

THE ICLA OBENTO

JUNE, 2022 | ISSUE: 1

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



This issue's Student Spotlight is 1st year student, Caio from Sao Paulo, Brazil! Caio became interested in studying at iCLA because of his passion for art, the international environment, and interest in Japanese culture and language. Caio is enjoying living in Yamanashi because it reminds him of the countryside of Brazil.

Q: How would you describe your life at iCLA so far?

A: So far, busier than I expected it would be. Simply because I am first year, first semester student. This is not my first time in Japan, but this is my first time doing [administrative procedures] in Japan. So I am trying to manage both classes and [official] documents and those kinds of stuff. Aside from that, I quite feel that it's really fun to be here in this international environment.

Q: Why are you interested in studying Interdisciplinary Arts?

A: I've always tried to pursue a more artistic career. My intention is to get into the Japanese game industry. I have a strong interest in the gaming industry in general, but particularly Japan, since it combines other things I find interesting - both video games and Japanese culture because of my ancestry.

Q: What is your goal/goals here at iCLA?

A: First, obviously to graduate (laugh). But also, since I am in Japan I had in mind that since the door of opportunity to stay at iCLA has opened - to try to engage my field of interest, which is Game Design. And try to get from iCLA, professionally wise, to gaming companies or anything related to the entertainment industry. By entertainment industry, I mean digital media, films, or marketing.

INTERVIEW WITH CAIO (BRAZIL)

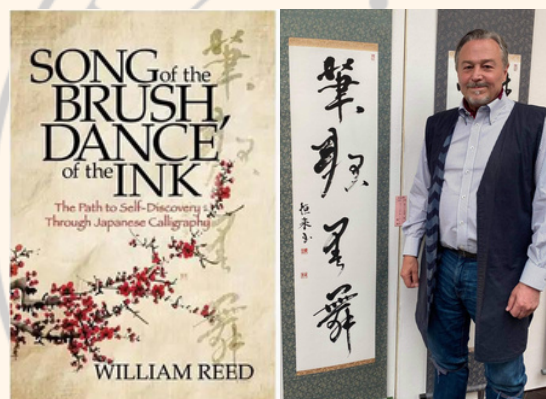
1ST YEAR

PROFESSOR REED'S NEW BOOK RELEASE

Japan Studies Professor William Reed has released his new book, *Song of the Brush, Dance of the Ink: The Path to Self-Discovery Through Japanese Calligraphy*. Reed's new book brings the traditions of Japanese calligraphy (known in Japanese as Shodo) into a contemporary context and not only sheds light on the benefits of calligraphy for the mind and body, but also opens the path to mastery. The book teaches readers how to practice Japanese calligraphy and use it as a discipline for self-mastery and self-expression.

Prof. Reed says, "This book introduces people to the best parts of Calligraphy that I have discovered over 50 years of practice. But it doesn't stop there! From the moment the book went to press, I continue to discover new applications, collaborations, and connections that I share with students in my class Calligraphy and Kanji Culture. We are exploring how Calligraphy works so well with music and why, measuring deep levels of mindfulness and focus while painting calligraphy using special AI tools, and discovering shortcuts to mastery that produce striking improvements within the first 2 or 3 months of the semester. Shodo is the Way of the Brush, and it is in following that Path of Mastery that you also discover yourself."

FACULTY NEWS



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



INTERVIEW WITH ERIKO (JAPAN)

3RD YEAR

Internships provide a practical way to gain work experience and jump-start a career in the field of your interest during your undergraduate degree. iCLA students can typically undertake internships during extended break periods such as in August, and from January to March.

iCLA 3rd-year student Eriko undertook an online internship with YMCA Japan. We asked Eriko to share her experience with us.

Q: What was your position at YMCA and what were your responsibilities during the internship?

During this internship, I was mainly involved in translation work and website creation. The translation work involved translating from English to Japanese. In addition, I also created a website using the translated material.

Q: Can you tell us a way in which you applied your learning at iCLA to your work at YMCA?

