

## JENESYS2020 Japan-Singapore Online Exchange (Japanese Communication/Japanese Culture (Subtopic: Social Welfare)) Report

### 1. Program Overview

【Objective】 Targeted at students majoring in social welfare, this program was conducted with the main objective of promoting further understanding of Japan's social welfare initiatives by having participants learn about cutting-edge technologies such as rehabilitation robotics, and see how Japan's initiatives address certain issues including the declining birthrate and aging population, which Singapore is also facing, preschool education, and social withdrawal

【Participants】 Total: 150 vocational school students and faculty from Singapore

【Location】 Hokkaido, Tokyo, Iwate Pref., Kanagawa Pref., Osaka

#### 【Program Schedule】



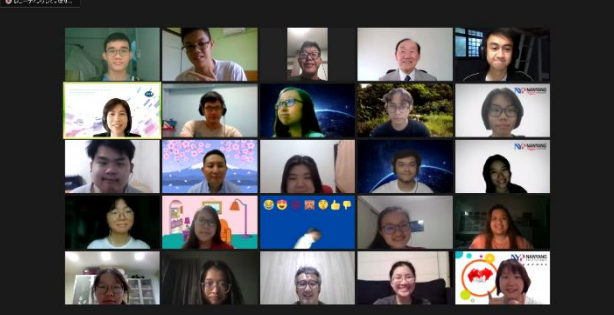


Date Location	Program Contents	Participants' questions and reactions
Number of participants for the following 3 days: 134 in total		
December 23, 2020. Sapporo City, Hokkaido	<b>【School Exchange】</b> Tokai University, Sapporo Campus 1. Program introduction 2. Opening remarks, Outline 3. Institute Introduction (Tokai University) 4. Institute Introduction (Temasek Polytechnic) 5. Group discussions 6. Sharing Feedback, Comments 7. Summary, Commemorative photo 8. Closing remarks	Presentations on the institutes and group discussions were held during the school exchange. Participants separated into 7 groups for the discussions, and talked about “the covid-19 situation and changes to the living environment”, and “the characteristics of Singapore/Hokkaido”. Afterwards participants shared their comments, and took a commemorative photo. Everyone was able to actively participate in the exchange, and deepen their understanding of different cultures.
June 18, 2021 Tokyo	(Jointly with other programs) <b>【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】</b> 1. Lecture “Japan Today” Mr. KIMURA Hideo, Executive Managing	After the lecture, covering a wide range of fields such as history, economy, social welfare, and culture, participants asked questions from about the wildlife in Japan, to the economic impact holding the

