Meiji University Open lecture for career development in Japan

Syllabus

AY: 2019

Class Name: Social Collaboration Course

Faculty: Prof. Masashiro Yokota

<https://www.meiji.ac.jp/nippon/teachingstaff/yokota_masahiro.html>

Schedule: Every Monday from June 10th to July 22nd , 15:10 – 16:50

Venue: Rm. 410 (Connect through Zoom conference system)

Language: English

Course name: Career development in Japan - Learning the first steps towards working in Japan

Summary / Aims of Course:

This course aims to increase awareness regarding working in Japan while also equipping participants with necessary knowledge regarding job-hunting in Japan. Information gained through this course will be directly applicable in participants’ futures. In addition, the course will invite graduated foreign students currently working in Japan in various industries to share their experiences. This will further enable participants to deepen their understanding towards Japanese companies and working in Japan.

Participants will focus on the job-hunting process in Japan – in addition to learning the basic outline of job-hunting, there will be practical sessions regarding document screening, interview preparation etc. This course will impart information about the relevant strategies to gain a job in Japan as well as the points to watch out for.

Special sessions from graduated foreign students working in Japan will also provide participants with the chance to not only know about the various job types and industries which exist, but also what Japanese companies are looking for and how working in them really is. These sessions will include both lectures and groupwork.

Participants are expected to find a working style and professional career that is suitable for them, plan the next step to realize it and put it into action.

Course Content：

Lesson 1: Basic information and strategy for a successful job search

Lesson 2: Special lecture 1

Lesson 3: Self-analysis and preparation for document screening

Lesson 4: Special lecture 2

Lesson 5: Learning Japanese business manner and mock interviews

Lesson 6: Special lecture 3

Lesson 7: Company/industry research and internships\*

\*The last session will also introduce opportunities for summer internships for foreign students. Participation in these internships is optional. In addition, after the summer holidays, there will also be a reflection seminar for internship participants. More information about this will be provided in class after the details are finalized.

Points to take note:

・Students enrolled in the English track as well as foreign students are eligible for this course. There are no restrictions on nationality or which academic grade you are in.

・Capacity for this course is limited to 30 people due to the constraints of groupwork and practicums. (In the case of more than 30 applicants, English track and students from more advanced academic years will be given priority).

・Participants are required to actively participate in the lessons given the interactive nature of the lessons between the students, lecturers and guest speakers.

・In addition, as this lesson will also be introducing summer internships\*\*, this course highly welcomes students who strongly wish to work in Japan.

\*\* Capacity for summer internships through this course is limited and therefore we cannot guarantee that all applicants will be able to secure an internship.

・Organizers may take pictures or film the lessons and share them to external parties. Please register your objections to the lecturers at the first lesson if you have any.

Preparation:

・No particular preparation is required. However, it may be good for participants to gather and list out the things they wish to ask beforehand.

・For special lectures, we suggest that participants research about the relevant job type, industry and company and form questions beforehand.

Textbooks:

There are no designated textbooks for this course. Handouts will be distributed.

Reference books:

None in particular – a list of websites of value to foreign students when job-hunting will be shared in class.

Evaluation criteria:

Evaluations will be conducted based on participation in class (20%), performance in tasks to be done in class (40%) and a report to be submitted at the last lesson (40%). Participants absent (or late by more than half an hour) for 3 or more sessions will be disqualified from receiving credits. As this is an interactive class, active participation will be rewarded.

Organizing Body:

Japan Association for Promotion of Internationalization (JAPI)

A social enterprise which was created with the goals of promoting growth in Japan and solving global social issues through tracing the careers of foreign students in Japan and gathering data about them. JAPI currently collaborates with industry, government and academia in supporting foreign students’ careers, developing a community among foreign students, supporting Japanese companies’ efforts to expand overseas as well as providing policy proposals for how to best approach foreigners working in Japan.

<http://japi.or.jp>

Lecturer Profile:

Eri Watanabe

Tohoku University graduate. First was involved in the development of commercial properties at Mitsui Fudosan and joined JAPI after. Executed a MEXT project where she conducted internship introduction and training for foreign students in Toyo University. Also coordinates company visits for students at Waseda University, lectures on career development at Tokyo Institute of Technology and is widely involved in efforts to support foreign students in their career development.

