

Course Number	Course Title:(Spring semester) An Introduction to Japanese Culture I 日本文化入門 I (前期)	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, Yukata, Japanese sign language, Nankinn tamasudare (Japanese traditional street Art) , Baking pottery, Zazen meditation, Japanese traditional music (bamboo flute and mukuri), Kendama, and Making Kite, English Rakugo 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 both of Spring Semester and Autumn Semester. The class meets once a week.		
Course Schedule	1	Introduction & Visit Bunshokan: the former Yamagata Prefectural Offices and Assembly Hall	
	2	A cherry blossom-viewing picnic at Kajo Park	
	3	Baking pottery	
	4	Visit Yamadera	
	5	Educational Museum	
	6	Zazen meditation	
	7	Dressing Kimono	
	8	Nankinn tamasudare (Japanese traditional street Art)	
	9	Dressing Yukata (practice) & Hanakasa dance	
	10	Kendama: cup and ball (lecture&practice)	
	11	Japanese traditional music 1: bamboo flute (lecture & practice)	
	12	Japanese traditional music 2: mukuri (lecture & practice)	
	13	Making Kite	
	14	Japanese sign language	
	15	English Rakugo	
Textbook(s)	Handouts will be provided.		
Reference(s)	Yu Ming Hwang 「A Journal of Yamagata-Encountering a Multicultural Society Through Yu's Experiences in Yamagata,Japan and the World」 2019		
Grading Method	Final report	40%	
	Attendance	30%	
	Class participation	30%	
Message to Students	The schedule will be change depend on the cooperator. Do your best to make friends with other International Students in this Class.		
Contacts	E-mail: freddyu@kdw.kj.yamagata-u.ac.jp Office Hour: Fridays 13:00-14:30 Office Telephone: 023-628-4933		