



## Library Guidance at “Welcome Week”

In April, the library guidance was held online via Zoom as an event of "Welcome Week". The event was organized by Global Learning Center of Tohoku University for newly arrived international students. On the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, Gan Wen Shuoh from Malaysia, one of the staff members of the International Student Concierge Service, carried out a 30-minutes-presentation in Chinese language for the Library Guidance.



*The presenter of the Library Guidance*

The aim of this event was to give guidance and support to the new students whose mother tongue is Chinese. After attending to the guidance, students will understand how to use the library facilities and how to search for useful books or journals. Due to the fact that students were not able to meet face to face, library guided tour was cancelled and the overall guidance was held in online for 40 minutes (30 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for Q&A).

The guidance began with the introduction by Associate Professor Rumi Watanabe of the Global Learning Center

to the presenter. After the introduction, the power point presentation from Gan followed. The presenter introduced the brief history of the library and the locations of the other sub-libraries, and their opening hours to the listeners.

Next, the students were given the information about the ways to use the facilities in the main library especially in this pandemic time of Covid-19. The students were told to sanitize their hands and check their body temperature before entering the main library. Besides, the students were also given guidance about the use of library facilities in the new normal. For example, they were told that all the places for group study are prohibited and there are new seats arranged for online classes or for online meetings where students are allowed to talk.

Next, Gan gave detailed explanation on how to search for books and journals using the library Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). Other useful information about the use of online database such as Cinii Articles are also introduced to the new students.

Finally, the presentation ended with the introduction of International Student Concierge Desk and its Facebook and Twitter besides other online consulting services. During the Q&A session, one of the students asked about whether the library website and OPAC can be used even off campus. The answer from Gan was “Yes”, although there are some databases which

can only be used on campus. The students were also allowed to ask questions through the chat box in Zoom. At the end of the Q&A session, some students complimented the speaker for his fluent Chinese.



### **PowerPoint Presentation of the Guidance**

As mentioned earlier, due to the pandemic, very unfortunately, the library was not able to give detailed library guidance through the library tour. Moreover, only a small number of students were able to join us on the Zoom. However, it was a nice experience for all of the staffs. I believe that way of online guidance can be performed in the future as students tend to speak more when they are allowed to ask questions through typing rather than speaking. Tohoku University Library is devoted to providing good service to the international student so that they can make full use of the library for their research and study purposes. We hope that this pandemic will end someday in the future so that the library guidance can be held face to face.

*Reported by* **GAN WEN SHUOH**

## **The University Libraries Around the World**

*This section introduces university libraries around the world, mainly from the alma mater of our International Student Concierge members.*

### **M.K. Ammosov NEFU Library**

M.K. Ammosov North-Eastern Federal University is the largest higher education institution in the Russian northeast based in Yakutsk city and one of ten federal universities in the country. NEFU was officially established in April 2010 on the basis of Yakut State University and was named after Maksim Kirovich Ammosov, an outstanding statesman of Soviet Yakutia, and one of the founders of Yakutia and Kyrgyzstan statehood.



### **M.K. Ammosov NEFU Library**

Source: <https://bit.ly/2RgvOpe>

Founded in 1934, NEFU scientific library has the status of the republican and inter-university library, becoming a research and methodical center for other libraries and academic institutions. Total area of the library is 5,232 sq. m. and it accommodates over 1300,000 books. Document fund on January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2015 is 1373,773 units of storage, and the fund of periodicals is 99,792 copies.

NEFU Research Library is located at 58 Belinsky street, Yakutsk, Republic of

Sakha (Yakutia). Library branches are located in the academic buildings of the institution. Working hours of the library are from 09:00 to 19:00 from Monday to Friday, and from 11:00 to 18:00 on Saturday. The library is closed on Sunday. The timetable of the library changes during the examination period of the university, providing a longer opening hours for students and academic staff.



**NEFU Research Library**

Source: <https://www.s-vfu.ru/en/university/library/>

- Branch reading rooms: humanitarian literature, technical literature, natural science literature and medical literature;
- Periodicals room offers newspapers, magazines in all spheres of knowledge;
- Reference and bibliographic department carry bibliographic references;
- Department of Cultural Heritage provides a collection of books published in Russia until 1918, including small and rare editions;
- The sector of electronic document delivery and interlibrary loan has the ability to provide and receive a copy by e-document delivery, interlibrary loan provides the opportunity to order literature for temporary use from other libraries;

Research Library participates in the Union Catalog of Russian Libraries LIBNET and libraries of the republic- it helps to improve the quality of the information and

bibliographic service for students, researchers, teachers according to their requests. Total information in the electronic catalog of the library is 210,676 bibliographic records.

The library is also working on international books exchange with foreign universities. NEFU library holds and organizes cultural and educational events for students and teachers (conferences, seminars, parties, meetings, professional days, presentations, thematic book exhibitions, etc.)



