

Spirit of Japan: Learning Through Culture, Tradition, and Travel

IDH 4007-EA7 Spring 2025, Hybrid Course
Thursdays, 2:00 - 3:15 PM, DM 370

Professor Cesar Castillo

Office Hours: Thursdays 3:20-4:20 PM, DM 384C
or by appointment Via Zoom

Course Description and Purpose

This course explores the concept of **Reciprocity** through the lens of traditional Japanese culture, Indigenous Ainu beliefs and practices, and contemporary cultural tourism (which we interchangeably explore as ethnic, academic, and anthropological tourism). By examining these interconnected domains, we will delve into the principles and lived experiences of sustainable and reciprocal societies in ways that challenge conventional western perspectives.

The course begins by examining reciprocity in its sociocultural and ecological domains across historical and contemporary Japan. Then, we explore how cultural tourism can foster meaningful and reciprocal engagement between visitors and host communities. We will then explore the spiritual relationship between the Ainu people and nature, emphasizing their reciprocal way of life. Through a multi-perspective approach, we will analyze reciprocity and its broader implications for sustainability, tourism, and Ainu culture.

Course Goals

This study abroad will offer students inimitable experiences to learn and share “RECIPROCITY” by visiting five distinguished cities. The focus of the program would be sharing our culture with people in Japan while profoundly experiencing Japanese and Ainu cultures. In each place, carefully designed activities will motivate students to engage in the concept of our trip while formulating and engaging in research-oriented assignments. Thus, in the spring class, we will focus on developing the social etiquette, historical background, anthropological knowledge, and research skills needed to explore our concept of reciprocity in Japan. Through interactive in-class activities, applying social research methodology, the use of tool like ArcGIS story maps, and examination of various cultural practices, students will be prepared for the objectives of the Summer study abroad to Japan.

COURSE GOALS SUMMARY:

- To understand the concept of Reciprocity as expressed socially, culturally, and ecologically in Japanese traditional culture and Ainu customs.
- Applying principles of qualitative research and reciprocity in the study of cultural tourism on our study abroad.

- Encourage students come to see themselves as active participants in cultural tourism through the study abroad to Japan
- To examine “cultural tourism” and its implications for reciprocal interaction and knowledge-sharing across cultures.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Course learning objectives are derived from the course goals and designed to be assessable. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- **Apply** readings to analyze reciprocity as expressed in traditional Japanese culture, Ainu beliefs, and contemporary cultural tourism.
- **Understand** and apply Japanese etiquette as part of meaningful cultural engagement.
- **Examine** case studies on cultural tourism to explore its reciprocal and social implications for host communities.
- **Analyze** shared expressions of reciprocity across diverse sociocultural contexts.
- **Formulate** research questions related to reciprocity and its sociocultural and ecological dimensions.
- **Design** a visual and oral data narrative presentation using ArcGIS StoryMaps to showcase findings on reciprocity and cultural tourism.
- **Develop** reflective projects that critically assess insights on Japanese culture, Ainu customs, and reciprocity, while proposing applications for reciprocal practices in cross-cultural contexts.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- **Interpret** the concepts of Japanese customs, manners, and basic greetings for the Study Abroad Program.
- **Analyze** examples of reciprocity in cultural tourism, traditional Japanese and Ainu culture.
- **Evaluate** contemporary Japanese issues in relation to reciprocity and cultural tourism
- **Design** and apply research on reciprocity to the cities we will visit.
- **Compose** original projects of reciprocity that could be exchanged in Japan with host organizations

Honors College Student Learning Outcome

SLO.R.2. Conduct a multi-perspective logical analysis and synthesis of local, regional, national, or global intercultural problems.

SLO.I.2. Apply ideas, methods, and knowledge from multiple disciplines to a question or issue.