When I entered iCLA, I could not speak English, but I think I was able to utilize everything I had learned at iCLA during my internship. I had never done translation work before. Translation was much more difficult than I had expected, and of course a certain level of English proficiency was required for translation. First of all, in terms of reading English, every class in the liberal arts curriculum has a lot of reading homework assignments. Therefore, I felt that I was able to demonstrate my ability to read the English text when translating. I also felt that I could not have done this translation work if I had not learned the foundation of English grammar that I acquired not only in the liberal arts curriculum but also in the English for Academic Excellence Program (EAE).

Q: Can you share with us the feedback you got from YMCA?

The feedback I received from YMCA presented me as having a positive outlook on things and being able to act proactively. As for things to work on in the future, it was pointed out that I need to work on having confidence in my strengths and act accordingly.



Eriko's work with YMCA

Q: If anything, how do you think one's learning experience at the internship is different from that of a classroom setting?

The difference between this internship and daily classes is that things must move and work independently. College students in particular are expected to manage their own affairs compared to high school and middle school students. Attendance to class is determined by oneself, and it is up to the student to submit assignments or not. However, through this internship, I felt that by missing one deadline or another, I would be inconveniencing the entire company. Also, in the classroom, a professor is there to speak to us, emphasize important information, explain each task in detail, and if we have any questions, we can ask them as many times as we want. However, what I felt through this internship was that I was required to do a minimum amount of research on my own before doing anything. It was different from the usual classes in that I had to be more proactive in my work.

Q: Would you recommend doing an internship to your peer students?

I would like to recommend an internship as an opportunity to think more deeply about one's future. I decided to participate in the internship program for the following two reasons: First, I was concerned about whether I would be able to find a job or participate in an internship abroad because I was going to study abroad instead of being in Japan during the so-called "job hunting" period. Second, I did not have a concrete idea of what kind of job I wanted to get after graduation, or what kind of work I was interested in. To be honest, however, through this internship I am still not able to make a clear decision about what kind of job I want, but it did reduce the amount of anxiety I had about my future. At the same time, I was able to deepen my knowledge about employment and various career paths after graduation, as well as my thinking and understanding. I think it takes a lot of time to find answers to questions about one's career path after graduation. However, I believe that by participating in an internship, you will gain a different perspective on what to do after graduation, so if you have the opportunity to participate in an internship, please do so!

WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERNSHIP?

iCLA Career Support Team assists students in searching for internships by providing guidance sessions and sharing information about internship opportunities. These companies welcome iCLA students to undertake internships. Internship periods may vary from year to year. Companies may require a certain level of Japanese or English. Students who are interested in an internship should contact our iCLA Career Support Team at icla.career@c2c.ac.jp.

AIRY (Artist In Residence Yamanashi) (<http://air-y.net/>)

Artists run program that invites artists from Japan and abroad to live in the beautiful mountainous area of Yamanashi, making new work and new connections.

Kato Pleasure Group (<https://www.kpgg.gr.jp/>)

Develops and operates a wide range of businesses including hotels, resorts, restaurants, entertainment, and river cruises under the theme "Make Leisure in Japan More Fun!"

YMCA Japan (<https://www.ymcajapan.org/>)

Japan branch of International youth development and social education organization that founded in London, England in 1844 and currently has operations in 120 countries and regions.

Aim to contribute to local and international communities with the slogan of "Living Locally with an Eye on the World".

FM KOFU (<http://www.fm-kofu.co.jp/>)

Provides broadcasting services to Kofu City and surrounding area with the concept of "Community-based, Citizen-participation and Youth culture capital".

Earth Technology Group Corporation (<https://www.tech-earth.co.jp/>)

Provides information services ranging from software development and sales to IT consulting services with the concept of "changing people's common sense, changing Japan, and changing the world".

