



AUAP CWU NEWSLETTER

Report #4 ~ May 2023



May Topics & Skills American Studies

- World War 2/Great Depression
- Cold War
- Civil Rights Movement
- 1960s Counterculture
- Student presentations
- Discussion of American culture with CWU students

Global Issues

- UN Sustainable Development Goals
 - Sustainable Cities
 - Quality Education
 - Gender Equality
 - Clean Water & Sanitation
 - Health & Well Being

Career Development

- Building an American style resume
- Start writing International Experience Portfolio
- Discussion with CWU students about work experience and job hunting

TOEIC

- Comparative/superlative adjectives
- Subject-verb agreement
- Singular/plural nouns
- Inferences
- Part 3 listening practice
- Writing TOEIC style questions

Integrated English Skills

- Writing and summarizing interviews for Discovery Project
- Global Service Learning team project presentations

Special Projects Summary

Term 2 started with a lot of energy and renewed motivation. Students are active and pushing themselves to use English as much as possible these days.

One on Ones: Each student met with the Program Director for 30 minutes to process their AUAP life and set goals for Term 2. Students are positive and happy with their efforts to speak English and make American friends. Most students are trying English Only Days every day!

Video Chat: Students concluded the Video Chat project this month. Many groups continued to meet online while some took the opportunity to gather face to face with their group. The topics of discussion this month centered around SDGs, economic development, and geopolitics.

"My English improved because of this activity. I could understand what they said. Also, they did not ask me what I said. I noticed that my English has improved since February. Especially, my listening has improved because I could understand what they said in a normal speed."

CWU Student For A Day: Students paired up with a CWU student to shadow for the day, attending regular CWU classes and spending at least one hour of social time together.

"Through these classes, I think sharing own opinion is the most important thing. In both classes, my CWU partner was always sharing her opinion in class. During sharing opinion, I was watching the reaction of other students and they seemed to agree or disagree with it. I felt the knowledge gained by exchanging opinions was important."

"I learned it is very important to join classes positively because when I took CWU's classes, I saw that a lot of students are enjoying learning and spend school life... When I go back to Japan, I would like to take classes positively and to choose classes that I have interests in, not only think about units and grades. I'm so glad to get motivation for classes after I go back to Japan. It was a great day!"

Global Service Learning: For the third GSL activity, students worked as a team to create a fictional service-learning activity at CWU or in the Ellensburg community. Groups spent several AUAP classes researching facts and creating a PowerPoint. Teams considered important event planning details such as determining the location, transportation, supplies, rules, and schedule of their event all within a \$1,000 budget. Students also created a poster to advertise their event. The five groups showcased their ideas in a 12-minute PowerPoint presentation followed by a 2-minute student led Q&A session.



DAVE Classes

Global Issues- Students met with a Military Science class of Army cadets. AUAP students interviewed the cadets about their perspectives and opinions on various global issues and challenges, including broader topics like war and peace. This unique class was a great experience for students to find new ideas but also to discover that sometimes both sides shared similar ideas about global issues.

"It was a good opportunity to talk with people who have specific goal about country or society, so I could learn a new perspective."

"It was really fun and it's a good opportunity to communicate with military cadets, and I have no experience communicating with Japanese Defense forces, so it gave me a new perspective. I learned their opinions when I asked if world peace is possible and they said no. I was surprised but I felt that was the same as me. Interesting."



TOEIC #1- Students teamed up with a CWU Assessment class from the Education department. In small groups, CWU students first provided reading skill assessments and debriefed the results. Then, AUAP students had a chance to practice their TOEIC and grammar skills in the second half of the class by reviewing singular and plural nouns and verbs on flash cards and making grammatically correct sentences. Students had a chance to get advice or feedback on their written homework assignment about singular vs. plural nouns and verbs before submitting it.



Career Development #1- AUAP students were paired 1-1 with CWU students in an Intercultural Communications class. They discussed their ideas about what is important in a job interview, and both groups of students practiced answering job interview questions thoroughly and smoothly. AUAP students received feedback from the CWU students on their resume drafts.





DAVE Classes Continued...

American Studies- Students teamed up with a Cultural Anthropology class to discuss cultural differences and values by participating in an activity called "Walk to the Line." The activity gave students a chance to compare values related to food, family, society, and themselves as individuals. Small group discussions helped debrief cultural values and perceptions.

"I learned about different values. Some CWU students said "yes" in questions about diversity... I shared my opinion that some people are afraid of being different from other people in Japan."

"My partner and I talked about choice. My partner said, at first, it's important to have choices. Second, it is important to have free choices. But it is difficult for everyone to have a lot of choices so she thought "choices" is most valuable thing. After I heard this, I agreed with this and think I have to place more emphasis on it."



