



# AUAP CWU NEWSLETTER

Report #2 ~ October 2024



## October Topics & Skills

### American Studies

- Field Trip to Native American town and museums
- Colonial America
- Slavery & Abolition
- Wild West & US/Indian Wars
- Discussion of American culture with CWU students

### Functions of English

- Invitations and Small Talk
- Presentations about American culture
- Problem solving skills
- Shopping and restaurant language
- Using hedge words and modals

### Career Development

- Panel of Japanese working in the US
- Success & AUAP alumni
- Japanese companies with English in the workplace
- Discovering skills and interests
- Discussion with CWU students about future goals and jobs

### TOEIC

- Pronunciation practice (Sound alike words)
- Listening practice - Parts 1 & 2
- Vocabulary building - synonyms and antonyms

### Integrated English Skills

- Interview Americans and international students about Discovery Project topics
- Global Service Learning projects

## Monthly Class Summary

Students are busy and having fun in classes. It's clear to see the improvement in confidence and English ability in the students.

One of the biggest projects for students during the program is the AUAP Discovery Project (DP). The DP requires students to choose a topic that they will compare between Japan and America, and the project is designed to improve students' listening, speaking, writing, and critical thinking skills. To help students ease into the project, pairs of students first interviewed an AUAP staff member by writing unique questions tailored to the staff member. They later shared their findings in class in an informal presentation. This is a great opportunity for students to interact with the staff as well as practice their skills in English. Later, students began a mini-DP using any topic of interest to them and interviewing 3 CWU students and 3 AUAP or international students to familiarize themselves with the interviewing process. They shared these results in class in a short presentation summarizing their findings and were impressed by one another's topic choices and results. Students then began the official DP, choosing their own topic but one that was deeper than what they chose for their mini-DP. They created and revised six interview questions and began their interviews. Over the next month, students will interview at least 16 students: 8 CWU students and 8 international and/or AUAP students. Students also drafted their DP Introduction this month and reinforced their writing skills by focusing on paragraph skills.

Another highlight this month was the AS field trip. Students first visited the Yakama Nation Cultural Heritage Center in the small rural town of Toppenish and saw some of the more than 70+ historical murals located downtown and got to visit a traditional Mexican bakery to try local pastries. Next, students visited the Yakima Museum, giving students a chance to see Native American and cowboy life up close.





## GSL Field Experiences

This activity provides students with an opportunity to be involved in a large-scale community event. Students were separated into three groups, each working with a different type of event. The first step of the project was to interview the event leader to learn about the history, purpose, and goals of the events. Each group will have at least 3 different "Field Experiences" related to their project.

- CWU Community Garden
  - \* Participate in tree planting
  - \* Plan AUAP tree dedication
  - \* Prepare garden for winter
- Go Japan
  - \* Present cultural information
  - \* Plan a send-off event
- CWU International Education Week
  - \* Participate in Parade of Flags
  - \* Plan/Participate in World Dinner



## DAVE Classes

An important part of our curriculum is combining with CWU classes. Students are usually matched 1-1 with a CWU student so they are able to engage actively in conversation.

**FUNCTIONS** – a special 1-hour combined class with a CWU Education class. The class was split between a half hour of a CWU Ed students doing a short teaching demonstration, and a half hour activity focused on small talk. Both groups of students enjoyed learning from one another in this highly interactive hour.

**AMERICAN STUDIES**– "Walk to the Line." AUAP students and CWU military science students faced each other on both sides of a line down the middle of the room and answered an assortment of yes/no questions by walking to the line if their answer was "yes." An interactive debriefing followed in pairs or small groups as students discussed their observations of values, cultural differences/similarities, and perceptions. They also ranked 20 different values from Japanese and American perspectives then talked about the rankings, cultural values, and stereotypes.

**AMERICAN STUDIES**– Cultural Anthropology Class: At the end of the month, students teamed up with CWU students to discuss cultural differences regarding holidays and festivals such as Halloween, Dia De Los Muertos, and Obon as well as other related topics such as spirits, ghosts, horror, and entertainment in Japan and America. Students shared information and supporting media via their phones, tablets, or laptops. Further discussion focused on extraordinary creatures (the title of the Cultural Anthropology class), horror movies, manga, anime, ghosts and the supernatural.

**Career Development**– Japanese Professionals Job Panel: The panelists included participants from Ellensburg: a counselor, and restaurant owner, and a cost accounting manager at an international hay company. Each panelist gave an introduction that covered his/her studies and career path. The Q & A session proved to be a great exchange; topics covered a wide range of information from dealing with culture shock to advice on skills necessary for success in a global job market to differences between working in the U.S. and Japan to and when/how panelists chose to learn English and work abroad.

**Career Development**– A one hour class with Cultural Anthropology where students interviewed their CWU partners about their majors, future career goals, career-related interests, and other factors that will help them be successful in their careers.





## Student Services

AUAP students have been active and trying their best to get involved with CWU students in their halls, around campus, and in the community.

**International Student Welcome Party:** A party was held to welcome and thank the 150+ international students at CWU. AUAP students had a chance to meet students from a variety of countries. Currently, students from 54 different countries are studying at CWU.