CULTURE CORNER



SHARING RECIPES

KETOPRAK



ASHLEY (SINGAPORE)

3rd year, Japan Studies Major



Ketoprak is an Indonesian dish that is traditionally made with rice cakes, rice vermicelli, tofu, and vegetables, and are eaten mixed together with peanut sauce! The sauce in this version of ketoprak uses cashew nuts instead of peanuts and adds less sugar, using coconut sugar instead of white sugar. This healthier recipe was created by my mother who is a nutritionist!



Ingredients:

250g dry rice vermicelli; cooked according to package instruction
400-500g "lontong" or rice cakes
450g pack firm tofu, cubed & air-fried (without oil) at 180°C for 15 min
2 cucumbers, sliced
200g beansprouts, steamed
Romaine lettuce, your preferred amount
Spring onion, chopped
Fried shallots, your preferred amount (optional)

Ingredients for the Sauce:

375g toasted cashews
3 garlic cloves
6 fresh lime leaves
Tamarind paste (2 tbsps tamarind mixed with 120ml water)
2 tbsps fresh calamansi juice
5 tbsps coconut sugar
4 cups water
Salt to taste

Making The Sauce

- ✓ Grind the cashews and garlic using the food processor or the Alpha Juicer.
- ✓ Prepare the tamarind paste by mixing 2 tbsps of tamarind with 120ml of water. Set aside.
- ✓ Combine all ingredients (except for the tamarind paste, calamansi juice, and salt) in a medium pot.
- ✓ Bring to a boil and simmer on low heat for a few minutes. Stir often.
- ✓ Add the tamarind paste, calamansi juice and salt to taste. Add water, if needed, if the mixture is thick.
- ✓ Adjust the taste. Turn off the heat and scoop into a bowl. Garnish with fried shallots, if desired.
- ✓ Serve with the vegetables, rice vermicelli, and rice cakes.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



LAC - NOT ONLY FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING!

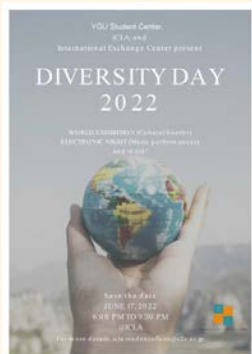
Students can check out the Language Acquisition Center (LAC)'s new section on Recommended Reading. Handpicked by LAC staff, the books in the section include recent popular bestselling, or highly acclaimed, novels and nonfiction books. The current Recommended Reading selection features books from a range of genres - all of which have captured the imagination of readers around the world. Some of the books have been included as they may be relevant to your academic fields of interest. LAC warmly welcomes book suggestions from members of the iCLA community. Just ask LAC staff to make a request and have your suggested book added to the LAC library.

"The iCLA Reading Center looks to be a community center; a place where students can find materials to entertain, inform and inspire their minds as well as a locale in which to make new friends and grow. Whether studying English/Japanese language or looking to exercise your imagination, the LAC has something for you!" says Matthew, Language Learning Advisor and LAC staff member.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Diversity Day (World Exhibition and Electronic Night)

June 17, 6:00pm - 9:30pm

Explore the world and enjoy musical performances at this event in iCLA.



English FunDay - Board and Card Games

June 30, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Let's make new friends while playing games with YGU students!



The 19th Altair Tanabata Festival

July 1, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Enjoy performances, food, games, and other festivities at this annual Tanabata festival.

SOCIAL MEDIA FEATURES



[O-Chat Time](#) was held at the [Language Acquisition Center](#).



The [iEXPerience Program for Exchange Students](#) was held at [Erinji Temple](#).



Peek into Mizuki's life on study abroad in [SUNY Oswego](#).



Read about Liina's [internship at Bosch Japan](#).

iCLA CONNECT

Are you an iCLA student that wants to connect with other iCLA students?
Get involved in the iCLA community with iCLA Connect.

SIGN UP

RE-CONNECT

Find and reminisce with fellow graduates, see what they have been up to and stay in touch.



EXPAND

Leverage your professional network to get introduced to people you should know.



GET INVOLVED

Join on and off campus events and get involved in YGU community and Yamanashi life.



STUDY ABROAD

Find students from partner universities, connect with each other and get ready for study abroad.

