

BED200 Study Abroad Seminar

1st quarter, Sophomore / 3rd quarter, Sophomore / 1st quarter, Junior

Instructor	KOBATA KOJI
Style of Class	Lecture (60 minutes) *The following 30 minutes is used for orientation on student exchange procedures
Number of Credits	1
Day and Period	Friday, period 3

Course Description

The founding mission of the Faculty of Global and Community Studies is to cultivate global talent capable of contributing to local and global society by working together with others to solve problems and achieve common goals, informed by mutual understanding and acknowledgment of differing value outlooks and worldviews. Study abroad is therefore an important pillar of the Faculty's curriculum. Through study abroad, students are expected to acquire advanced skills of communication in English and other languages, a capacity for cross-cultural understanding, and specialized abilities.

This is a required course for all students studying abroad in the following semester, and the final stage in the process of assessing students' eligibility for study abroad. Failing this subject results in cancellation of study abroad. English is the language of communication in this course. Its aim is for each student to set concrete and clear objectives for their study abroad, and a plan for achieving them. Lectures, discussion and group work are used to provide adequate preparation for study, life, security and other aspects that will enable achievement of objectives and a successful study abroad experience.

Through classes, which include guest speakers invited as necessary, students acquire specialized knowledge and deeper insights. Study abroad returnees and international students are also invited to share their experiences, enabling students to prepare by developing realistic simulations of their own study abroad and formulating concrete responses and approaches to be used when encountering certain situations, as well as strategies for dealing with both foreseen and unforeseen problems. In addition, all procedures required for student exchange are managed through this course, ensuring that they are completed in a timely manner.

Course Objectives

- 1) Consider trends in globalization, global higher education, and global human resources.
- 2) Consider the relationships between student exchange programs and university internationalization, and global human resource development.
- 3) Set individual objectives for study abroad and consider its outputs and outcomes.
- 4) Research host universities and formulate plans for courses to take and transfer of credits.
- 5) Research and analyze the culture, history, society, politics, economics, and current issues in leading study abroad destination countries.
- 6) Consider what it means to live in a different culture, from the perspective of cross-cultural communication.
- 7) Gain deeper knowledge on the maintenance of mental health, safety, and risk avoidance.
- 8) Extend one's insights in order to be able to communicate the culture, traditions, history, and other aspects of Japan. Also, select and study a topic of debate in contemporary Japan of one's own interest.

Prerequisites

None

Class Materials

- 1) Ross Lewin. (2009). The Handbook of Practice and Research in Study Abroad: Higher Education and the Quest for Global Citizenship. New York, NY: Routledge
- 2) Stacie Nedadowski Berdan, Allan Goodman, Sir Cyril Taylor GBE.(2013). A Student Guide to Study Abroad. New York, NY: The Institute of International Education
- 3) Hans-Dieter Kligenmann, Ewa Kulesza, Bob Reinalda. (2006). The Bologna Process – Harmonizing Europe's Higher Education: Including the Essential Original Texts

(2nd Revised Edition. Barbara Budrich Publishers

- 4) Eva Maria Vögtle. (2014). Higher Education Policy Convergence and the Bologna Process: A Cross-National Study (Transformation of the State). Palgrave Macmillan
- 5) Paul L. Gaston. (2010). The Challenge of Bologna: What Unites States Higher Education Has to Learn from Europe and Why It Matters that We Learn It. Virginia. Stylus Publishing
- 6) David Killick. (2014). Developing the Global Student: Higher Education in an Era of Globalization (Internationalization in Higher Education Series). New York, NY: Routledge
- 7) Joseph Shaules. (2015). The Intercultural Mind: Connecting Culture, Cognition, and Global Living. Intercultural Press
- 8) Aoki Tamotsu. (2001). *Ibunka rikai* (Cross-cultural Understanding]. Tokyo: Iwanami Shinsho.
- 9) Aoki Tamotsu. (2003). *Ibunka sekai* (World of diverse culture). Tokyo: Iwanami Shinsho.

Course Method

Classes are operated in lecture format. Students are expected to participate actively in discussion on class topics. There will also be lectures by guest speakers and group work with international students and study abroad returnees.

Evaluation/Assessment

Grade evaluation is based on the following three items:

- (1) Active participation in class: Participating actively in class discussions, presentations, and group work. Students will be evaluated on leadership, ability to communicate their ideas, coordination, cooperation, and originality.
- (2) 1st Essay: Respond to a question in essay format. This task will take the form of a Take Home Exam with students given approximately two weeks to complete it. Questions will be distributed in class 5, and essays submitted in week 7.
- (3) 2nd Essay: Respond to a question in essay format. This task will take the form of a Take Home Exam with students given approximately two weeks to complete it. Questions will be distributed in class 11, and essays submitted in class 13.

