



Library Guidance Tour for International Students: Welcome to Tohoku University in Sendai!

The end of September is the period when most newly enrolled Tohoku University students arrive in Sendai from all over the world. To make them feel more at home, at the beginning of every semester, we hold a library guidance and tour for international students at the Main Library on Kawauchi campus.

This September, we provided a guidance and tour to more than 100 new students and we were impressed to see that Tohoku University remains a top choice for prospective students coming to study in Japan.

Our tour consisted of two parts: a presentation followed by a private library tour in small groups. During the presentation, two members of our International Student Concierge (ISC) shared important information about the facilities and services available inside the library, as well as how to use the OPAC system to search for books and journals.

Given that the international students joining the tour belong to different campuses, a new addition to our presentation was a brief introduction of the branch libraries in other campuses, such as the Medical Library, Kita Aobayama Library,

Agricultural Library and the Engineering Library on Aobayama campus. We truly hope that the students left the tour feeling motivated to find a library that will best suit their academic needs!



Library Guidance

The ISC members were also happy to guide groups of cooperative and curious students throughout the library and recommend their favorite study places, share secrets about how to operate the magical moving shelves, show them how to use the self-checkout machines, and introduce the ISC Desk where they are waiting to answer various questions about using the library.



Library tour

We hope that this tour will make students feel like they are an important part of Tohoku University and that they have a safe place where they can study without distractions. We look forward to welcoming new students during our next tour!

Written by **Hristina Petrovikj**

New Members!!

This section introduces new members of the International Student Concierge.

Zhang Tao



Hello everyone!

My name is Zhang Tao, but you can call me Manrika. I come from China, and I grew up in Xi'an, the ancient capital located in the central region of China with a history of over two thousand years. Now I am a first year master student of Asian Culture and History Studies. This is my third year in Japan, but it's my first year in Sendai. So, I am very excited and looking forward to my upcoming student life!

I majored in Japanese in college, and when I was a senior, I decided to study abroad in Tokyo. During that time, in order to prepare for the graduate school exam, I spent a lot of time studying for my major while working part-time, which greatly influenced my speaking skills.

In my spare time, I love reading novels, such as fantasy, SF, historical, and all kinds of genres. Besides that, I like watching anime, and one of my favorites is One Piece. I also enjoy eating, especially Japan's sukiyaki and yakitori.

It's a great pleasure to meet you all! And please, if you have any questions, feel free to come to the International Student Concierge Desk in the library.

Reader's Choice: What to Read Next?

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

Hello everyone!

When autumn started, I don't know why I found myself reminiscing about my childhood and early adult life through the lens of my pets, my companions in life. Maybe it was because my cat came home for the first time during this season, or maybe because the beautiful red and yellow colors brought back beautiful memories with them.

When I found this book, it reminded me of my life journey with my cat. And I thought that this could be a good reading for cat lovers and those who might be thinking of cats as companions in life.

This book brings light to how a cat can literally change the life of people in a way they can't imagine.

The story introduces a couple in their thirties who live their lives with no surprises, no unexpected things or events, who rarely communicate beyond the necessities of sharing a home. Their monotonous lives are disrupted when a cat appears in their neighbors' yard and begins visiting them, earning the title of "the guest cat".

The wife has adored animals since childhood, while the husband has never been particularly fond of cats. But he soon finds himself admiring the cat's athletic skills and intelligence. Before long, the door of their home was left open for the cat to come and go as she pleases. The husband realizes that "there is no cat comparable to her".

Without expecting it, the cat enters into their lives, and every time the couple opened the door to welcome their guest cat, the mood inside the house was restored, as expressed by the husband.

The cat, named "Chibi", unexpectedly changes their lives for the better. Chibi brings them joy, and encourages them to appreciate the little things in their daily routine. Their bond deepens as they nurture their love for her over time and build trust.

Yet, the couple is aware that Chibi does not belong to them, but to their neighbors, adding an emotional layer to their relationship with her.

Their newfound peace and joy, however, are soon interrupted by an event that will change their mood once again.

This book unfolds an emotional narrative that explores the profound impact of seemingly unchangeable events in life. And it imparts a vital lesson: that even in

the face of hardship, such changes can ultimately lead to something positive and hopeful in the years to come, and that the important memories we create will never vanish. They will remain to remind us how fortunate we were to experience them.

Book: The guest Cat

Author: Takashi Hiraide

Publisher: Picador

Call No.: KH164/1

Location: Main Library, Global Learning Room

Written by **Martelli Giachino Maria Laura**

Quote of the Month

This section introduces famous quotes from a recommended book from our available selection at the Tohoku University Main Library. The quotes have been meticulously chosen by our Concierge members with the intention of promoting interest in books and providing motivation to our readers. We hope that you will enjoy our selection!

Book: Tokyo Ueno Station

Author: Yu Miri

Publisher: New York : Riverhead
Books

Call No.: KH753/3

Location: Main Library2F: Global
Learning Room

“I used to think life was like a book: you turn the first page, and there’s the next, and as you go on turning page after page, eventually you reach the last one. But life is nothing like a story in a book. There may be words, and the pages may be numbered, but there is no plot. There may be an ending, but there is no end.”



Written by Ana Maria Simplicio

Manga Corner

At Manga Corner, you will see scenes that frequently happen to newly enrolled students.

Hi! I am Andhika from Indonesia! I like reading and drawing manga, and I hope you enjoy my short manga.



Apart from the Kita-Aobayama Library, there are also the Engineering Library and the Agricultural Library in Aobayama Campus area



The Engineering Library has a very diverse study area, including some cute sofas and lots of individual box rooms.



There are many secluded spots that are perfect for a tranquil study session.

The atmosphere in the Agricultural Library is also a mood booster for study.



It has many spacious desks, and most of the study areas are near windows with nice green scenery.



Which one is your favorite? Please visit and enjoy all Tohoku University's libraries!

Editors



Petrovikj Hristina [Editor-in-Chief]

A graduate student from North Macedonia enrolled in the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. She has many hobbies, some of which include: singing, journaling, travelling, reading, watching movies, and photography. She has lived in 3 different countries so far, travelled across Europe, and is hoping to embark on an Asian tour in the near future. Her secret dream is to be a member of a rock band, but since that has not come true yet, you can often find her in a karaoke booth instead!

Helen Li

A 3rd year PhD student from Economics and Management Department, majoring in monetary economics and financial time series analysis. She previously lived in the USA and came to Japan in 2019. She has been playing the piano for over 10 years, and is also a semi-professional athlete of speed skating since before she was 14. She is an excellent female gamer of MOBA games such as DOTA and Honor of Kings. Her dream is to become a university professor or a diplomat, but a superior professional athlete of Esports if she was 10 years younger.



Andhika Wijaya



A graduate student from Innovative Japanese Studies Major, who was born and raised in Jakarta, Indonesia. She never had seen snow before she came to Japan, so she's always going 'wakuwaku' when the snow is falling down even though she has to struggle a lot with the cold temperature. She loves drawing, reading comics, travelling to scenic places, enjoying nice music, singing at karaoke, and playing with cute animals. Please don't mind her if she makes strange noises when she saw a photo of cute animals. Aside of those, one of her major passion is enjoying food and making review notes about it.

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