

Cultural Portfolio

Time: M-F 13:15-15:00

Place: ILC Rm. 131

Instructor: Sanae Eda (江田早苗)
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Long Term Objectives:

The ability to be somebody -- someone who moves easily and effectively -- in the culture and society you're studying, by means of the language you're studying. Over the long run, this will come about as you use the language in developing friendships and lasting associations with people who live in that culture and language. But for this to happen, you need to develop a capacity to express yourself in a culturally coherent manner, and to understand the intentions of people who live there, as they express them. Prepare carefully for your next language class, using your ears, eyes, imagination, and intellect as fully as you can, and make this a habit.

Short Term Objectives:

Cultural Portfolio classes are designed to help you further develop and integrate skills and knowledge of the Japanese language and culture. Through various activities (e.g., analysis of text, field trips, interviewing, presentations, discussions, etc.) that are contextualized and structured, you will gain in depth knowledge of Japanese languages and cultures.

Cultural Portfolio:

Each of you will be developing a portfolio in this course. A portfolio is defined as “a purposeful collection of student work that tells the story of the student’s efforts, progress, or achievement in a given area.” Through portfolios, you will be documenting your path to a greater understanding of the Japanese cultures and languages as well as your own cultures and languages, and eventually a deeper understanding of yourself. You can use your portfolio for reference throughout your undergraduate career, and beyond.

Your portfolio will consist of these parts:

1. A Personal Web Page
 - a. **Cultural Analysis** (Based on the field trips and reflections; specific instructions will be given for each task.)
 - b. **Essays:** publish as blog entries at least four (4) of your best writing samples from the works you complete for JLP course(s) that you are enrolled.

- c. **Trips:** a journal of a trip away from your “comfort zone”; each entry should **narrate** an event, and include at least three pictures with captions. (at least 2 entries)
- d. **Days in Japan:** a journal which contains incidental or informal observations, i.e., **description** of objects (mono) or events (koto), and each entry should include at least one picture. (at least 8 entries)

Evaluation:

Cultural Portfolio	
Critical Thinking	40%
Essays	5%
Trips (2)	5%
Days in Japan (8)	20%
Participation/Attendance	10 %
Presentations (5)	20%

Total	100%

A (94-100) A-(90-93.9) B+(87-89.9) B (84-86.9) B- (80-83.9)
 C+(77-79.9) C (74-76.9) C- (70-73.9) D+(67-69.9) D (60-66.9) F(0-59.9)

Grading Criteria

Each Portfolio Entry will be evaluated on the following criteria:

	Language	Content
10 p ts.	Excellent, with very few errors.	The writer analyzes the evidence in support of the argument. Interpretation is insightful and persuasive, and displays extraordinary depth of thought. May pose original ideas.
9 pts.	Incorporates recently learned materials, goes well beyond “bare minimum.” Errors are more nuanced.	The writer analyzes the evidence in support of the argument. Interpretation goes well beyond what has already been discussed in the sources.
8 pts.	Meets all the requirements. Errors are limited to predictable ones at the intermediate level.	Meets all the requirements; the discussion is focused and the flow of argument is coherent.
7 pts.	Has numerous “careless” errors, eg. using hiragana for basic vocabulary, error on conjugation, length too short.	The writer fails to analyze the evidence in support of the argument. Interpretation is not fully persuasive or insightful.
6 pts.	Incomplete / Unacceptable	The analysis does not go beyond personal opinion that is not supported by the evidence.