Course Requirements

The class format will include reading assignments, weekly study questions, current event papers, film viewing, and group discussions in the class and on the discussion board. There will be a heavy emphasis on discussions, so students must be prepared for assigned subjects. The discussions are meant to take the text book materials to a more critical levels, imploring students to generate their own questions to be analyzed during the in-person sessions. Each student is expected to complete the mid-term project, one-page current event papers, assigned discussions, film reflection papers, and the final group project. The instructor will take off points if the above assignments are not adhered to.

COURSE TEXT BOOKS (Materials):

Articles and other required readings will be available via Canvas.

Course Policies

I. EARLY ALERT

In an effort to help you succeed in your academic courses, FIU utilizes an Early Alert system. Instructors are now able to notify students' academic advisors if there are concerns about class performance. If an alert is submitted, your academic advisor will send you a message via your Student Dashboard (accessed via your MYFIU page) to discuss ways to improve your performance. Please respond to any communication you receive from your academic advisor about an early alert. Our goal with this program is to help you to be successful by identifying any issues as early on as possible and working to address them.

II. PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is defined as "literally theft," and will NOT be tolerated. Plagiarism, in forms some students may not be aware of may include:

- (1) A written work that is ENTIRELY stolen from another source.
- (2) Using quotations from source without proper citation
- (3) Paraphrasing from a source without proper citation

Students are expected to UNDERSTAND the definition of plagiarism. To view the University Code of Academic Integrity please visit

http://education.fiu.edu/plagiarism/fiu_procedures_in_plagiarism.htm

When all else fails; ASK the instructor for help. If you are found guilty you could receive a failing grade for the course which in some cases leads to dismissal from the course and in severe cases from the university. ****IF A STUDENT IS CAUGHT PLAGIARIZING PUBLISHED OR UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS (INCLUDING THE WORK OF CLASSMATES OR FRIENDS) YOU WILL RECEIVE A (0) FOR THE ASSIGNMENT.**

III. LATE PAPERS

Late papers will be downgraded at the discretion of the instructor and is therefore, highly discouraged.

There will be an additional 3 points deducted for each week that the assignment is turned in late. 3 weeks from the due date, the submission window will close.

IV. FIU POLICIES

Please review the [FIU's Policies Links to an external site.](#) webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

Technical Requirements & Skills

By taking a Hybrid course, your computer literacy skills will grow. Some of the skills that you need at the beginning of the course include:

Working knowledge of how to use word processing software and web browsers.

1. Good email and document management skills.
2. Navigating online gaming applications
3. Operating a webcam device and uploading a video onto your computer

Technical course requirements include:

4. A reliable Internet connection.
5. Regular access to a laptop or desktop computer with an updated operating system and web browser.
6. An active FIU email account that is checked daily (or forwarded to an email that is checked daily). We use Canvas inbox for our class information.
7. Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc)

Please visit our [System and Technical Requirements Links to an external site.](#) webpage for additional information.

Accessibility And Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Please visit our [ADA Compliance Links to an external site.](#) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's [Disability Resource Center Links to an external site.](#)

Religious holidays

Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

Academic Misconduct Statement

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct includes: Cheating – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. Plagiarism – The use and appropriation of another's work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Learn more about the [academic integrity policies and procedures](#) [Links to an external site.](#) as well as [student resources](#) [Links to an external site.](#) that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

Expectations of This Course

This is a Hybrid Course, which means much of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, Hybrid courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students. Unique to this course, students will also be expected to take handwritten notes and participate in various activities that are designed to avoid the use of technological tools to supplement the learning objectives of the course.

Students are expected to:

8. Review the how to get started information located in the course content
9. Introduce yourself to the class during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion
10. Take the practice quiz to ensure that your computer is compatible with Canvas
11. Interact online with instructor/s and peers
12. Review and follow the course calendar
13. Log-in to the course 7 times per week
14. Respond to discussions within 4 days
15. Respond to messages within 2 days
16. Submit assignments by the corresponding deadline
17. Participate in class activities.

