



# Japanese House

Mutsumi Corson and Kazuko Suzuki, Program Directors

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This Japanese culture and language residential learning program is designed for students eager to study Japanese culture and/or language in mutual teaching and learning activities. Its major goal is to explore Japanese culture through shared activities. Use of the Japanese language in suites and during program activities will be encouraged but not required. The residential component of the Japanese House is open to all UVM students who are currently studying or who have studied Japanese culture and/or language and also to students who have native or near-native fluency in Japanese and are willing to share their knowledge and skills. The extra-residential components of the Japanese House encourage participation by all members of the UVM community and of the local Vermont community who wish to share their interest in Japan, especially including visiting and resident Japanese nationals. Basic to this program are the convictions that the best way to learn is to teach others and that experience is essential to the learning process. Program activities are guided by participant interests and are made as enjoyable for all as possible.

The program members are expected to interact with other Global Village members to share different cultures for better mutual understanding.

Japanese House Program residents are encouraged to take Japanese language courses at the relevant level.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

### **Enhanced Knowledge of Japanese Culture**

#### Action Steps

- Teams of program members and students taking Japanese language courses organize and lead educational events consisting, for example, of a lecture by a guest speaker, a presentation on some aspect of Japanese culture or life by students, a showing of a Japanese cultural video and a feature film, a demonstration/workshop on Japanese tea ceremony, flower arranging, calligraphy, cooking, martial arts, etc. These events are usually open to the public.
- Program members will collaborate with students of Japanese at St. Michael's College and South Burlington and Essex High School at special events such as Matsuri, the Japan Festival.

## Enhanced Japanese Language Fluency

### Action Steps

- Program members who are Japanese language students or (near-)native speakers will be expected to use Japanese as much as possible when speaking with other language students or (near-)native speakers both during and outside of program activities and especially within the program suite(s).
- Program activities will include a session on basic Japanese phrases and frequently be conducted bilingually in Japanese and English.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

(a) All program activities will encourage participation by all those with knowledge or interest in Japan from both UVM and local communities. It will make a special effort to welcome both international and resident Japanese speaking students.

(b) Program members will participate in multicultural campus events and present Japanese culture to the UVM and outside communities.

## COURSE INFORMATION

### Recommended Courses:

Fall Japanese 001, 051, 101, 121, 201, 221  
Spring Japanese 002, 095, 052, 102, 122, 202, 222

## X. PLANNING TIMELINE -- FALL SEMESTER 2008

### 1st week

Program meeting--sharing residential space issues, problems, ground rules and solutions; scheduling cultural presentations and activities

### 2nd-12th week

Workshops on calligraphy;  
Workshops on flower arranging;  
Workshops on tea ceremony;  
Lectures on Japanese literature, arts, music, etc.;  
Video viewings;  
Student presentations on Japanese culture  
Field Trips

### 13th week

End-of-Semester party;

14th week

Program meeting--evaluation of the fall activities and planning for the spring semester

#### PLANNING TIMELINE -- SPRING SEMESTER, 2009

1st week

Program meeting--discussing recruiting plans for the Japanese House 2009-2010 and scheduling presentations and activities

2nd-13th week

Presentations by students;  
Discussions with members of the UVM and the local communities who share interests and experiences in Japan;  
Workshops on various aspects of Japanese culture;  
Video and film viewings  
Participation in the Japan Festival sponsored by the Japan-America Society

14th week

Program meeting--evaluation of the spring activities and planning for next year;  
End-of-Semester party

---



#### **About the Global Village**

This program is part of the Global Village Residential Learning Community (RLC). For UVM students interested in exploring other cultures, studying abroad, or pursuing lives and careers in an increasingly interconnected world, the Global Village may be just the place for you! Drawing on the resources of the Living/Learning Center and its dynamic network of student- and faculty-led programs, the community of learners that make up the Global Village will be engaged in coursework, lectures, concerts, exhibits, study sessions, faculty and peer mentoring, social connections with international students, group meals, and trips that:

- Explore the many connections among language, art and culture at regional, national, and international scales.
- Share disciplinary expertise within an environment that values a holistic approach to “living and learning.”

- Encourage formal and informal contacts among students, faculty, and staff within the Global Village, the Living/Learning Center, the other Residential Learning Communities, and the university as a whole.
- Aim to be a complement to existing international and cross-cultural programs at UVM.
- “Think globally and act locally” by outreach to the international community at UVM and within the greater Burlington area.

More information about the Global Village RLC can be found at: <http://www.uvm.edu/rlc>

### **AIS 095: The Global Village**

AIS 095: The Global Village is a self-paced, one-credit course designed to help you get the most out of your experience as a citizen of the Global Village residential learning community. In addition to taking part in any courses that are required or recommended for your individual House, all new Global Village residents must enroll in AIS 095 for one credit during the fall semester (as must any returning Global Village student who has not yet satisfactorily completed the class). This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. As this a self-paced course, there will be no weekly class meeting time. Instead, you are expected to participate in an average of one House activity or one non-House cultural/educational event per week throughout the semester. Each House will have the opportunity to craft a “community learning plan” that will involve a combination of House and non-House activities that will fulfill the requirements of one-credit course. We’ll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend. Finally, you should plan to attend the Global Village community meetings, which are periodically throughout the year.

We’ll provide you with a Global Village Passport; use it to keep track of your activities and explorations. In addition to documenting participation in your weekly events/activities, you will need to do reflective writing in the form of five short journal entries on the cultural/educational events that you participated in, along with a lengthier essay looking back on your most meaningful experience of the semester within the Global Village.

Returning Global Village students are also invited (but not required) to enroll in AIS 095 during the fall semester. Enrollment in AIS 096 for one credit during the spring semester is optional and encouraged for all students.

If you anticipate a problem with fulfilling this course expectation (such as if you will already be enrolled in 18 credits), please contact your Program/House director.

For more details about this course, visit: <http://www.uvm.edu/rlc/ais095096.pdf>