

Research Room: American Culture and Society

Teacher: Amy Wilson, Professor

Theme: Cross-cultural understanding and research

The focus of this seminar is on cross-cultural understanding. We will discuss readings in English about the subject in order to understand the fundamental differences between cultures and what needs to be done to overcome these and develop our mutual appreciation, using mainly information based on American culture and society. Students will be expected to have good attendance, participate in lively discussions, and work on some sort of active research involving surveys and/or interviews, as well as doing extensive library and internet research. The main geographical areas of focus are Japan and the United States, but other areas can be considered.

Grades will be based on active class participation, reporting skills and an English research report of over 5 pages in length with bibliography .

Weekly classes will be used mainly for discussion – Students will take turns preparing and leading the class. We will learn about general themes of cross-cultural understanding, and also begin work on students' graduation theses.

2012 Thesis Titles

- ◆ Stimulating Elementary School Students' Interest in English: Using Action Research to Investigate Children's Attitudes
- ◆ What is Happiness? – The necessary means for Japan to be a happy country
- ◆ The Effect of Experiential Learning on Relationships between School Children – Through performing an experiment using Project Adventure
- ◆ Finding Satisfaction in Married Life – A Cross-cultural and cross-generational comparison
- ◆ International Exchange Projects: Developing effective programs in Japan
- ◆ Comparison of Communication Styles between Americans and Japanese: Differences in self-concept and public and private self
- ◆ Making Classes Communicative: English education in High School

2011 Thesis Titles:

- ◆ The Effect of Non-Verbal Communication on the Development of Human Relationships – The Use of 'Creative Movement' in the Freshman Orientation at YPU
- ◆ Research on English Education at Elementary Schools using Student Volunteers
- ◆ Cultural Differences in Japanese and American Movies
- ◆ Made in Japan is Best...?

2010 Thesis Titles:

- ◆ Bringing up Children Bilingually
- ◆ The Position of Regional Eating Habits in Internationalization – Review the Value of Our Traditional Food
- ◆ The Importance of Nonverbal Communication in Japanese Cross-Cultural Education
- ◆ Japanese Hybrid Cars – Are they here to stay?

Earlier English Titles

- ◆ Expectations for Early English Education in Japan – A Comparison of the American and Japanese Elementary Education System
- ◆ Cultural Influences on language: Using the example of the phrase "Take it Easy"

教員について :

教員の研究領域・地域 : コンピュータを利用した語学学習 (CALL),
異文化比較研究 (主に日本とアメリカ)

現在の研究テーマ : 家庭教育の国際比較

指導可能な研究テーマ・分野 : CALL, 異文化比較, 量的調査の方法・分析

どうぞ気軽に研究室を尋ねてください。

尚、第一志望調査時も、第二志望調査時も可能な限り、研究室に足を運んでください。