Essays will be marked and returned to students within 10 days of submission.

Grading

20%	Class participation
40%	1st Essay
40%	2nd Essay

Course Schedule

Week 1: Outline

Overview of course content; discussion and reflection on globalization and internationalization.

Week 2: Mobility: Global higher education trends and global human resource development

Examine the Bologna Declaration of 1999 and formation of a European higher education bloc and subsequent development of higher education blocs across the world, and explore the idea of global human resources as seen through these trends.

Week 3: Student exchange programs, university internationalization, and global human resource development

Gain an overview of the philosophies and institutional design of student exchange and the meanings and purposes of academic exchange (student exchange) agreements; develop deeper insights and understandings of university internationalization and global human resource development.

Week 4: Aims of study abroad

Explore clearer and more concrete answers to the questions of what your individual study abroad aims are, what you hope to achieve through study abroad and how to do it, and how to link your study abroad experience to your own career and future.

Week 5: Course plan and credit transfer

Develop a thorough knowledge of the host university curriculum, academic system, and student services, and of the credit transfer system at Fukui University. Before this Class, submit a course plan and credit transfer form authorized by your academic advisor. When drafting the form, make plans for your studies up to graduation as well as plans for study during your study abroad assuming credit transfer is possible under your advisor's guidance. Prepare your plan with both First Group and Second Group (alternative) courses.

Week 6: Research on the study abroad destination

Conduct research and summarize findings on the history, culture, politics, economics, and society of the destination country, the current issues that are attracting public attention, and the country's relations with Japan. Present your findings in groups. It is anticipated that the presentations and question/answer sessions will provide new discoveries and deepen your understanding of the destination country.

Week 7: Living in another culture (1)

Study the mechanisms of culture shock and the U-curve and W-curve processes of cultural adjustment, gain a deeper understanding of psychological changes envisaged during a period of study abroad, and think about concrete strategies for escaping from a state of culture shock. Share your ideas through group discussion and deepen your insights into methods of risk avoidance.

Week 8: Living in another culture (2)

Learn about cross-cultural understanding and acceptance, and explore the idea of multicultural coexistence. Investigate the visible and invisible aspects of culture in your destination country, and think about cultural acceptance. Share your discoveries through group discussion and deepen your understanding of acceptance and multicultural coexistence.

Week 9: Living in another culture (3)

Share the experiences of international students in Japan and the study abroad experiences of returnees, consider the kinds of physical and mental problems they faced while living in a different culture, and learn how they resolved those problems. Share their actual experiences of changing feelings, internal conflict, and action. Use these to explore your own "keys" to success in study abroad.

Week 10: Mental health management

Learn specialized knowledge of mental health management with an invited guest speaker. First, in a lecture format, learn how to minimize mental fatigue, stress and anxiety and maintain mental health. Then undertake group discussion to gain deeper understanding, and individually formulate concrete strategies for prevention.

Week 11: Risk management (1)

Learn about risk management structures and initiatives at Fukui University. Use actual cases to study approaches both in normal conditions and at times of illness, accident, and other emergencies, as well as how to ensure safety in situations such as natural disaster, political unrest, and outbreak of contagious/infectious disease. In group discussions, students present and share safety information on their study abroad destination countries and surrounding countries/regions, gathered in advance from sources such as the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs website and Embassy of Japan in the destination country.

Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs: <http://www.anzen.mofa.go.jp/>

US Department of State: <http://www.state.gov/>

Japanese Ministry of Justice: Report of US Department of State:

http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri03_00007.html

World Health Organization (WHO): <http://www.who.int/en/>

Week 12: Risk management (2)

With an invited guest speaker, acquire knowledge of risk management from an expert perspective.

Week 13: Study abroad and career design

Think about how to utilize study abroad in your own career. Hear a lecture from an invited guest speaker from the corporate world on expectations for students regarding study abroad, and the kinds of global human resources that companies require.

Week 14: Current issues of Japan

At the start of this Class, select a topic in current issues of Japan (domestic or international; for example, domestic economic disparities, the situation in Far East Asia, etc. In group discussion, present and share the content you were instructed to research. This content will also become your essay topic for the final examination.

Week 15: Review

Confirm that you are adequately prepared for study abroad across all the topics addressed, including all procedures for student exchange, individual achievement objectives, and study abroad plans.

Preparation and Follow-up

- (1) Classes correspond with topics identified in the textbooks, reference materials, etc. Read through the applicable topics before attending each lecture (preparation).
- (2) After each lecture, deepen your understanding of the lecture content and handouts as well as the corresponding topics in the textbooks, reference materials, etc. (follow-up).