



# AUAP CWU NEWSLETTER

Report # 5 ~ June 2025



## Topics & Skills

### American Studies

- 1980s ~2025 including:
  - End of the Cold War
  - Technological developments
  - Environmental issues
  - 9-11
  - Music from the various decades
- Student led presentations

### Global Issues

- Sustainable Development Goals
  - SDG #4 - Quality Education
  - SDG #5 - Gender Equality
  - SDG #1 - No Poverty
  - SDG #16 - Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

### Career Development

- Creating the International Experience Portfolio
- Revising American Resume
- How to read job descriptions
- Signed up for AUAP Job Fair

### TOEIC

- Inferences in news articles
- Part 7 skills
- Modal verbs
- Verb tenses & Time markers
- Part 2 question types
- Weekly listening practice
- Tips and timed practice

### Integrated English Skills

- 7 page written Discovery Project
- Discussion with CWU volunteers
- Global Service Learning reflection

## Class & Projects Summary

June was a short but productive month. Students were able to find a new sense of confidence by using their English and problem solving skills during their two-week travel break.

**TOEFL:** 8 students took the TOEFL iTP on June 6. This was a great way for students to check their academic English improvement.

**IES: Discovery Project Paper.** Students submitted the final version of their DP paper. This was the culmination of a number of skills. Students summarized research from interviews in their writing. They also used critical thinking skills to analyze the data, look for patterns, make guesses as to the reasons for the results, and compare the final results to their original predications. In the weeks prior, each section of the paper was completed separately, but for the final submission students looked at the paper as a whole and improved the depth of their analysis, their grammar, and the overall appearance of the document. As students reflected on their DP paper, they all recognized significant skill growth.

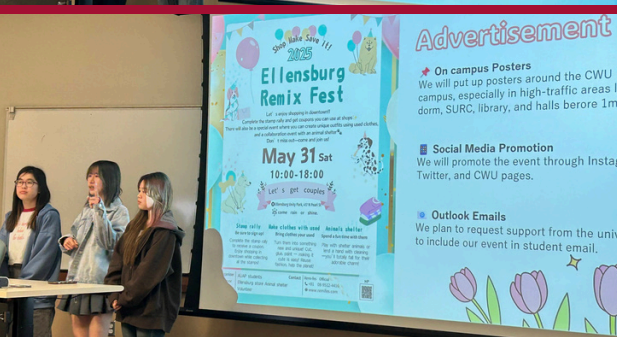
**CD: Peer Career Counseling.** Small groups discussed their own skills and abilities while their partners used that information to research and suggest a few possible career paths and jobs that best suit them. One job was considered as "in the box" (an obvious match to their stated abilities and skills); while the other job suggestion was considered as "out of the box" (maybe a job or career that the student had never considered but their peers might think would be a good match. This is a great activity because it provides each student with peer feedback and often with surprising suggestions. Students will use the results from this activity to choose 2 jobs to apply for in the AUAP Job Fair at the end of the cycle.

**International Experience Portfolio (IEP):** Students continued creating their International Experience Portfolio (IEP). This special memory book is an excellent way for students to showcase their skill development throughout AUAP. This month, students worked on compiling the cover page as well as a written reflection about their communication skills and use of English during their study abroad experience.





## Global Service-Learning Team Project Presentations



## DAVE Classes

**Career Development** – Ten CWU professionals from various departments across the campus came to class to share information about their work, career paths, and advice for job hunting. AUAP students got to interview two different guests and enjoyed getting to know more about the careers of CWU employees. Many students plan to visit the offices of those who they interviewed.

*"I thought these interviews were a very good experience. It was a very good interview for my future, and I learned what it would be like to work there in the future. I learned that in interviews it is very important to listen deeply and carefully to what the person has to say."*

**American Studies** – Students teamed up with an Intro to Sociology class to discuss cultural comparisons between several cultures represented in the classroom including Japanese, American, and Mexican culture. The focus of the activity was on families, feminism, and LGBTQ+. AUAP and CWU students mixed together and used cards with prompts covering aspects of these various cultural differences. Students discussed their responses to the topic cards, completed an interview worksheet, and a written reflection.

**Global Studies** – Similar to the previous Sociology class, students teamed up with a Sociology of Gender class and discussed cultural comparisons between several cultures represented in the classroom including Japanese, American, and Mexican culture. The focus of the activity was on family roles, feminism, and LGBTQ+. AUAP and CWU students mixed together discussed their responses to topic cards, completed an interview worksheet, and after the activity they completed a written reflection about this class's activity as well as how it compared with the conversations and responses from the previous Sociology class's activity. The reflections proved that the discussions from these two classes were eye-opening and thought-provoking for AUAP and CWU students alike.

*"Comparing the two interviews, both people said that the US has made progress on gender, but that major challenges remain regarding law, work, and education. One difference is whether they are both men or women. Men are under pressure to earn money and support their families financially, while women were made to do cooking, cleaning, discriminated against by first impression and refused to be leader."*





## Student Services

June was the busiest month yet! Before summer break began, the students spent time with their CWU friends, enjoying campus activities, and soaking up American culture. Students then had a two-week break to travel and explore new parts of the US. They returned from travel break with energy and confidence.

**Taiko Performance:** When the AU delegation visited CWU, the Wadaiko club, the newest student club at CWU, welcomed them with an incredible performance. Their performance was amazing. The inspiring part is that the Wadaiko club started from scratch. They did not have any Taiko equipment. They created their own "GoFundMe" site and raised enough money to purchase 3 taiko drums and other necessities. It's incredible to see how passionate they are.

**House Cup Challenge Winner:** The 7<sup>th</sup> House Cup challenge winner was Team Konjac! This is their second time winning the trophy. They have been trying hard in and out of class being engaged and speaking English with CWU friends.

**Campus events:** One of the great things about CWU is that there are a lot of campus events happening every month. June is the pride month, therefore there was a pride parade, drag show, and so many more. Many events were also happening at the library to cheer students for the Finals week.

**Summer Dorm:** Students moved to Dugmore, a summer dorm with air conditioning. They will live there the rest of their AUAP life. Some chose to live with another AUAP student, while others chose to live with someone new. Hopefully they will get to meet new people and feel at home right after their move.

**Travel Break:** All of the students are enjoying/have enjoyed traveling outside of Ellensburg during their two-week break. Destinations included Disneyland, Los Angeles, Grand Canyon, NYC, Victoria B.C., Vancouver and Seattle. Students will debrief their trips with teachers in class when they return to campus. There were small hiccups during the trips, however students were able to solve the problems all by themselves! AUAP staff was astonished by how much students have grown and become confident. It was great to see the pictures and hear the stories students shared!

