience aspects of the Japanese culture such as the Dressing Kimono, home-stay in Japanese house, Nannkinn tamasudare (Japanese traditional street Art) , Baking pottery, Zazen meditation, Japanese traditional music (bamboo flute and mukuri), Kendama, and a Hot spring, through an environment rich in traditional culture and nature in Yamagata. On occasion, specialists from outside the university are invited as a lecturer. The aim of this course is to provide international students an opportunity to improve their proficiency in Japanese and to deepen their understanding of the Japanese culture and society. This course is offered in Spring Semester. The class meets once a week.		
Course Schedule		1	Introduction	
		2	Visit Bunshokan: the former Yamagata Prefectural Offices and Assembly Hall	
		3	A cherry blossom-viewing picnic at Kajo Park	
		4	Zazen: Zen meditation (practice)	
		5	Nannkinn tamasudare (Japanese traditional street Art)	
		6	Home-stay in Japanese house	
		7	Kendama: cup and ball, Hot spring, Baking pottery (lecture & practice)	
		8	Japanese traditional music 1: bamboo flute (lecture & practice)	
		9	Japanese traditional music 2: mukuri (lecture & practice)	
		10	Hot spring	
		11	Baking pottery	
		12	Culture exchange with Yamagata commercial high school students	
		13	Kimono (practice)	
		14	Presentation	
		15		
Textbook(s)		Handouts will be provided.		
Reference(s)		A Kodansha encyclopedia. Kodansha International. 1998.		
Grading Method		Final report	30%	
		Attendance	30%	
		Class participation	20%	
		presentation	20%	
Message to Students		Because field lecture require more time, we will have fewer classroom lectures.		
Contacts		E-mail: freddyyu@kdw.kj.yamagata-u.ac.jp Office Hour: Fridays 13:00-14:30    Office Telephone: 023-628-4933		

