2021 Spring Online English-learning programs The University of British Columbia/Canada Kana Arao/Sophomore in Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences

Reason for participation

I joined The University of British Columbia's English program because it fit perfectly into my daily schedule. By that, I mean to say that I did not have to take any absences from my part-time job or skip any club activities in exchange for participating in the program. In addition, the classes were conveniently offered during Japanese morning hours.

Classes

This was a four-week program in which I had opportunities to read, listen, and hold discussions regarding weekly topics provided by the teachers. Thanks to this, I learned a lot, including new vocabulary, grammar, and expressions frequently used by native English speakers. I was able to gain a lot of practice using these new phrases when I talked with others in classes.

Teachers

The teachers are very friendly. Their bright personalities created a very warm classroom atmosphere in which students felt welcome to participate without hesitation. Thanks to this, even I, a person who frequently experiences anxiety in language-learning classes, actively participated in class without any problems. I really enjoyed the lessons.





Student Assistants

Student assistants helped oversee some of the classes. They helped supervise the students, particularly when we had discussions in breakout sessions.

Classroom discussions

During the first week, we discussed communities. More specifically, we discussed the significance of belonging to a community. The topic for the next week involved sports; we had the chance to learn about e-sports and other uncommon sports, such as bungee jumping and scuba diving.

Guest speakers

Many guest speakers, discussing a variety of topics, joined in on the lessons. One example of a guest speaker we had was a man who runs a training gym. He talked to the class about how much he enjoys exercising and how he finds rock climbing to be fascinating.

Extracurricular activities

On the final day of this course, we had an online farewell party. I prepared Japanese snacks, which I then introduced and described to the teachers.

To those who are considering online programs

It is very easy to join an online English-learning program. If you are interested in joining these types of programs even a little bit, I strongly recommend you take part in one.