

A Message from the Chair of the Department of British and American Studies

Nanzan University's Faculty of Foreign Studies, Department of British and American Studies aims to educate our students so that they will be able to freely use English as the now established international language and to communicate effectively in a multitude of situations. We strive to provide opportunities to deepen their understanding of different cultures from all over the world and we also provide them with skills and abilities to examine their own culture from a global point of view. We hope they will be able to use all of the knowledge and skills they have learned to contribute to both local and international society.



It is not enough to just be able to speak English. If the content of what is spoken does not have substance, then there is little point in having English speaking ability.

Being strictly bound to one's own culture is not beneficial in a time when the multitudes of cultures in modern global society are clashing and mixing together, creating new blends of cultures. It is important to learn how to keep one's identity when functioning in modern multicultural society, by learning about different cultures and becoming more internationally aware. In contrast to the concept of Japanese traditional culture, often reserved and quiet, what is needed now is a "do it yourself", forward moving attitude, and the mental strength and perseverance to create plans and put them into practice.

Our government-funded GP program is designed for "the development of students' English communication ability to enable them to stand at the forefront of a multicultural, global society". This program will provide opportunities for intercultural interaction with universities from other countries and in doing so, it aims to maximize our students' potential. This program and its challenges could only come to fruition due to the unique international environment of Nanzan University. Many of the events held by the GP project are open to the public and so you are welcome to participate along with our students to partake in the true Nanzan experience. If you would like to see more of what we have been doing, please check our website: (<http://eibei-gp.nanzan-u.ac.jp/>).

We ask that you see for yourself the action of our students and their ability to communicate their message to the world with the confidence and vitality of youth.

Dr. Tatsuya Suzuki

GP Student committee

Shizuka Kato

For me, GP is a community where ideas are actualized. For our lectures and workshops, we all work together to create events and organize them and feel a great sense of accomplishment when it is done. We also get to make friends with people from other years, something that is normally difficult to do. I really recommend this program to anyone who wants to have a fulfilling campus life and who wants to meet lots of different people.



Yumi Saito

The reason I joined the GP program is that it would mean a lot to me. For example, this is my junior year and most of my friends are having a hard time with job hunting. As for me, I'm thinking of attending graduate school, so I'm not looking for a job. Instead I'm trying to do something academic like reading books related to my major, American history. I want to attend special colloquia and workshops to learn while improving my ear for English, so this program will be helpful. Also, I would love to use English more, and this program is a good way to do that because we use English to communicate with each other and post things on the web in English. Moreover, I don't have friends younger than my grade. I heard that a lot of members aren't the same year as me, so I want to talk with them. ♪ Also, I want to be friends with teachers too! ♪ I want to take part in studying in Hawaii if it's possible! I want to learn about racial issues there such as the civil rights movement of the native Hawaiian people.



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The Ability to Reason in English: Sending out Messages in English to the World

Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Foreign Studies

At Nanzan University's Department of British and American Studies, our students do not study just the language of English, but instead learn, reason, discuss and debate "in English" a large variety of specialized fields. This, more than anything, creates the kind of person who not only can speak English well, but can be at the forefront of the ever expanding, multicultural global society.

| What do you learn?

In order to have the ability to be at the forefront of international society, it is vital to have, in addition to superior language skills, the ability to understand other cultures and have a well-rounded understanding of cultural differences. In addition to English, students learn one to two of the nine other languages, such as French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, and Korean.

| How do you learn?

First and second year students study all the four skills of English (listening, speaking, reading, writing) intensively every day so that they have a firm foundation of those skills. In their third and fourth year, the students focus on their specific field of study such as linguistics, literature, foreign language education, communication, philosophy, politics, economics, international relations, history, and social studies. Students in each field focus on research and take classes in both English and Japanese on their specialty. By the end of the fourth year, students are able to debate and discuss topics related to their field in English.

| The Goal of a Department of British and American Studies Student

To become one who not only speaks English, but uses English as a tool with which to study, think, and debate. To become a person who has a deep understanding of other languages and cultures, through studying specialty fields such as linguistics, communication, English literature, English education, and American studies. To become the type of person that has the strength and skills to be able to stand at the center of the multicultural global society.

