

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, Participate in the Hanakasa Festival, Nankinn 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	Visit Yamadera	
	5	Nankinn tamasudare (Japanese traditional street Art)	
	6	Kimono (practice)	
	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	Participate in the Hanakasa Festival	
	14	Presentation	
	15		
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	30%	
	Attendance	30%	
	Class participation	20%	
	presentation	20%	
Message to Students	Because field lecture require more time, we will have fewer classroom lectures.		

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