Assignments

I. Attendance

Students are required to attend every in-person session. At the beginning of each in-person class session, students are expected to submit 1-page weekly study question responses to the instructor. These study questions will be posted on the weekly modules and require the student having studied the weekly module course material. These 1-page weekly study question responses will be handwritten and submitted physically to the instructor at the beginning of each in-person class session to record attendance.

II. Current Event Papers

This assignment is meant to keep students up to date with current news events regarding Japanese culture and society, including Ainu culture and society. This assignment will help increase students' awareness of the impact that Japan has on the rest of the world today, as well as the globalization of diverse aspects of Japanese society. Students collect and comment on a current news article (less than 3-month-old) that relates to a contemporary issue relating to Japanese society. Recommended news sources are available on Canvas module. These should be

1.25 spacing, Times New Roman 12 pt font; 1 page, 2/3 should be summary and critical analysis of events, 1/3 should be reflection.

Week	Paper Description/ Wednesday
Week 3	Current Event Paper 1: Due 01/22 by 11:59PM
Week 5	Current Event Paper 2: Due 02/05 by 11:59PM

Week 7	Current Event Paper 3: Due 02/18 by 11:59PM
Week 9	Current Event Paper 4: Due 03/05 by 11:59PM
Week 11	Current Event Paper 5: Due 03/19 by 11:59PM

III. Film Reflection Papers

There will be five one-page reflection papers (1.25 spacing, Times New Roman 12 pt font). Check the sample format carefully and follow it when you write a paper. Late submission is accepted until 3 weeks past the due date. There will be 3 points deducted per week. These papers should be mostly reflection and analysis of films, not merely summary.

Week	Paper Description /Friday	Topics
Week 2	Film Paper 1: Due 01/17 by 11:59PM	NHK Japanology 1. Shinto Shrine
Week 4	Film Paper 2: Due 01/31 by 11:59PM	NHK Japanology 2. Kimono
Week 6	Film Paper 3: Due 02/14 by 11:59PM	NHK Japanology 3. Kabuki
Week 9	Film Paper4: Due 03/07 by 11:59PM	Ainumosir: Ainu Pride
Week 12	Film Paper 5: Due 03/28 by 11:59PM	Choose 1 out of 3 films Tokyo Sonata Nobody Knows All About Our House

IV. Discussion Board

After reading assigned chapters, students examine and discuss the assigned questions on the Discussions, then discuss in the classroom. This will be graded.

18. The approximate length of a response should be at least 100-150 words.
19. Students are expected to post at least three times on each Discussion. First post is the answer, and the other two posts should be the comment to your peers.
20. Forums are available one week and due date is stated ahead.
21. The grading rubric/ criteria can be found in the course's Discussions.
22. Late submission will have points deducted.
23. Forums will be graded within a week from the due date.

Week	Paper Description (Mondays)
Week 3	Discussion 1: Due 1/20 by 11:59PM
Week 4	Discussion 2: Due 1/27 by 11:59PM
Week 5	Discussion 3: Due 2/03 by 11:59PM
Week 6	Discussion 4: Due 2/10 by 11:59PM
Week 9	Discussion 5: Due 3/03 by 11:59PM
Week 11	Discussion 6: Due 3/17 by 11:59PM

Week 12	Discussion 7: Due 3/24 by 11:59PM
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IV. Mid-Term Paper

The midterm paper will be an analytic research paper, 1000 words. Topics, and detailed information will be announced around 1/30

Due date is 2/23, 11:59PM

V. Final Storymap Project

Groups will be tasked with developing Storymap presentation using ArcGIS Storymaps, these presentations will address different facets of reciprocity in Miami. One of these will be selected for a presentation during our Study Abroad in Japan in 2025, summer semester.

Week	Due Date	Progress
Week 12	03/24 – 03/28	Choose research theme. Instructor will announce 4 different groups
Week 13	03/31 – 04/04	Form 4 Project Groups: Find the appropriate sources for your research paper. Examine the <u>Library Guide Links to an external site.</u> This library site is designed especially for our class use. Find effective pictures, at least 10, and contribute them directly on the PowerPoint presentation, and Wiki paper.
Week 14	04/07 – 04/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a group, write an introduction and background. Start writing group project paper.
Week 15	04/14 – 04/18	04/17: PowerPoint presentation on the research subject in the class. During this week, students can keep editing to create an effective paper, and will finalize the drafts into the final paper.
Week 16	04/21 – 04/ 25	Finalize the Final Project Paper. Due date is 04/27, 11:59PM.

