

Course Name	Countries and Cultures		
Semester, Year	1 学期	Number of Credits	2 credits
Course level	1000	Course Number	027001
Instructor(s) (Institution)	LA FAY MICHELLE KAY (大学院文学研究院)		
Course Objectives	Students will explore how their countries have influenced other countries and how other countries have influenced their own country. Students will be able to form a new picture of their own country's identity by combining knowledge of their country with the image of their country from the outside.		
Course Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will gain the ability to see their own country from a different viewpoint. 2. Students will become able to assess how countries' perceive one another and to what extent those perceptions can be judged accurate. 3. Students will identify a "myth" that supports their country and explain about the elements of this myth. 		
Course Schedule	<p>Week 1: Class guidelines and expectations, Let's get acquainted ice-breaking session</p> <p>Week 2: How did the US influence Hokkaido and how did Hokkaido influence the US?</p> <p>Week 3: How did your country influence Japan? How did Japan influence your country?</p> <p>Week 4: What is an "imagined community" and how does that help form a nation?</p> <p>Week 5: What do we believe about our countries?</p> <p>Week 6: Our countries: Inside looking out and outside looking in</p> <p>Weeks 7 & 8: Discussion: Our countries in the media: humor and social commentary</p> <p>Week 9: Know Thy Country: A case study</p> <p>Weeks 10: Group work: Identifying Elements of Your Country's "Myth"</p> <p>Weeks 11 & 12: Group work: How do these elements manifest in society?</p> <p>Week 13: The Value of Mutual Influence</p> <p>Week 14: The Future: International? Transnational? Global?</p> <p>Week 15: Wrap-up session and self-evaluation</p>		
Homework	Preparation for activities, including research and reading, will be conducted outside of class. Group/pair work may also involve meeting outside of class.		
Grading System	<p>Group work/activities: 50%</p> <p>Writing (reflection papers) : 25%</p> <p>Final interview: 25%</p>		
Textbooks / Reading List	The Better Nature of Our Angels Why Violence Has Declined Steven Pinker Penguin Books 2012		
Websites			
Website of Laboratory			
Additional Information	Supplementary materials will be provided by the instructor.		