



School of Asian Languages and Studies

Japan In-Country Program



In December last year, 11 students from UTAS travelled to Fukuoka for an intensive 5-week Japanese program at Asahi Japanese Language School. Besides language classes, the students explored the city, had lots of visits including hot springs and temples, and shared the traditional Japanese New Year celebrations with their new friends (see mochi making below).

This program is fully accredited by UTAS and this year will run 5 Dec 08 – 9 Jan 09.



Teaching Award

Congratulations to Kaz Ross, Coordinator of Asian Studies, who has just been awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Teaching and Learning. Excellent news Kaz!

Semester One Highlights

Showcase



In May, with students' Asian Studies posters of religious festivals brightening the walls, and enjoying end of semester relief, we celebrated student work in Launceston and Hobart.



Indonesian Lunch

First year Indonesian students had a treat in class. In Hobart, they sampled some amazing dishes and learned to show appreciation in Indonesian.



And in Launceston, the students cooked all the food themselves.



Japan Link-Up Exchange Class

The third year Japanese in Practice unit run by Yoji Hashimoto presented a series of live link ups between the UTAS class in Hobart and a counterpart English language class at the Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto. The students waved and talked in a mix of Japanese and English using both instant messenger and video conversation.



Despite glitches, student feedback was overwhelmingly positive: 'I gained a lot more confidence'; 'definitely the way of the future'; 'amazing'; 'good to have interaction to put you on the spot'; 'they invited me to play soccer with them'.

Chinese Painting Class



This semester the second year Chinese Reading and Writing class included a session on calligraphy and Guo Hua, traditional Chinese painting, with Guo Xiaoyi, a Fine Arts student. With great results!

China Earthquake Donation



Members of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association raised \$8741.40 in donations to send to people who have suffered in the earthquake in Sichuan Province, China on 12 May 2008.

Organised by Fen Zhou, tutor at Asian Languages and Studies, they spent 6 days collecting at Sandy Bay campus and at Salamanca Market, supported by the School. Fen thanks everyone involved. The cheque has been sent to Sichuan via the Education Office of the Consulate General of the P.R.C. in Melbourne.



Notes from an Asian Studies tutor

The students are terrific to be around, the polyglot nature of the classes providing one of the best lessons in Asian Studies a student or a white-haired old croc can have without opening a book. It's such a charge watching a local, an Afghan, a Malaysian and a Japanese exchanging email addresses, then combining their efforts to complete a project on a Hindu festival. I reckon I might live longer for the experience. ST

Hobart Shakuhachi Evening

Monday 30 June at 7pm at Studio Theatre, University Centre, Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay

All welcome to a Shakuhachi (Japanese Bamboo Flute) performance and lecture by Professor Robert Herr University of Hawaii

Robert Herr returns to UTAS to introduce the different styles of shakuhachi music and their uses. He first studied the shakuhachi in Honolulu with John Kaizan Neptune and grand master Riley Lee. In Japan, he studied with two grand masters.

Asian Studies Semester 2

Asian Studies lunchtime sessions
5 August 1.10pm Hum 477A
26 August 1.10pm Hum 477A
30 Sept 1.10pm Hum 477A

8 August 12-2pm room TBA
Dr Michele Ford from University of Sydney will give a workshop on social activism and NGOs in Asia

Unistart Courses

Had trouble during semester 1?
Didn't do as well as you had hoped?

Improve your academic skills by enrolling in Unistart, a free one-week course
All academic skills are covered including research, writing for assignments, time management

Hobart & Cradle Coast: start 2 July
Launceston: start 30 June
<http://www.utas.edu.au/unistart>

DVD - Why Study Indonesian?

Teachers - the Indonesian section has produced a DVD to strongly promote awareness of the advantages of learning Indonesian in schools, in government departments, among businesses and the general public. Please call us to request your copy!

Alternatively the video can be viewed or downloaded from the School website:

<http://www.utas.edu.au/sals/programs/indonesian.htm>

Asian Horror Night!

Date: Sat 5 July, 4pm onwards
Venue: Centenary Lecture Theatre, Sandy Bay campus
\$5 entry
The Ring, The Red Shoes, Shutter

Held by the TUU DigiVisiPop Society - the people who do the Anime convention each year



SALS newsletters – please email Mandy on sals.enquiries@utas.edu.au for further information on any contents and if you wish to add others or remove yourself from our newsletter list. Comments always welcome.

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