**Students Participating in a Library's Events**

Source: From the writer's personal archive

*Written by **Evdokiia Okhlopkova***

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## Reader's Choice:

### What to Read Next?

*This section introduces a new book from our available selection at the Tohoku University Main Library. It is intended to pick your interest and fill your grey matter with intellect and emotion. Sit back and enjoy it!*

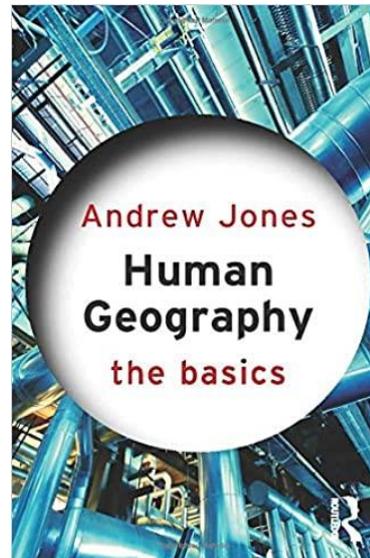
The author of this recommended book, Professor Andrew Jones, is the Head of the School of Geography, Environment and Development Studies at Birkbeck, University of London. Professor Andrew Jones's "Human Geography" published in 2012 is a concise overview of the mankind's actions and evolutions by which they gradually have shaped today's changing world in all related aspects such as environment, politics, culture, human identities, population, work, etc.

Human geography is a wide discipline with its interdisciplinary branches of subjects, uncovering the knowledge about the world today. It examines human societies and how they develop their culture, economy and politics, all within the context of their environment. The book gives a quick glance of the critical issues that our contemporary world is facing. From those basic introductions, we can further develop our knowledge and interests in other related subjects. The concept of human geography in the book states the distribution and networks of people and cultures around the world throughout the history. The reader can investigate the local, regional, and global impact of humans' activities.

As a critical social science subject, human geography addresses urgent issues

which affect and change our mankind society and the world we live in. The further recommended lists of reading and glossary in the book are considerable information for the beginners of the subject matter. Grey shaded case study boxes throughout the book explain the simplified and the core background information of each history encounter and topic. This makes the beginner readers grasp the author's explanation easily.

If you are a reader with a keen interest on anthropogeography, this book is a good introductory book, telling you about humans and their relationships with communities, cultures, economics, and their interactions with the environment. It is a worth reading book for all of the global residents, us, so as to have the awareness on the ways human beings interact with the geography of the earth and their impacts.



**Book:** Human Geography: the basics

**Author:** Andrew Jones

**Publisher:** ROUTLEDGE

**ISBN:** 00120102440

**Call No:** G81/59

**Location:** LIB Gakuetsu

*Reviewed by Thiri Soe*

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## My Hometown: Guarulhos

*In this column, we introduce the hometowns of our members, giving you a glimpse into their culture and some traveling tips from locals!*

With its 12 million of inhabitants, São Paulo is the biggest city of Brazil. However, I was born and raised in Guarulhos, a nearby city with a population of 1.3 million people, is the most populous city in Brazil although it is not a capital city of Brazil.

The name Guarulhos comes from the Tupi language that was spoken by several indigenous inhabitants of Brazil before the Portuguese colonizers arrive, and its meaning is “big-bellied people.” Apparently, the indigenous people who used to live in the region were fond of eating.



**Bosque Maia (Maia Park)**

Source: <https://www.g7news.com.br/>

Brazil is a relatively young country, and Guarulhos was founded in December 8<sup>th</sup> 1560 by a Jesuit priest called Manuel de Paiva. Its foundation was connected to a territorial dispute with a local indigenous group, the Tamoios.

The São Paulo/Guarulhos International Airport, the biggest airport in Brazil, is located in Guarulhense and is one of our pride. As a Guarulhense (Guarulhos-born

person), I always call it by Cumbica Airport that is another popular name for the name of the region where it is located.



**GRU Airport**

Source: <https://www.panrotas.com.br/>

For anyone who is making a quick visit in Brazil, feel free to explore outside the airport and experiment our foods. In winter (It is in July! Do not forget it.), the average low temperature is 12° Celsius, so you will not need to bring heavy coats or anything like that.

With our motto, “*Vere paulistarum sanguis meus*” (my blood is truly Paulista), Guarulhos is an important part of the state of São Paulo and of Brazil, serving as the opening door of the country for millions of people that come to visit us every year.



**Lagos dos Patos (Ducks' Lake)**

Source: <https://www.clickguarulhos.com.br/>

As reported by **Julio Nascimento**

## Editor



### **Thiri Soe [Editor-in-Chief]**

A language science student from the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She is from Myanmar, a land of Golden Pagodas, in South East Asia. Thiri is studying applied linguistics, seeking knowledge to benefit her teaching profession. Her hobby is cooking, gardening and writing. She believes that things happen for a reason and the reason is to be good.

### **Gan Wen Shuoh**

A graduate student of Cultural Anthropology from Malaysia, a country with multiple ethnics and cultures. He likes Japanese culture and especially loves Japanese chess (*Shogi*) and watching Japanese dramas. By setting "Choose what you like and like what you choose" as his life motto, he believes life can be difficult but when you try to accept it, it gives you rewards.



### **Marina Nascimento**

A Brazilian graduate student from the Innovative Japanese Studies department. She enjoys drawing and reading comics as well as traveling around the world. Mari has been to 13 different countries and loves to talk about new places she would like to discover. If you want to become her friend just show her cat pictures, she will automatically love you!

**If you feel unwell, even just a little, please do not come to the campus or to the library. Rest at home and get well soon.**

## How to reach us?

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