

St. Norbert College Center for Global Engagement ESL Institute

September 2021

ESL Mission

We are here to enable students to acquire the language and cultural skills necessary to read, write, speak, and understand American English for academic and professional purposes.

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@ESL Institute playlist

Onward with Hope and Optimism

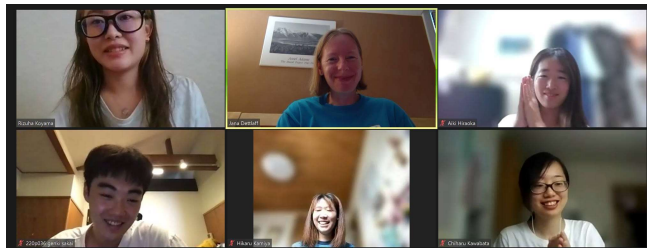
Short-Term Online ESL Courses

Written By: Jana Dettlaff and students from Japan
(Aiki Hiraoka, Hikaru, Kamiya, Chiharu Kawabata, Rizuha Koyama, Genki Sakai)

Photo Credit: Jana Dettlaff

Photo Captions: First day of Short-term ESL Zoom class (Top); ESL Zoom Farewell (Bottom)

The pandemic has prevented our students at several partner institutions in Japan from studying abroad on our SNC campus in person. It was, therefore, with much hope and optimism that this August '21 we launched the first short-



term online ESL course for students in a time zone 14 hours ahead of ours. Five students from three different institutions studied four modules introducing

them to Intercultural Communication, Intercultural Business, U.S. History, and U.S. Literature. With many engaging materials and platforms as well as guest presenters and conversation partners, our students enjoyed learning about various topics while practicing their English.

- In Intercultural Communication, Rizuha liked learning about stereotypes and Aiki enjoyed that she “could talk and exchange with students and teachers.”
- In Intercultural Business, Genki remarks that “role play job interview was fun.” Hikaru says she “liked to hear presentation about Festival Foods” and learned “about American job a little. It was very interesting.”
- In U.S. History, Rizuha “enjoyed [this] topic” and she reflects that she “can remember American presidents.” Chiharu found the class “very interesting” and feels motivated “to learn it more.”
- U.S. Literature module took the students on a tour of the U.S. literary landscape from Washington Irving to F.S. Fitzgerald and beyond, and students’ presentations showed they enjoyed this topic.



A final Farewell ceremony had us bid farewell to one another, but our connection to our students and partner universities in Japan continues with more optimistic prospects and further exciting cooperation for the future! And of course we can't wait to welcome our students on our campus in person as soon as conditions allow!