Office of Eibei GP
Department of British and American Studies
Faculty of Foreign Studies
Nanzan University

18 Yamazato-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya, 466-8673 JAPAN
Phone: 81-52-832-3278 Fax: 81-52-832-3279
URL: <http://eibei-gp.nanzan-u.ac.jp> MAIL: info-eibei-gp@nanzan-u.ac.jp

Nanzan University
Department of British and American Studies

Program for Promoting University Education Reform, Supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

The Development of Communication and Discussion English Skills to Be a Part of the Multicultural Global Society

Program for the Improvement of Multiskills in Education to
Enable Students to Participate in the Modern Globalized World

Greetings from the President of Nanzan University

I am extremely proud and pleased as the President of Nanzan University to have the program of the Department of British and American Studies, "for the development of students' English communication ability to enable them to stand at the forefront of the multicultural, global society", chosen in 2009 as a GP (Good Practice) Program by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

Here at the Department of British and American Studies, we strive to develop people who possess not only superior language skills, but a profound understanding of other languages and cultures.

In order to achieve this goal, this program specifically has three unique features of education:

1. Aiming beyond the basic four skills of English (reading, writing, listening, speaking), our students strive to present their ideas on specific fields of study, something that is usually done only at the graduate level of education.
2. Having a program that utilizes the modern tool, the Internet, while ensuring that the students have "real" not "virtual" experiences to deepen their true understanding of other cultures.
3. While one of the goals of the project is to improve the students' English ability, it is at the same time a project aimed at developing their planning and coordinating skills.

The students will hold international workshops with guest educators and students from overseas universities, and make presentations in joint symposiums at universities abroad, all of which will be planned and coordinated primarily by the students. Through these actual experiences, our greatest hope is that our students will develop their skills in dealing with cultural differences, learn more about other cultures, and develop their ability to put forth their message to the world through highly developed English communication skills.

As "Nanzan, the place of language", we will continue to challenge ourselves to improve in the area of language study. In the years to come, however, we hope to change from a place to learn the language English to a place to learn "in English". This goal is of utmost importance to our students, but also to our faculty, researchers, and all involved in the improvement of our school.

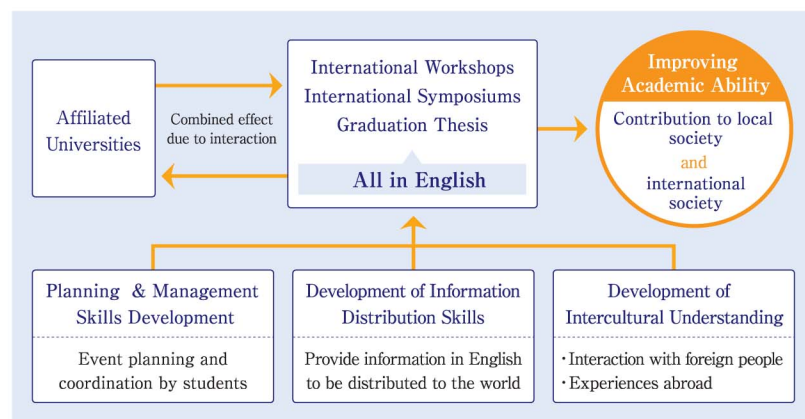
This program's work to create opportunities for exchange between students and educators, both from within and outside the country, and further have students plan, run, and present the results of workshops and symposiums at the undergraduate level, is the first step in our school's "Grand Design" for self-improvement.

"Only at Nanzan" could this program, with its high level of student members, be put into practice and it is our greatest hope that this program will maximize the potential in each of the students.

President of Nanzan University Michael Calmano



The GP Project



Our goal is to help develop Japanese people who can be at the center of global society. There are three specific goals of the program: 1) the development of planning and coordinating skills, 2) the development of communication and discussion skills, and 3) the development of the ability to understand other cultures. Through the development of these abilities, we hope to produce people who can contribute to both local and global society. This is in line with our department's goal of developing students who have not only superior linguistic skills, but the ability to deal with foreign cultures with deep understanding so that they might stand at the forefront of the ever developing, multicultural global society.