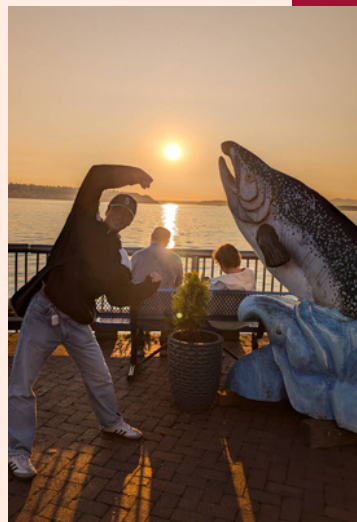
**AUAP Friends Club:** Each week AUAP and CWU students join club meetings and plan fun activities to do together. Activities have included a movie night, playing board games, teaching Japanese calligraphy, making masks, and having conversation together. We had our first club meeting and students played ice breaker games and got to know each other!

**Seattle Trip:** All 13 students went to a Seattle trip planned by the Office of International Studies & Program on Oct. 12th. This was their first visit to Seattle and got to explore famous spots such as the 1st Starbucks, Pike Place Market, Space Needle, and more. It was a beautiful day to walk around Seattle area.

**1st House Cup Challenge Winner:** AUAP students have bi-weekly challenges to compete against each hall. The winner will be announced in Connections Class. The 1st House Cup Challenge winner goes to Team Daijobu!!!

**Campus Friend Program:** Students are participating in the program and were matched with their CWU partners. A reception with ice breakers was held to help pairs connect and get to know each other. Students are now encouraged to meet their partners once a week.

**Community Friend Program:** Some students have applied and matched with their local families. They visited family's home and enjoyed meals together.







**AUAP Group Photo:** On October 16th, we had an AUAP group photoshoot. Wellington, CWU mascot, was also able to join us!

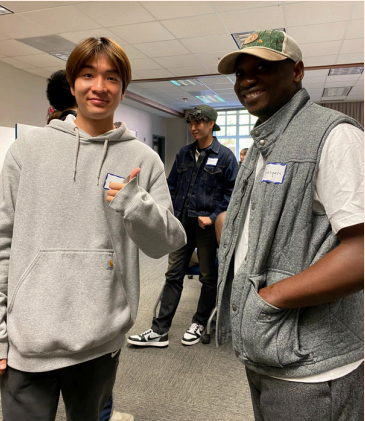
**Rock Painting:** AUAP students and CWU students enjoyed rock painting together at AUAP Friendsclub. Each rock was very unique and different! The painted rocks were used to decorate around the AUAP tree at the Wildcat Farm.

**AUAP Tree dedication:** We have an AUAP tree at the wildcat farm on campus now! AUAP students planted a 20th century Asian pear tree. The idea of planting an AUAP tree was brought up by previous AUAP students hoping the future AUAP students visit and harvest the pears. Can't wait to harvest the first AUAP pears!

**International Cafe:** 1st International Cafe of the year was held in Black Hall 105. International Cafe is a place/event for international students and CWU students to meet and get to know each other.

**Pumpkin Carving:** First attempt of pumpkin carving for AUAP students! Halloween is around the corner which means pumpkin carving must happen! CWU friends taught AUAP students how to carve pumpkin and what to do. They did great job!

**CWU Student Clubs:** There are 150+ student organizations at CWU. So far, AUAP students have joint Korean club, Baseball club, Aviation ground staff club, and music club. They are also trying out other student organizations and going to their weekly meetings!







**Northern Lights:** Students got to experience the Northern lights twice in October. Not only the northern lights, but beautiful Ellensburg sky with lots of stars!

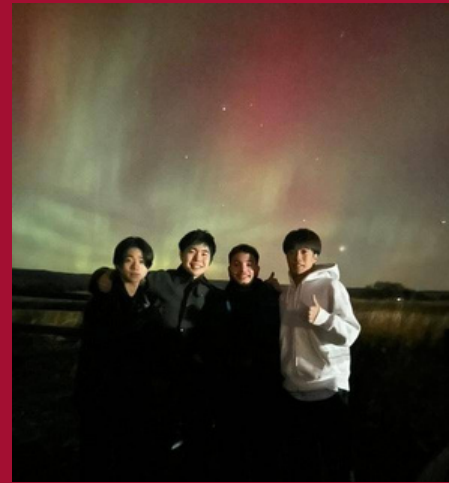
**Birthday Celebration:** 1st birthday party of AUAP this cycle! Students and IPAs have gathered to celebrate together.

# Volunteering

AUAP students have been trying their best to get involved with CWU students in their halls, around campus, and in the community.

**ESC Block Party:** Students also had a chance to participate in some volunteer activities. AUAP is part of the Equity and Service Council and participated in a "Block Party" where students go the chance to teach their American counterparts about Japanese culture

**Culture Nights:** Each residence hall with AUAP students holds a Japanese Culture Night where they show/share Japanese cultures to CWU students. AUAP students showed peers from their halls how to write in kanji, fold origami, and play with traditional Japanese toys. They also cooked some Japanese food such as Onigiri, Yakisoba, and Miso soup. A lot of people came by and it was a great turnout!



**October 2024**

