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Incorporating Japanese Studies Into Undergraduate Curriculum
Japan Studies Institute 2017
“Delivering Nursing Care to Japanese Visitors in the US”

As a nursing educator, I debated creating a theoretical or applied nursing project from my experience at the Japan Studies Institute this year. Ultimately I decided my students and university would be best served by an applied client care project that could be used in a variety of nursing or pre-health courses (with small changes). I am designing a 10-15 minute lecture on providing culturally aware patient care to Japanese who are in the United States for travel or school attendance (not Japanese-Americans). Favored destinations for Japanese visitors are Hawaii, Guam, California, and New York. While abroad these visitors may experience healthcare issues including accidental injuries, acute illnesses, and exacerbations of chronic illnesses. A literature search provided little concise information for healthcare providers.

Healthcare professionals strive to provide care that is, at a minimum, culturally aware; providers must understand that the perspective and needs of each client will be unique to that person, influenced by her/his ethnic, social, and cultural background. Therefore, a foundation for safe, high quality care is created when providers have a basic knowledge base regarding commonly seen patient populations. Beyond my university, open online access to this presentation will allow any healthcare student or practitioner to expand awareness of Japanese culture that may impact patient care.