

1. Experiential Learning Plan

Konnichiwa! I will be your direct contact with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa while you undertake your summer study in Kobe, Japan. My role as Resident Director includes monitoring your academic progress as well as your attendance and level of participation, facilitating and mediating in any academic issue that arises in your study, and ensuring that your final grade is properly transmitted and recorded as UHM credits.

Throughout the program period, I will be available for counselling and assisting your cultural and academic adjustments in a new environment in Japan. As an experienced language teacher, I will also assist you in maximizing your study abroad experience in order to accomplish your respective language goals. I will have open-door office hours on most weekdays, where you can stop by and chat casually, and I will also make myself available for individual meetings. We will also have social gatherings to exchange information and reflect upon individuals' experiences during the program.

One of my major responsibilities as Resident Director is to ensure that all students meet the Student Learning Outcomes of the Study Abroad Center:

1. Demonstrate awareness of your own cultural values and biases and how these impact your ability to work with others.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of diversity with a focus on the population or topic of interest in your Study Abroad program.
3. Communicate appropriately and effectively with diverse individuals and groups.
4. Demonstrate an increased capacity to analyze issues with appreciation for disparate viewpoints.

We will accomplish these goals through:

- Keeping a reflective journal of your intercultural encounters. This journal can include texts, photo images, drawings, and poetry. Any form of expressions as long as it serves as a self-reflective opportunity is accepted. You may share it with other participants, or you may keep it personal and share it only with me. (SLOs#1, 2, 4)
- Three conversational recordings in which you converse with your host family or Japanese friends. We will have individual sessions to go over and listen to these conversations together and reflect on your communication and intercultural experience and strategies. This activity is not only helpful to become aware of your own linguistic behavior, but also to realize diverse issues that arise in intercultural communication. (SLOs#2, 3, 4)