Career Development #2- Japanese Career Panel: Three local Japanese guests, all of whom are Japanese natives living and working in Ellensburg shared their wisdom and experiences. The panelists (Dr. Yoshiko Takahashi, CWU Dean; Mr. Kikuchi, business owner; and Ms. Tanikawa, a social worker) explained their studies and career paths, and then students asked many thoughtful questions about fields and industries, skills, cultural differences, English ability, etc. Students were able to connect their own experiences and challenges with the advice from the panel..

"Ms. Tanikawa's advice was "Come out of your shell and if you have opportunities, you should try it." After Career Panel, I realized it's a waste of time if I spend time with passive attitude, so from now on, once I find an opportunity, I'll try at first."

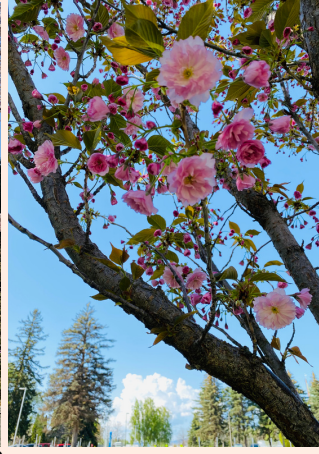
"Dr. Takahashi's advice was useful because she said, "now you are doing something that you can use in your future." I am thinking about my future now and I feel impatient because I have to decide my future in one year later. Dr. Takahashi's advice helped me because she told me to focus on now. Now I am in America and studying English. I believe this experience will become useful in my future so I decide I will try as many things as possible and not waste any time."



TOEIC #2- Students teamed up again with the CWU Assessment class. In small groups, CWU students first provided brief individual assessments and debriefed the results. In the second half of the class, students focused on count and noncount nouns by first identifying words on flash cards and later by analyzing fill-in-the-blank sentences to decide which of four answer choices was correct.



"I had a lot of surprising things in DAVE class... I can feel the difference between America and Japan."



Student Services

Finally, it has started warming up in Ellensburg! Flowers are blooming and we have been soaking up the sun. Everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather!

AUAP Friends Club – The Club met weekly doing fun events such as sports, origami, games, and conversation.

Mid Cycle Break: All 13 students went to Vancouver, B.C. during the Mid Cycle Break. Bonus was that their IPAs came along with them! Some enjoyed shopping in downtown Vancouver and others spent a day at the beautiful Stanley Park. They also got to experience the city nightlife, and all had an amazing time! It was very fortunate to have such a gorgeous weather.

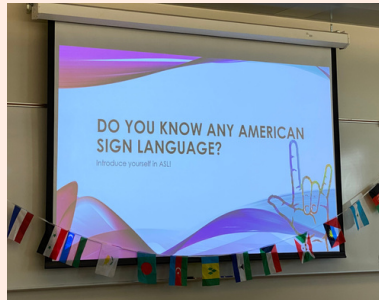
AUAP Alumni Visit: We had a surprise visit from a previous AUAP student of Cycle 2, 2009! Some of the current students had a chance to talk to him and got some advice which will benefit them after they finish their own AUAP life.

Photoshoot with Wellington: We took a group photo this month. The fun part was that CWU school mascot "Wellington" came to join the photoshoot! Students absolutely loved having him!

IPA 1-1 meetings: Students had the second 1-1 with their IPA. This is a great time for them to make a deeper connection with their IPA. Moreover, this is a perfect opportunity to see how much their English has improved compared to the first 1-1 right after they got to CWU! IPAs are always impressed how far students have come by the second One on one meeting.

Tennis Club: One of our most active students went to Salem, Oregon for a tennis tournament with his club mates! It was a 3-day tournament, and he did amazing! He won 4 out of 4!!! He had a fruitful weekend with his friends.





Volunteering

Another busy month for AUAP students with lots of options for volunteering. Students engaged in the community through:

International Cafe - There were 2 International Cafes this month. One of the cafes was hosted & led by CWU students who participate in American Sign Language (ASL) program. People learned basic greetings, the ASL alphabet, and some fun phrases.

The final International Cafe of the school year was hosted by AUAP and UESL students! The theme was "Japanese Festivals". They gave a short presentation on Japanese festivals and holidays. After that, each group had an activity table based on their festival/holiday themes. AUAP students chose 1. Origami Karp flag for Day of Children, 2. Making an Orga mask for Setsubun, and 3. Shooting target for Summer Festival. It was a great opportunity to share their culture with CWU students! Everyone had a blast!

World Language Day - All 13 AUAP students participated in the World Language Day. The World Languages and Cultures Department teams up with high schools all around Washington to give students an interactive, exciting learning experience. AUAP students offered Calligraphy and traditional toys such as Kendama, Koma Mawashi, and Karuta. Not only High school students, but also CWU students have enjoyed all the activities AUAP students have offered! Especially, Kendama was a big hit among high school students! Additionally, AUAP students got to visit other tables from different countries and club organizations. Students had a wonderful time.

Japan Goes Central: AUAP students held a Japanese Culture Night in Barto Hall where AUAP students don't visit often. They shared Japanese customs and games.



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