Grading

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Weight
Attendance and Class participation		10%
Current Event Journals	5	15%

Film Reflection Papers	5	15%
Discussions	7	15%
Mid-term Paper	1	20%
Final Project	1	25%
Total	19	100%

Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
A	95 or above	B	83 - 86	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 94	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	87 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	59 or less

**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY
HONORS COLLEGE
2025 STUDY ABROAD STUDENT CONTRACT**

By registering for an **Honors Study Abroad program**, I commit to making my payments on time, complying with the requirement deadlines, and remaining in the program. Refunds are not awarded. Switching programs is not allowed (refer to “Switching, Withdrawals, and Cancellations” section for more details).

Note: - IDH 4007 is the pre-travel class on campus; IDH 4008 is the class abroad.
The Office of Education Abroad enrolls students in the class.

Deadline dates that fall on weekends and/or holidays are **NOT** moved to the next business date.

I am aware that *in order to commit*, I must (1) apply via the 2025 Honors Study Abroad application, (2) interview with the Honors College, (3) sign this contract, (4) apply to Office of Education Abroad (OEA) application by filling out the application on abroad.fiu.edu (specific program application-link provided by Honors College), and (5) pay a \$500 non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit to Student Financials or MyFIU within one week after my interview.

I am aware that I do not secure a spot on an Honors Study Abroad program until I attend my group interview with the Honors College. Spaces are available on a first come, first served basis. It is recommended that I attend the first time slot available to secure a spot on my preferred program.

Documentation:

I am aware that I must upload the signed Course Registration Form to abroad.fiu.edu **specific program application** by **DECEMBER 1, 2024, 11:59PM**. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I must upload ALL required Material Submissions to abroad.fiu.edu no later than **MARCH 1, 2025, 11:59PM**. Materials Submissions required by the OEA include the Medical Information Form, copy of valid passport, and four questionnaires: (1) personal information form, (2) emergency contact form, (3) special needs form, and (4) financial information form. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that my passport must remain valid for at least six months after the last day of the program.

I am aware that if I do not have a valid passport by the deadline mentioned above, I must instead submit proof that the passport application/renewal process has been initiated and must replace it with a copy of my actual passport no

later than **APRIL 12, 2025**. If I fail to comply by the deadline, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4008, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that while taking the IDH 4007 class, I will be required to attend the online *mandatory* pre-departure orientation on the study abroad application portal. The orientation will provide me with helpful information regarding safety and security matters in my host country(ies), the course registration process, university policies and student responsibilities abroad, cultural adjustment, and other matters that will help prepare me for an exciting and successful experience abroad. I am aware that during the pre-departure orientation, I must complete the session and associated quizzes, sign the pre-departure forms, and upload the pre-departure forms to my application at the **abroad.fiu.edu** portal by **MARCH 1, 2025, 11:59pm**.

I am aware that depending upon the country(ies) that I am visiting and/or my country of citizenship, I may be required to apply for a visa. I understand that it is my responsibility as a participant in my education abroad program to inquire as to whether I will need to request a visa to enter the host country(ies). I must contact the consular offices or visit their websites for more information on my host country's entry/exit requirements. The Honors College and the Office of Education Abroad are not responsible for making visa appointments for students.

I understand that if I need a letter of support from the program to apply for my visa, I may request the letter of support by visiting the Office of Education Abroad in SASC 230 or by calling (305) 348-1913. I understand that my request for a letter may take 2-3 business days to be completed.

Physicality:

I am aware that the completed Medical Form is valid for only six months after the date it is signed by a licensed healthcare provider and cannot expire before the end of the program.

