



Japanese House

Prof. Mutsumi Corson and Kazuko Suzuki Carlson, Program Directors

This residential program is open to all UVM students who are currently studying or who have studied Japanese culture or language and also to Japanese international students willing to share their knowledge and skills. Members will live and learn together and teach each other in Living-Learning Center suites, which are part of the L/L Global Village. Use of Japanese language in suites will be encouraged but not required. Program activities will encourage participation by all members of the UVM community and the local Vermont community who wish to share their interest in Japan, including visiting and resident speakers of Japanese. 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 will be guided by participant interests and made as enjoyable for all as possible. The program will be directed by two instructors of Japanese.

II. 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.**

III. STUDENT NEEDS

This Program is designed to meet several educational needs of students studying Japanese language and/or culture. It addresses the needs of these students for:

- (a) Opportunities for active, personal engagement with aspects of Japanese culture such as Japanese arts and crafts, Japanese cuisine and cooking, Japanese films and literature, etc.
- (b) Using Japanese language in extra classroom settings and with native speakers other than their instructors
- (c) Learning by sharing their knowledge of Japan with other interested persons, both fellow students and community members

IV. LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ACTION STEPS

Learning Objective I: Enhanced Knowledge of Japanese Culture

Action Step (a) -- 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.

Action Step (b) – 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.

Learning Objective II: Enhanced Japanese Language Fluency

Action Step (a) -- 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).

Action Step (b) -- Program activities will include a session on basic Japanese phrases and frequently be conducted bilingually in Japanese and English.

V. 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.

XI. COURSE INFORMATION

Recommended Courses:

Fall Japanese 001, 095, 051, 101, 121, 201, 221
World Literature 109

Spring Japanese 002, 096, 052, 102, 122, 202, 222
World Literature 119

X. PLANNING TIMELINE -- FALL SEMESTER 2009

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.;
Film 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, 2010

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

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, 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/globalvillage>

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar

GRS 095/096: The Global Village Seminar is a largely 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. All new Global Village residents **must** enroll in GRS 095 for one credit during the fall semester or GRS 096 for the spring semester. (Returning Global Village students who have not yet satisfactorily completed the class must enroll in GRS 095 during the fall semester.) This course will be graded on a “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” basis. The course will be partly comprised of a series of “Common Hour” community gatherings held on Thursday afternoons. The primary purpose of the Common Hour meetings is to build a stronger sense of community among the members of the many Global Village houses and programs. As well, the Common Hour gatherings will help Global Village citizens build a common knowledge and skill set, including such topics as intercultural communication, globalization, etc. A variety of program offerings will take place during Common Hour meetings, such as special guest lectures, interactive dialogue and social gatherings. During weeks when the Common Hours are not held, you are expected to participate in one educational event or activity with a global cultural theme.

We'll provide you with a list of suggested events and activities, or you can identify other events/activities with a global cultural theme; you choose which ones you wish to attend.

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 Common Hours and the educational 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 GRS 095 during the fall semester. Enrollment in GRS 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 Prof. Joseph Acquisto, Faculty Director of the Global Village, at Joseph.Acquisto@uvm.edu

For more details about this course, visit: <http://www.uvm.edu/~gvrlc/passport/GRS095096.pdf>