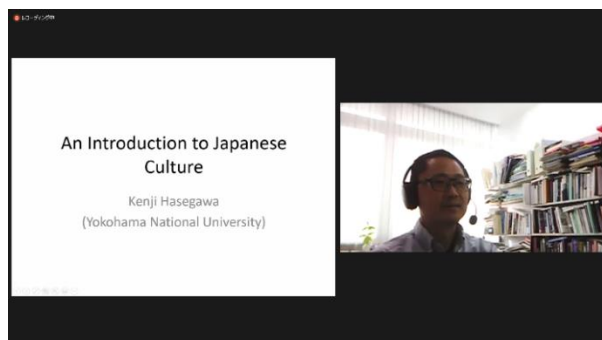
	<p>Director, SIMA (Strategic International Management Associates)</p> <p>2. Q&amp;A session</p>	<p>Olympic Games amidst covid-19 had on Japan. When asked about Japan's immigration policy, the lecturer answered in detail, comparing examples from Singapore, intriguing the participants.</p>
<p>June 25, 2021</p> <p>City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture</p>	<p>(Jointly with other programs)</p> <p>【Webinar. Q&amp;A Session】</p> <p>1. Lecture</p> <p>“Introduction of local attractions and Host Town efforts of City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture.”</p> <p>Lecturer: Ms. Sarah Chu, Coordinator for International Relations, City of Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture</p> <p>2. Q&amp;A session</p>	<p>With the lecturer being from Singapore, many questions were asked after the lecture. Participants showed interest toward Host Town, asking questions such as about the traditional foods and products of the City of Rikuzentakata, the lifestyles, and if people could understand English. Unlike the 2nd session's lecture, participants were able to deepen their understanding of Japan by hearing about Japan and the City of Rikuzentakata from the perspective of a non-Japanese citizen living in Japan.</p>
<p>Number of participants during the following 6 days: 16 (Jointly with other programs)</p>		
<p>March 14~, 2022</p>	<p>【Video Viewing】</p> <p>1. Welcome address</p> <p>2. Orientation</p> <p>3. Message from Minamisanriku</p> <p>4. Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto</p> <p>5. Learning Japanese</p>	<p>To foster better understanding of Japan, participants watched a video about Japan and the program before they participated in the main program.</p>
<p>March 16, 2022</p> <p>Kanagawa Pref.</p>	<p>【Orientation】 【Webinar, Q&amp;A Session】</p> <p>1. Opening remarks</p> <p>2. Greetings from the JICE Representative</p> <p>3. Program description</p> <p>4. Lecture on Japan</p> <p>“An Introduction to Japanese Culture”</p> <p>Lecturer: Dr. HASEGAWA Kenji, Associate Professor, Yokohama National University</p> <p>5. Group photo</p> <p>6. Exchanges in groups</p>	<p>The participants were highly motivated at the orientation, and they asked many questions about their missions.</p> <p>In the lecture on Japan, many questions were asked about the issues that face Japan today, such as Japan's social security system, the aging population, and the declining population. The participants were also very interested in the cultural background that foreigners working in the medical field in Japan should be aware of.</p>
<p>March 17, 2022</p>	<p>【Observation】</p> <p>1. Opening remarks</p>	<p>Details on the current Japanese healthcare system, the efforts of the Osaka</p>

Osaka	2. Presentation by the Nursing Association Lecturer: Ms. TAKAHASHI Hiroe, President, Public Interest Incorporated Osaka Nursing Association 3. Q&A session 4. Group photo 5. Reflection on the program (in groups)	Nursing Association, and measures taken to deal with COVID-19 were introduced. Some participants were interested in working in Japan as nurses or caregivers, and asked many questions about the medical practice and system in Japan, as well as about the acceptance of foreign human resources and the work system in Japan.
March 18, 2022 Osaka	<b>【Exchange】</b> 1. Opening remarks 2. Exchanges in groups (self-introductions) 3. Presentation by Osaka SGG Club Presenter: Osaka Systematized Good-will Guides Club 4. Group discussions (by theme) 5. Group sharing 6. Group photo 7. Feedback  * 17 participants from Osaka Systematized Good-will Guides Club	After an introduction of the characteristics of different regions of Japan and Japanese culture, the participants were divided into five themed groups (Japanese culture, annual events, festivals, food, and daily life) where they were introduced to the themes before engaging in exchanges. The participants seemed to be interested in the different kinds of events that Japanese people hold, from their cultural and historical backgrounds to how they are enjoyed. The participants discussed the differences and similarities with their own country while exchanging and expressing their personal opinions.
March 21, 2022 Tokyo	<b>【Workshop】</b> 1. Making "Our Action Plan" 2. PowerPoint preparation for the reporting session	The participants used the worksheets they had filled out on a daily basis to discuss how to formulate an action plan to be implemented within three months after the program. They also proceeded with preparations for the reporting session the following day, such as deciding who would be in charge of presenting and preparing the PowerPoint presentations.
March 22, 2022 Tokyo	<b>【Reporting Session】</b> 1. Opening remarks 2. Reporting session 3. Review, General address 4. Commemorative photo	Based on what they realized and learned from participating in the program, the participants presented how they would communicate the charms of Japan according to their respective areas of