I am aware that if any changes are made to my medical history from the completion of the Medical Form, the changes must be documented in a memo from a licensed healthcare provider to **abroad.fiu.edu** as soon as the change occurs. Additionally, I will notify my Faculty Director in case of any medical changes.

I am aware that the faculty leader and/or support staff do not administer medical care or provide medication. It is my responsibility to contact FIU's insurance provider if in need of medical care or medication.

I am aware of my dietary restrictions and needs. I have also reviewed common foods of the country(ies) I will visit on the program. I am liable for any food that I consume while on the trip.

I am aware that the Level of Physical Activity of the Honors Study Abroad program I am registering for is listed as (1) No exertion at all, (2) Easy, (3) Moderate, (4) Difficult, or (5) Extreme. I am aware of the physical requirements of the program, and I can complete all of them.

(1) **No exertion at all:** no walking or activities

(2) **Easy:** limited walking, no physical activities

(3) **Moderate:** less than 10,000 steps per day, few physical activities (e.g. hiking, biking, canoeing), little stairs, short-distance walking (10-15 minutes)

(4) **Difficult:** over 10,000 steps per day, multiple physical activities (e.g. hiking, biking, canoeing), lots of stairs, long-distance walking (15-20 minutes)

(5) **Extreme:** approximately 15,000+ steps per day, many physical activities (e.g. hiking, biking, canoeing), lots of stairs, long-distance walking (20-30+ minutes)

Academics:

I am aware that I must clear any existing holds by **DECEMBER 1, 2024, 11:59PM** and again by **MARCH 18, 2025, 11:59PM**, and I am responsible for ensuring that I have no new holds before I am enrolled in both IDH 4007* and/or IDH 4008*. If I fail to comply by the deadlines, I will not be allowed to participate in the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

*If I have a hold on my account, I cannot be enrolled for classes.

I know that to participate in an Honors study abroad program, I must *maintain* a minimum cumulative FIU GPA of 3.3. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that to be enrolled in IDH 4008, or travel with the program, I must receive a grade no lower than C in IDH 4007. If I cannot be enrolled, refunds will NOT be awarded and posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware of the start and end dates of the travel portion of the program. I understand that I must be present for the **entire program**. Leaving early or arriving late **will** affect my grade in IDH 4008, the class abroad. If I earn a grade lower than a C in IDH 4008, I may be dismissed from the Honors College.

I understand that being timely and responsible are essential attributes on a study abroad program. Being tardy or absent without prior permission from my Faculty Director is disruptive to my classmates, Faculty Director, and study abroad program. Reoccurring tardiness and absences are not permitted. Tardiness and absences in both the Spring and Summer courses may impact my grade in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008 and could result in dismissal from my study abroad program.

I am aware that I can enroll in a maximum of 18 credits per semester. If I want to go above that amount, I must get the [Enrollment Adjustment Form](#) signed by my major's Dean, approved by OneStop, and sent to edabroad@fiu.edu no later than **DECEMBER 1, 2024, 11:59pm** for Spring 2025 classes and **MARCH 15, 2025, 11:59pm** for Summer 2025 classes.

I understand that my Honors Study Abroad program may include scheduled "Free Time" in which no activities are scheduled for the group. My Faculty Director has provided clear guidelines for activities and/or travel during "Free Time," and I will follow these guidelines. I will also notify my Faculty Director and/or Program Assistant of my whereabouts and give the names of persons with whom I am traveling with for information purposes. Rev. HC August 2024

I am aware that the program's itinerary and activities are subject to change. I understand that the program's itinerary is a "*living document*," meaning that scheduled "Free Time" may be utilized for in-person quizzes, class meetings, and/or class days. I understand that I may be required to attend in-person quizzes, class meetings, and/or class days during scheduled "Free Time." I should always consult with my Faculty Director prior to scheduling plans during "Free Time."

