



Library Guidance in October

In October, we held online library guidance through Zoom, following the necessary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Mari, one of the two Brazilian staffs from the International Student Concierge, made a 40-minutes guidance presentation in English on October 8th.



Usually, the guidance is conducted in a 30-minutes library tour, in which the students are introduced about the library facilities, how to obtain a library card, and how to search for books. However, this time the overall guidance was done through an online event of 40 minutes, and a Power-Point was shown to illustrate the main points of the tour.

The guidance always begins with a brief summary of the library history such as its foundation, its relocation, and the renovations undergone through over 100 years. In last April, most of the facilities have usage restriction because of the pandemic, but some facilities are offered back, such as the computer areas. The students are still required to sanitize their hands and check

their body temperature before entering the main library. Besides, new spaces were created for online classes and meetings in which the students are allowed to talk.

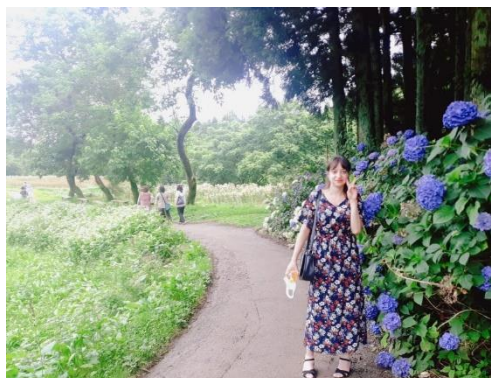
Besides learning about the facilities, the students were also introduced to online services, such as the library Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC), online databases such as Web of Science and CiNii. The end of the presentation was normally about the International Student Concierge Desk, how to find us and what services we provide.

It is still too soon to guarantee that the next guidance will be held on-site, but we can hope that sooner or later the pandemic will be controlled and we will be back to our normal lives. Meanwhile, it is necessary to adjust our work and study life to this new era. The library and its staffs are giving their best to keep the guidance pleasant and the library working. I hope however, that this is the last time we have to only meet online and that from next semester the library tour is back.

Until this time, take a good care of your health and if you have any troubles regarding the library, come to our desk!

*Reported by **Marina Nascimento***

New Member!! Saoussane Khalifa



Hello, this is Saoussane Khalifa from Algeria. Not so many Japanese know about Algeria nor do so many Algerians know about Japan. I have started my journey in the ambiguous 'planet Japan', as we call it in my country, in April 2018 when I started off as a research student at Tohoku University in Sendai where I currently reside, then moved on to become a PhD student at the Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences.

I love to do research despite its ups and downs, i.e. success and failure, and hope to continue as a researcher after my PhD. In my spare time, I usually hang out with friends and one of my favorite hangout spots in Sendai, as simple as it may sound, is Hirose-gawa (except in winter!). I also enjoy reading, learning new languages, working out, watching movies and cooking. I love to travel, especially to places with nice natural sceneries. However, as a full-time PhD student, I rarely get enough days off to travel far away, so I enjoy going to nearby places such as Matsushima, Yamadera and Shiogama. I hope that you can visit the aforementioned places and find your own favorite hangout spot in Sendai!

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.

La Sapienza University of Rome Library

La Sapienza University, founded in 1303 in Rome, is one of the oldest and the biggest universities in the world. The name "La Sapienza" means wisdom and knowledge and it is a praise for study in the broadest sense. Rome University includes the main campus, called the University city, and many other campuses around the city or outside of the city. About 50 university libraries are located all around the 120 branches of the university and more than 200 librarians are ready to support students during every kind of research.

The main library is called Alessandrina University Library. It was founded in 1667. Its architectural structure is beautiful, and as a long history library, it contains more than 1.5 million volumes that provide an inestimable value in the field of classical studies.

Since books and materials in Rome University libraries are pretty old and precious, I will recommend you to ask for permission or to reserve it in advance. Depending on campuses, some rules can change, so it is always better to ask for details to the kind librarians at each

department. While I was studying in Rome, I often went to the small library in the East Asian Studies Department.

In particular, during the examination periods, which in Italy are very pressuring, my colleagues and I usually reserved room for study groups and remained there until late in the night. It was possible to access the University wireless LAN and, of course, to consult some old Japanese texts that is hard to find in other libraries in Italy. That small library was also the place where graduation ceremonies took place. I have discussed my bachelor's thesis exactly there!

"Università 'La Sapienza' di Roma" by Simone Ramella Souce: <https://bit.ly/3o1U9Lt>

*As reported by **Elena Fabbretti***

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!

Hi everyone! I'm Chunlin from China. I am a Ph.D. student at the Graduate School of

International Cultural Studies. I would like to recommend you a book titled "Seeing: insight biography."

"Seeing" is an autobiography written by a Chinese journalist Chai Jing, first published in 2012. The book records major public events since 2000, such as SARS, the Wenchuan Earthquake, the Beijing Olympics, etc., hence it can be regarded as a memoir of the ten years of changes in China; it also records Chai Jing's ten-year journey as a journalist.

For most ordinary people who can only get news from the media, "Seeing" allows us to see "another version of the story" of news. In "Seeing", one can see the personal feelings of the author, as a journalist, and another way of news making.

Through "Seeing", the reader learns that what matters is not the facts, but the view of the facts, and this view of the facts is so-called knowing the truth. In this sense, there are as many points of view as there are truths. It can also be said that there are as many truths as there are subjects or observers of knowledge.

Book: 看见 Seeing: insight biography

Author: 柴静(Chai Jing)

Publisher: 广西师范大学出版社

Guangxi Normal University Press

ISBN:9787549529322

Location:LIB-Global-Forgn|

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 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?

Facebook : @tohokuunivlib
Twitter : @TUL_Global @hagi_no_suke (in Japanese)
Instagram : @tohoku_univ_lib
Website : www.library.tohoku.ac.jp
E-Mail : gakushi@grp.tohoku.ac.jp
Telephone : 022-795-5933
Office Hours : 8:30 - 17:00 (Weekdays)
Address : 27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, 980-8576 JAPAN