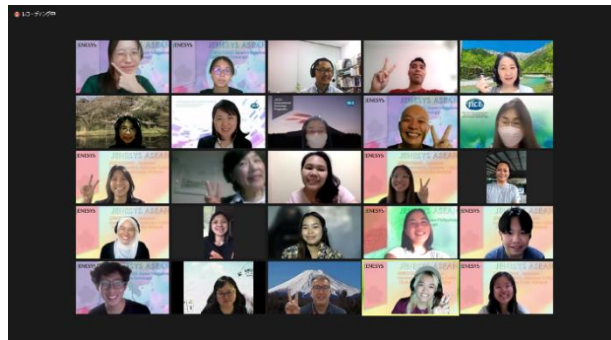
	<p>5. Closing</p>	<p>interest (Japanese culture, tourism, entertainment, Japanese language, healthcare, etc.).</p> <p>The participants listened attentively to everyone's presentations, sending messages of support to each other when the other groups were presenting.</p>
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## 2. Program Photos

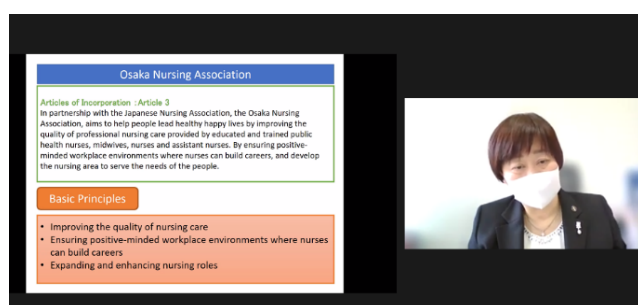
 <p>Welcome to Temasek Polytechnic (TP)!</p> <p>TP is located in Tampines, Singapore; right next to the Bedok Reservoir - where we usually hold our annual dragon boating and cheering competition! TP also has various facilities such as a swimming pool, gym, music studio and even a workshop for student inventions!</p>	
December 23, 2020 【School Exchange】	December 23, 2020 【School Exchange】
 <p>Aging population</p> <p>65 &amp; Older</p> <p>2020 29 %</p> <p>2040 35</p> <p>Summary rounded by Kimura Source: <a href="https://www.stat.go.jp/data/index.html">https://www.stat.go.jp/data/index.html</a></p>	
June 18, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】	June 18, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】
 <p>Arigato Host Town for Supporting Reconstruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Municipalities from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefecture</li> <li>• Become host towns to show gratitude to countries that supported them</li> <li>• Allows athletes/people from these countries to see how reconstruction efforts are going along</li> <li>• Allows local citizens to interact with people from these countries</li> </ul> <p>Extracted from Light up HOST TOWN Project's homepage and Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs' homepage</p>	
June 25, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】	June 25, 2021 【Webinar, Q&A Session】



March 16, 2022 【Webinar, Q&A Session】  
Lecture



March 16, 2022 【Webinar, Q&A Session】  
Group photo



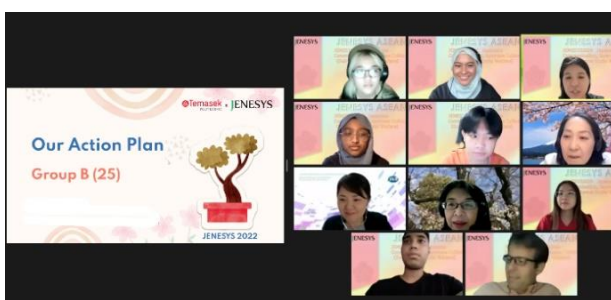
March 17, 2022 【Observation】 Presentation by  
the Nursing Association



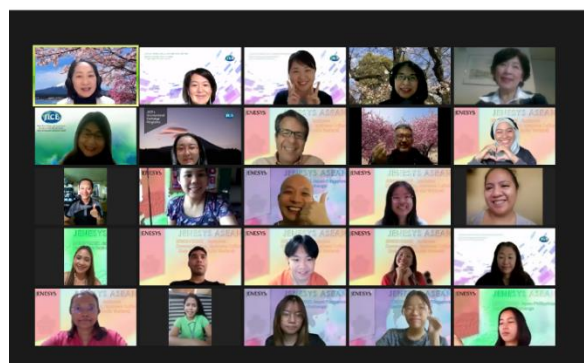
March 18, 2022 【Exchange】 Group discussion  
on Japanese culture