Behavior:

I am aware that if I have been sanctioned under the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code (<https://regulations.fiu.edu/docs=257>), which results in loss of privileges, and/or other sanctions that result in my not being considered to be in good standing with the University (e.g., conduct probation), I will not be eligible to participate in IDH 4008, travel with the program, or must return to the United States of America at my own expense. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that if I am found responsible for an Academic Misconduct Violation, I will be dismissed from the Honors College upon notification of findings and will not be allowed to participate in, or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that I am expected to represent the Honors College and FIU honorably and maturely. The Faculty Director and/or staff are authorized to end my program early if my behavior becomes disruptive (and/or violates the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code).

I understand that the legal age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages may be different in the country(ies) in which I am studying abroad. My Faculty Director has provided clear guidelines for alcohol consumption, and I will follow these guidelines. If I do not abide by my Faculty Director's guidelines, I may be dismissed from the Honors Study Abroad program at my own expense.

I am aware that non-students, spouses, domestic partners, friends, family, and/or children are **NOT** allowed to join the travel group for the study abroad program. I may choose to spend time with these individuals before and/or after my study abroad program.

Payments:

I am aware that once I attend my interview, I must pay my **\$500 non-refundable, non-transferrable deposit to Student Financials or MyFIU no later than one week after my interview** to commit to the study abroad program. How to Pay: <https://onestop.fiu.edu/finances/pay-for-tuition/how-to-pay/>

I am aware that study abroad payments are *non-refundable, non-transferrable*, and are made in three installments: 1 week after interview (\$500 deposit), **DECEMBER 1, 2024**, and **FEBRUARY 1, 2025**. If I fail to make them on time,

the university will apply a \$100.00 late fee to my account. Late fees cannot be removed. The OEA will post the charges on my account approximately 3 weeks before each payment deadline. Once the charges are posted, they cannot be removed.

I am aware that if I secure my spot *after* charges for an installment(s) have been posted, my missed payments will be added to the next deadline's charges.

I am aware that I am responsible for ensuring with Student Financials that any payment made towards my study abroad program is indeed applied to that program. It is highly encouraged to make payments in-person at Student Financials (MMC: SASC 101; BBC: AC1 140) to ensure that payments are being made to the intended fees.

I am aware that I must pay the \$195 Education Abroad Fee by **MARCH 1, 2025, 11:59pm**. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Program Cost Payments:

I am aware that if I am paying my **Program Cost** through a scholarship or Financial Aid, it is still my responsibility to have the payments made on time and in their entirety. Therefore, it is my responsibility to contact Financial Aid to ensure they will be complying. If any delays are foreseen, it is my responsibility to notify the Honors College of the situation before the deadline. If my aid/scholarship will not cover the full amount due, it is my responsibility to pay the remaining balance out of pocket by the deadline. If I fail to comply, I will not be enrolled on the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

I am aware that after each **Program Cost** payment deadline there is a one-week grace period, an *extended* deadline, when payments are still accepted. However, the **late fee will still be applied, and I could get a hold on my account***. If I fail to complete my payment within exactly that *one-week* grace period, and had not notified the Honors College in advance, I will be withdrawn from the program and will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008 or travel with the program, depending on the time the payment was missed. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges and late fees will not be removed.

*Students with holds on their accounts cannot be enrolled for classes.

Tuition Payments:

I am aware that if I am paying my program's **Tuition** through a scholarship or Financial Aid, it is still my responsibility to have the payments made on time and in their entirety. Therefore, it is my responsibility to contact Financial Aid to ensure they will be complying. If any delays are foreseen by Financial Aid, it is my responsibility to pay the balance out of pocket by **JANUARY 14, 2025, 11:59pm** for IDH 4007 and by **MAY 13, 2025, 11:59pm** for IDH 4008 in Summer A/C or by **JUNE 24, 2025, 11:59pm** for IDH 4008 in Summer B. If I fail to comply, I will not be allowed to participate. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

IF I SECURE MY SPOT ON/AFTER DECEMBER 1, 2024:

I am aware that I must submit my signed Course Registration Form before **JANUARY 13, 2025** (last day to add course).

