

Nagasaki University Students Participate in Cultural Exchange

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In September, the ELC hosted a group of students from Nagasaki University in Japan who came to MSU to study English and American culture for three weeks. Aside from learning in the classroom, the students explored and experienced American culture through field trips, special events, and outdoor activities. They also participated in a collaborative project with the students of Japanese professor Mika Yamaguchi in her JPN 301 class. The two groups of students worked together to prepare presentations on the similarities of American and Japanese culture, delivered in English and Japanese.



Ice Skating in Munn Ice Arena



Giving a cultural presentation with Japanese and American groupmates



Poster presentations on their observations of American customs and practices



At the Michigan Capitol for a guided tour



Riding a dune buggy in the sand dunes of Saugatuck

The ELC GLOBE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts & Letters
English Language Center



ELC Hosts English for Graduate Studies Program



Before fall semester 2018 started, the ELC hosted twenty-eight Fulbright scholars for a three-week graduate studies training program. The scholars came from sixteen countries who were accepted to Master's and Doctoral programs at a number of different universities in the United States. These international scholars studied coursework focused on refining their oral and written communication skills needed for graduate work. They also attended seminars on U.S. academic culture, higher education institutions, healthcare, police interactions, sexual discrimination, research practices, and key relationships in academia.

The Fulbright scholars also participated in cultural immersion activities to assist with their adjustment to American life and culture. They visited the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, the Michigan Capitol, the Michigan Historical Museum, Mackinac Island, and attended a baseball game. They also expanded their professional network by meeting with MSU faculty in their respective fields of study and made valuable connections. East Lansing families also hosted the Fulbright scholars in their homes for dinner.



Attending a seminar by Captain Kelly Roudebush from MSU Police Department



Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 380,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and other professionals—chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential—with the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. The Fulbright Program is funded by an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State, and it is managed, coordinated, and overseen by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations, and foundations in more than 160 countries and the United States also provide direct and indirect support.

"I can learn one simple thing during the program. In every situation, either in classroom or outside classroom, professionalism is a must," said Hanif Sudibyo of the experience. He is now at Cornell University for his doctoral degree in chemical engineering.

When asked how the program helped him, Fatin Yaro from Burkina Faso said, "The Fulbright EGSP program has been a tremendous help for me to be ready for graduate studies in the U.S. It has equipped me with the capacity to conduct research and write an efficient research paper that meets the U.S. standard. I've gained through this a better understanding of the American culture thanks to the different socializing activities we had here. I am now ready and confident to go for my Masters degree."

Shiga University Special Program

ELC Hosts English Teachers from China

Each fall semester, Economics students from Shiga University, Japan come to MSU for a four-week intensive English program. Aside from studying in the classroom, the Shiga university students also travelled all over Michigan and the city of Chicago to experience and learn about American culture.



Left: Meeting Sparty at Sparticipation, the student involvement fair during Welcome Week

Right: Lake Michigan near the town of Saugatuck with other ELC students



Tomoko with her host family. Local families hosted the Shiga students for a homestay weekend



At the "Bean" or Cloud Gate in Millenium Park, Chicago



On the 103rd floor of the Skydeck in Chicago



In front of the iconic Beaumont Tower



Analyzing vocabulary teaching methods

Fourteen participants from China came to the ELC for two weeks for a teacher training program in October 2018. The participants were from Unibridge International Education, which is an educational institution for English language learning and teaching in China. The program was designed to improve the participants' English language teaching skills and teach them about American culture. The coursework of the program focused on the different methodologies for teaching reading, writing, listening, and speaking, as well as examining the role of the teacher in the language classroom. The participants also visited a local elementary school where they shared their culture at an International Festival. In between their classes and assignments, the group also visited Chicago, Detroit, and the Henry Ford Museum.



Sharing Chinese culture with Wilcox Elementary School students through interactive activities featuring calligraphy, art, national dress, language, and food.



Hiroshima University Special Program

New Online Vocabulary Class for ESL 094

In August, four Education students from Hiroshima University arrived at MSU to study at the ELC. They spent the next sixteen weeks studying English, experiencing American culture, attending teaching seminars, and observing in public schools.

In Fall 2018, the 094 Vocabulary class was offered as an online course in the Intensive English Program. This is the first fully online course offered in the IEP. This means that the class did not meet in person as all the vocabulary practice was done online. The class only met in person for quizzes and tests. The goal of the course was for students to learn the meanings, collocations, and usage information for 192 vocabulary items. The course was delivered through D2L, MSU's learning management system.

The online program allowed students to learn and practice vocabulary on their own time and at their own pace. It also encouraged students to take responsibility for their own learning and time management. All the deadlines for the vocabulary exercises were posted at the beginning of the semester, providing students with a structured and organized system to complete their work.

The 094 Vocabulary class is the newest addition to the online course offerings of the ELC that includes the Academic Reading, Writing, and Listening/Speaking courses in the Online Academic English Program.



Observing classes at East Lansing High School with Ms. MaryLou Turnbull



Shoto with his roommate in their dorm room. All the Hiroshima University students lived in MSU dorms with roommates



Yuki carves a pumpkin to make a Jack o' Lantern for Halloween



Yukiho at Niagara Falls