March 21, 2022 【Workshop】 Participants  
preparing materials for the reporting session



March 22, 2022 【Reporting Session】  
Presentation



March 22, 2022 【Reporting Session】 Group  
photo

### **3. Voices from Participants (excerpt)**

#### **◆ Vocational School Student**

It was a great and enjoyable experience interacting with the students from Japan and learning about their university. I managed to learn fun facts about Japan, and I was heartened to know they wanted to learn more about Singapore too. The friendships forged today will definitely be one of the best takeaways!

#### **◆ Vocational School Student**

Really intriguing to learn how Singapore has put in a huge effort to help Japan rebuild its disaster struck towns as well as pine tree planting programs that allow foreigners to truly engage with the Japanese locals. If there is any opportunity after covid-19, I look forward to help out in such event in Japan.

#### **◆ Vocational School Student**

I enjoyed learning about Rikuzentakata City and how Singapore has helped the city to develop, despite the natural disaster that happened. It's nice to know that the city is aiming to cultivate an inclusive culture for people with disabilities too! Furthermore, the good relations that Singapore and Japan have maintained is heartening to know of as both countries have put in the effort to ensure that we can help one another progress forward.

#### **◆ Vocational School Student**

It was an extremely enjoyable program that allowed me to deepen my understanding of Japan and gain a better understanding of the culture, architecture and values of Japan and its people. It is regrettable that due to covid restrictions, this program could not be conducted in person.

#### **◆ Vocational School Student**

The program was quite interesting and immersive into Japanese culture. The event that sticks vividly in my mind was the dialogue with the OSSG club as there was an interaction and inquiry into the Japanese culture such as the tea ceremony and Rakugo. I like that the lectures were informative and in great depth.

### **4. Voice from Japanese Locals (excerpt)**

#### **◆ School Exchange Participating Student**

Although it was only a short hour, through the online chat with the participants from Singapore I was able to learn about their culture and school life.

#### **◆ School Exchange Participating Student**

The discussion was quite memorable, and I enjoyed it.



### ◆ School Exchange Participating Staff

The follow-up by JICE was outstanding. Not being able to conduct international exchanges with the spread of covid-19, this was a great opportunity for the students to release some of their pent up frustration.

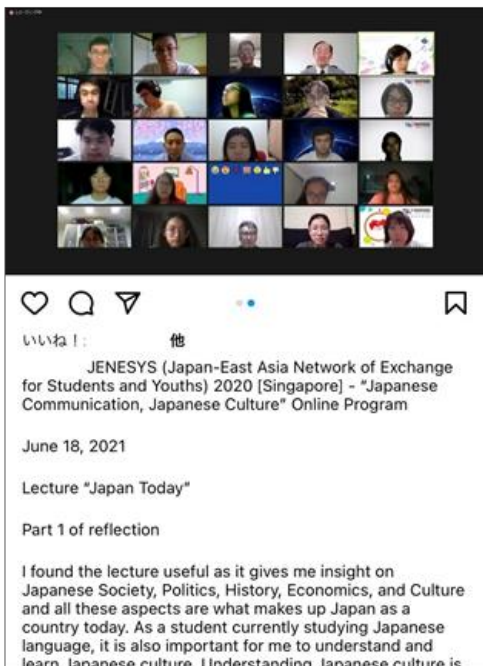

### ◆ Lecturer

I am grateful for this very valuable opportunity to interact with students, nurses, and caregivers beyond national borders from the Philippines and Singapore. The beautiful smiles on everyone's faces warmed my heart.

### ◆ Exchange Program Participant



I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to participate in this activity in the midst of COVID-19. I enjoyed interacting with the youth of Singapore and the Philippines in English, and at the same time found the activity to be very rewarding. I would be honored if I were asked to take part in such an event again in the future.