I am aware that my deadline to make the second and third payments will be on **FEBRUARY 1, 2025, 11:59PM**.

If I fail to comply by the dates above, I will not be allowed to participate in IDH 4007 and/or IDH 4008 or travel with the program. Refunds will NOT be awarded. Posted charges will not be removed.

Honors College Policies and Requirements

Academic Misconduct Procedures and Policies

In The Honors College, the term "honor" refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at

FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures available at <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/academic-integrity/index.php> . Please refer to the following documents for additional information: FIU Student Handbook: <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/about/student-handbook/index.php>

Artificial Intelligence Policies

This policy acknowledges the potential benefits of AI while emphasizing the importance of transparency, equity, privacy, and ethical considerations. Faculty who employ AI technologies in their courses will inform students of their use in the course. This will inform students the purpose of AI integration and its impact on the learning experience.

Students are not to use AI unless explicitly stated in the respective assignment. Students are expected to use AI responsibly and ethically. This includes respecting intellectual property rights, avoiding plagiarism, and adhering to any relevant guidelines established by the university. Students who choose to use AI for assignments, must only do so with permission of the instructor. AI can be a powerful tool and can be used to assist students in brainstorming, drafting, and creating when permitted by the instructor. Be aware that AI may not develop high-quality work that earns a passing grade, and it is the student's responsibility to revise all work before submitting assignments.

All work submitted of your own or with contributions – including AI – permitted by the instructor, must be properly cited. Failure to do so constitutes an academic integrity violation of the University.

Note, each course may have additional policies on AI.

Honors Engagement Requirements

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*Spirit of Japan: Learning Through
Culture, Tradition, and Travel*

IDH 4008/ 2026 Summer A

Travel to Japan

Instructor: Cesar Castillo, Contact him by Canvas inbox.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Six places we will visit from 5/18 to 6/8

Osaka: 5/18 (Monday night arrival and orientation)

Kyoto: 5/19 – 5/23 (Tuesday to Saturday, 4 nights)

Hiroshima: Day Trip from Kyoto on 5/21 (Thursday)

Sapporo: 5/23 – 5/29 (Saturday to Friday, 6 nights)

Akan Kotan: 5/29 – 6/2 (Friday to Tuesday, 4 nights)

Tokyo: 6/2 – 6/8 (Tuesday to Monday, 6 nights, depart after breakfast on 6/8)

COURSE TEXT BOOKS (Materials):

- Chiri, Yukie. *The Song the Owl God Sang: The Collected Ainu Legends of Chiri Yukie*. Trans. Benjamin Peterson. Middletown, BJS Books, 2015.
- Boye Lafayette De Mente, Revised by Geoff Botting. *Etiquette Guide to Japan: Know the rules that make the difference*. Tokyo| Rutland|Vermont|Singapore, Tuttle Publishing, ISBN 978-4-8053-1361-9

CRITICAL REFERENCES

- Carson, Susan, and Mark Pennings. *Performing Cultural Tourism: Communities, Tourists and Creative Practices*. Routledge, 2019.

Supplemental readings will be available via Canvas.

Additional readings will be provided by instructor on Canvas Module COURSE

DESCRIPTIONS:

This course will examine reciprocity through the lens of historical, cross-cultural, and cross-generational contexts. We will explore Koyasan and Kyoto to learn about Japanese spirituality and its connection to reciprocity, We will observe Edo's (1603 – 1867) ecological lifestyle by visiting Edo Tokyo Museum and the downtown of Tokyo, such as Yanaka, Sendagi, Nezu and Asakusa. In Hokkaido, we will discuss the spiritual interaction between nature and the Ainu people, who lived a reciprocal lifestyle with nature and animals by visiting Sapporo University and Hokkaido University in Sapporo city. Then we will visit Ainu village called Akan Kotan. In Akan, we will learn their

world view and their reciprocal lives as well as ethnic tourism.

