

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

Reason for participation

The main reason for participating in this program was that I wanted to improve my English skills. However, I also wanted to take a chance on doing something new over spring vacation too.

Classes

These were not drawn-out, lecture-oriented classes. The lessons were student-oriented; students were asked to independently and actively join in discussion during class. There were several different topics for these regular discussions, such as sports and society. In regards to the atmosphere of the classroom, I found my teachers and fellow classmates to be very kind.

Guest teachers

Guest teachers occasionally joined in during class. They did not teach our daily lessons but instead kindly talked with students. Students were able to ask them questions too. Speaking with them was very enjoyable.

Classroom discussions

During class, students were often divided into small groups. We were given plenty of opportunities to hold discussions with each other this way. I really enjoyed these discussions because I liked exchanging opinions with other students. Furthermore, through those discussions, I gradually became more confident and could discuss my personal opinions a little more than was possible for me previously.



Group projects

I was assigned a project, which I conducted in a small group of other students. We were told to research a certain topic—Canadian fashion brands—and give a presentation on it. While doing this project, I really deepened my knowledge regarding Canadian fashion. This helped to not only improve my English skills but also broaden my horizons. This was one of my best memories from the program.

Impressions of this program

I had numerous chances to speak up and listen to what others said in English. Those opportunities allowed me to make huge progress in my English speaking and listening skills.

To those who are considering online programs

Even though the program is online and not held in person, there are definitely still a lot of enjoyable moments. It is easy to participate in class because your teachers and classmates are so friendly. Moreover, it's also easy to participate in class from the comfort of your home. I would really recommend any online English-learning programs like the one I joined to anyone who is considering deepening their knowledge of the English language.