## 5. Dissemination by the participants

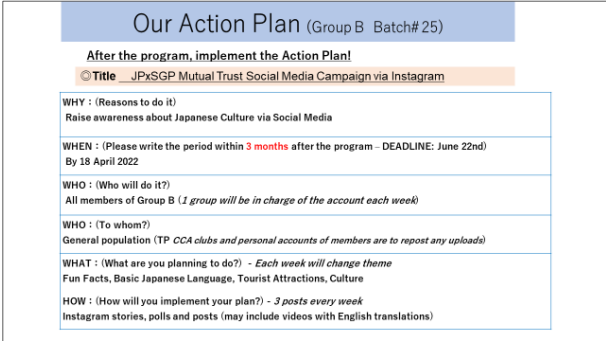
 <p>いいね！: 他</p> <p>JENESYS (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) 2020 [Singapore] - "Japanese Communication, Japanese Culture" Online Program</p> <p>June 18, 2021</p> <p>Lecture "Japan Today"</p> <p>Part 1 of reflection</p> <p>I found the lecture useful as it gives me insight on Japanese Society, Politics, History, Economics, and Culture and all these aspects are what makes up Japan as a country today. As a student currently studying Japanese language, it is also important for me to understand and learn Japanese culture. Understanding Japanese culture is</p>	 <p>いいね！: 他</p> <p>JENESYS (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) 2020 [Singapore] - "Japanese Communication, Japanese Culture" Online Program</p> <p>June 18, 2021</p> <p>Lecture "Japan Today"</p> <p>Part 2 of reflection</p> <p>I am inspired to learn Japanese language and culture through my exposure of Japanese culture by my Father. Since young, I was exposed to Japanese culture through television variety shows showcasing Japanese's tourist destination, music and food culture. I was amazed by the unique and rich culture Japan has and the ability to preserve many of these cultures passing it down from generation to generation despite western influence. Hence, I was motivated to learn and understand Japan.</p> <p>The duration of this lecture was just right in giving me an overview of Japan's identity – Japanese history, culture, development. In terms of culture, I was hoping the talk would also cover Japanese's food culture. As I am currently studying Food Science &amp; Nutrition course in polytechnic, I have strong interest in understanding and learning Japanese's food culture such as the significance of each Japanese dish and the diet of Japanese which is known to be one of the reasons contributing a longer lifespan and healthy lifestyle.</p>
<p>June 18, 2021 (Instagram)</p> <p>I found the lecture useful as it gives me insight on Japanese Society, Politics, History, Economics, and Culture and all these aspects</p>	<p>June 18, 2021 (Instagram)</p> <p>I am inspired to learn Japanese language and culture through my exposure of Japanese culture by my Father. Since young, I was</p>