COURSE GOALS

This course offers students inimitable experience to learn and share “RECIPROCITY” by visiting five distinguished cities. The focus of the program would be sharing our culture with people in Japan. In each place, carefully designed activities will motivate students to engage in the concept of our trip.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this trip, students will be able to:

- **Interpret** the concepts of Japanese customs, manners, and basic greetings at the visiting places in Japan.
- **Analyze** the reciprocity in Edo and Ainu culture.
- **Evaluate** contemporary issues of Japanese ecological system.
- **Design** and apply ideologies of the reciprocal act in the cities we will visit.
- **Compose** original projects of the reciprocity that could exchange with the host organizations.

Honors College Student Learning Outcome

SLO.I.1: Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelatedness of local, regional, national, and global intercultural issues and trends.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Students will learn how to use “Story Maps” Then at each stop write its history, background and then students’ comments and reflections with pictures. At the end of the trip, each student will obtain the valuable Journals with maps and pictures. The story maps will be graded based on a minimum of 6400 word written portion for each location comprised of 2/3 observation 1/3 reflection and a minimum of three pictures per location. Students will also complete four (4) Discussion posts with the aim of engaging in thoughtful dialogue around key locations and events in our study abroad journey.

Attendance to all required activities and active participation will constitute 20% of the student’s grade.

DESCRIPTION OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Story Map

- 1. Compose an individual STORY MAP that should include at least 600 words and 4 images of each location visited (20 images, 3,000 words)**
- 2. During our trip instructor will examine the process of the assignment**
- 3. As a Midterm exam, we will have a presentation day for the Story Map.**
- 4. The final product will be a completion of the Story Map.**

Discussion Posts

- 1. Students will have 4 Discussion posts to be completed in canvas**
- 2. Each post requires a minimum 300-word response (1,200 cumulatively) and comments to two students**
- 3. Each Discussion post will be the topic of the following day’s in-person activity in Japan.**

COURSE GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Attendance and Class participation (10% each)	20%
Midterm presentation	30%
4 Discussion Board Assignments	20%
Completion of the Story Map	30%

GRADING SCALE:

A	95 or above	A-	90-94		
B+	87 - 89	B	83 - 86	B-	80-82
C+	77 - 79	C	70 - 76	D	60 - 69
F 59 or less					

Honors College Policies and Requirements

Academic Misconduct Procedures and Policies

In The Honors College, the term “honor” refers both to academic accomplishment and character. Students in Honors should therefore adhere to and be held to the highest standards of personal academic accountability. Academic dishonesty in any form, including plagiarism, is antithetical to the very definition of being an Honors student at FIU. Consequently, an Honors College student found responsible for academic misconduct will be dismissed from the College.

An Honors faculty member may bring charges of academic misconduct against an Honors student if the faculty member suspects plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. The faculty member will decide whether to pursue informal resolution, file formal resolution charges, or take no further action, and will follow the procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Procedures available at <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/academic-integrity/index.php> . Please refer to the following documents for additional information: FIU Student Handbook: <https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/about/student-handbook/index.php>

Artificial Intelligence Policies

This policy acknowledges the potential benefits of AI while emphasizing the importance of transparency, equity, privacy, and ethical considerations. Faculty who employ AI technologies in their courses will inform students of their use in the course. This will inform students the purpose of AI integration and its impact on the learning experience.

Students are not to use AI unless explicitly stated in the respective assignment. Students are expected to use AI responsibly and ethically. This includes respecting intellectual property rights, avoiding plagiarism, and adhering to any relevant guidelines established by the university. Students who choose to use AI for assignments, must only do so with permission of the instructor. AI can be a powerful tool and can be used to assist students in brainstorming, drafting, and creating when permitted by the instructor. Be aware that AI may not develop high-quality work that earns a passing grade, and it is the student's responsibility to revise all work before submitting assignments.

All work submitted of your own or with contributions – including AI – permitted by the instructor, must be properly cited. Failure to do so constitutes an academic integrity violation of the University.

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