CULTURAL PRESUPPOSITIONS IN JAPANESE
COMMUNICATION　2 credits（Fall）
日本語コミュニケーションにおける文化的前提　2 単位
（秋学期）

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Course Description/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome:

To communicate well with others, especially in cross-cultural settings, it is crucial to have a good vocabulary and grammatical knowledge of the language used there, but this is not enough. We still misunderstand each other unless we correctly understand what they mean through their speech, which is sometimes not so easy. This course thus aims to explore Japanese everyday interaction from various socio-cultural aspects that may affect speakers'ways of interacting with others. By analyzing it in detail, comparing it to practices in other languages, and sharing experiences and opinions with classmates, you will gain more insight into how people select their words and expressions and thereby perform social actions. You will see socio-cultural phenomena of Japanese communication from a wider perspective, while observing and analysing your own language use and its possible impacts on others.

Course Plan:

1 Introduction
2 Communicating with others; communicating across cultures
3 Aspect 1: Self and others
4 Aspect 2: Age, experience and professional expertise
5 Aspect 3: Intimacy and distance
6 Aspect 4: Public and private settings
7 Aspect 5: Communication style
8 Discussion day
9 Language and behavior 1: Inviting someone and being invited
10 Language and behavior 2: Making and receiving requests
11 Language and behavior 3: Giving and receiving positive/negative evaluations
12 Preparation for presentation and final report
13 Presentation Day
Other None

Method of Evaluation:

1. Attendance and participation (40%)
2. Assignment (20%)
3. Mini presentation and final report (40%)

Textbooks:

Materials will be provided online.

Reference Books:

Gumperz, J. J. (1982). Discourse Strategies. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G. J., and Minkov, M. (2010). Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind, 3rd ed. New York, London: McGraw-Hill Education.

Tannen, D. (Ed.) (1993). Framing in Discourse. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Lecturer's Comments to Students:

- **This course is designed both for international students and for local students.** You will be expected to actively participate in class discussions, sharing experiences and exchanging opinions with your classmates. **The number of students for this course is limited to 30.**

- **This course will be offered on an on-demand/live-streaming basis.** For most of the classes, students are required to access and view lecture videos, and participate in discussions with classmates with Canvas LMS. For some classes, live-streaming sessions will be held via Zoom and students directly exchange opinions with each other. Further details of the course organization will be explained in the session of Week 1.

- Japanese proficiency is not a requirement, but students should be greatly interested in Japanese culture and communication.

- **Those who wish to take this course are required not only to register the course via Academic Affairs Web System but also to fill out a questionnaire by 16:45 on September 29th (JST), by logging in**

Google Forms with their Keio accounts and using the following link: https://forms.gle/xqP1w77gG4ggGxuX8
The selection will be made based on the information provided to the instructor through the questionnaire.