<p>are what makes up Japan as a country today. As a student currently studying Japanese language, it is also important for me to understand and learn Japanese culture. Understanding Japanese culture is important as it introduces me the type of interaction Japanese had among each other and their mentality which will help to form a closer interaction with native Japanese speakers rather than just learning the language and vocabulary.</p> <p>I was introduced the timeline of Japan's history which begins more than 2600 years ago and some of the major historical events of Japan. I have also learnt the major activities which contribute to today Japan's prosperous economy, such as the production of steel, automobile, Boeing 787, fluorescent silk and how Japan develops to become one of the first world developed countries especially in the area of technology.</p> <p>My favorite topic of this lecture was Japan's technology.</p> <p>My background knowledge on Japan's technology is that Japan is one of the countries in the world with invention of many successful technology and semiconductor. In this lecture, I was introduced several successful technologies of Japan such as the innovation of shinkansen which is widely known for its speed and efficiency, as it uses magnetic levitation over guideways and move without making any contact with the ground.</p>	<p>exposed to Japanese culture through television variety shows showcasing Japanese's tourist destination, music and food culture. I was amazed by the unique and rich culture Japan has and the ability to preserve many of these cultures passing it down from generation to generation despite western influence. Hence, I was motivated to learn and understand Japan.</p> <p>The duration of this lecture was just right in giving me an overview of Japan's identity — Japanese history, culture, development. In terms of culture, I was hoping the talk would also cover Japanese's food culture. As I am currently studying Food Science &amp; Nutrition course in polytechnic, I have strong interest in understanding and learning Japanese's food culture such as the significance of each Japanese dish and the diet of Japanese which is known to be one of the reasons contributing a longer lifespan and healthy lifestyle.</p>
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 <p><b>JENESYS DAY 2</b></p> <p>We learnt about Osaka Nursing Association today</p> <p>Japan has 1.6million nurses nationwide thats like 1 in 5 singaporeans are nurses thats alot</p> <p>Japan's social statistics stated 2.6 people support one elderly person but by 2060, it will be 1.2 people supporting one elderly person</p> <p>The career progression for nurses in japan is also very straight forward and requires alot of education</p> <p>Day 2 was great :D</p>	 <p><b>Day 3: Sharing by OSGG</b></p> <p>Talked about Japanese culture like the photo (Setsubun) a festival to berid of "onis" or evil spirits.</p> <p>#JENESYS</p> <p>omg setsubun??</p> <p>its a festival where japanese people throw beans to scare demons away, we should travel and go try!!!</p>
<p>March 17, 2022 (Facebook)</p> <p><b>JENESYS DAY 2</b></p> <p>We learnt about Osaka Nursing Association today.</p> <p>Japan has 1.6 million nurses nationwide that's like 1 in 5 Singaporeans are nurses that's a lot.</p> <p>Japan's social statistics stated 2.6 people support one elderly person but by 2060, it will be 1.2 people supporting one elderly person.</p> <p>The career progression for nurses in japan is straight forward and requires a lot of education.</p> <p>DAY 2 was great :D</p>	<p>March 18, 2022 (Instagram)</p> <p><b>DAY 3: Sharing by OSGG</b></p> <p>Talked about Japanese culture like the photo (Setsubun), a festival to get rid of "ONIS" or evil spirits</p> <p>(reply from a friend)</p> <p>OMG setsubun??</p> <p>It's a festival where Japanese people throw beans to scare demons away, we should travel and go try!!</p>

## 6. Action plan presentations at the final reporting session

 <p>The screenshot shows a presentation slide titled "Our Action Plan (Group B Batch# 25)". Below the title, it says "After the program, implement the Action Plan!". The slide lists the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Title:</b> JP x SGP Mutual Trust Social Media Campaign via Instagram</li> <li><b>WHY:</b> (Reasons to do it) Raise awareness about Japanese Culture via Social Media</li> <li><b>WHEN:</b> (Please write the period within 3 months after the program - DEADLINE: June 22nd) By 18 April 2022</li> <li><b>WHO:</b> (Who will do it?) All members of Group B (1 group will be in charge of the account each week)</li> <li><b>WHO:</b> (To whom?) General population (TP CCA clubs and personal accounts of members are to repost any uploads)</li> <li><b>WHAT:</b> (What are you planning to do?) - Each week will change theme Fun Facts, Basic Japanese Language, Tourist Attractions, Culture</li> <li><b>HOW:</b> (How will you implement your plan?) - 3 posts every week Instagram stories, polls and posts (may include videos with English translations)</li> </ul>	<p>“JP x SGP Mutual Trust Social Media Campaign via Instagram “</p> <p>WHY: Raise awareness about Japanese Culture via Social Media</p> <p>WHEN : DEADLINE: By 18 April 2022</p> <p>WHO : All group members (1 subgroup will be in charge of the account each week)</p> <p>WHO : General population (TP CCA clubs and personal accounts of members are to repost any uploads)</p> <p>WHAT: Each week will change theme Fun Facts, Basic Japanese Language, Tourist Attractions, Culture</p> <p>HOW : 3 posts every week Instagram stories, polls and posts (may include videos with English translations)</p>
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Implementation agency : Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)