GP Special Events

Thesis Introduction Presentation

2009
11.4

One of the primary areas of focus for the development of communication and discussion skills is the thesis introduction presentation. Up until 2008, these presentations were held at the seminar level. Starting in 2008, the presentations were held at the department level and planned, organized, and run by the students themselves, all in English. Our plan is to continue to develop these presentations and to post the results on the web.



Immigration Issues as Seen through Comparisons between Japan and America

2009
11.20

In the current climate of increasing globalization, one issue which all countries must face is that of immigration. Three distinguished panelists were invited to speak on the issues of immigration in Japan and America. Three student representative questioners from the Department of British and American Studies, Ayumi Moraes (2nd year), Tian Yun (2nd year), and Akihiro Okumura (4th year) led in-depth discussions after the lectures.



Mr. Akihiro Okumura

Dr. Erin Chung, Panelist

The Nanzan University workshop was well-organized, well-attended, and lively. I found the students to be engaging and intellectually sophisticated. The student commentators, in particular, made the workshop especially effective as they not only offered thoughtful commentary on each talk, but also stimulated questions and comments from the audience. Although the audience members who asked questions were articulate and well-versed, perhaps more audience members would have participated had they been encouraged to ask their questions in Japanese if necessary. Overall, I was very impressed by the organizers and students who participated in the workshop.

Ayumi Moraes, Student Questioner

Before this symposium, I did not know there were people doing research on immigration-related subjects, so it was very interesting for me, as an immigrant in Japan. I was happy to learn that Dr. Chung was doing some research concerning the Brazilian community in Japan. I also learned that compared to the immigration policies in Korea, Japan is behind in terms of accepting immigrants as part of the nation. I asked Erin what she thought about Japan making good use of the immigrant labor force when it was needed then getting rid of them now when Japan is in recession. She confirmed what I thought was the reality—Japan may open its doors for immigrants widely but it will take time.

Meet an American Diplomat

2009
12.15

2009 proved to be a year of great political change in both Japan and America. We invited Jonas D. Stewart, Director of Nagoya American Center, to speak about the future of the United States and the effects on Japan-US relations. The Q&A session was led by student questioners Asami Hasegawa (4th year), Mikako Narita (3rd year), and Hanayo Shibata (4th year). The students had prepared well in advance, making this a very fulfilling workshop.



Mr. Jonas D. Stewart

Aya Murray, GP Project Director

Mr. Stewart's workshop was very insightful, informative, and kept the audience interested. It served as an excellent example of the use of visual aids and also showed understanding of the audience you are speaking to. As a GP workshop, I was especially excited to see our students actively asking questions that were well thought out during the Q&A time. Overall, I felt it was an ideal workshop where students could interact with the speaker quite freely.

Condition B as an Epiphenomenon

2010
1.18

Following Chomsky (1981), generative grammar classifies nouns phrases into an anaphor, a pronominal, and an R-expression, and tries to account for their distribution by Binding Conditions A, B, and C, respectively. In this lecture Professor Tancredi, who reexamines binding through the perspective of the most recent linguistic theory, proposes that Binding Condition B, which deals with pronominals, does not have to be postulated as a binding condition.



Dr. Christopher Tancredi

Shizuka Kato, GP Student Member

The lecture's topic was "Condition B as an Epiphenomenon". It was about generative grammar. This lecture was a little difficult for me to understand. However, Professor Tancredi was smiling from beginning to end. His gentle smile made me feel relaxed.

Special Guest Lecturers from Hawai'i

2010
2.22

In our second lecture, two distinguished speakers presented the latest theories and research in first and second language acquisition at the University of Hawai'i. Unlike previous events, a member of the GP student committee, Hajime Miyagawa, gave a short presentation introducing our department's GP program in the opening of the event.



Dr. Bonnie Schwartz

Dr. Kamil Deen

Mr. Hajime Miyagawa

Ayaka Kojima, GP Student Member

Through the lecture of Dr. Schwartz, we learned that although people go through different processes for second language acquisition and first language acquisition, we achieve the same language skills in the end.

Now, our GP students are studying English as a second language at Nanzan University. So from this lecture, I felt inspired to really improve my English skills in order to reach the native speakers' level.

Shiori Nagata, GP Student Member

It was my first time to take part in a lecture about linguistics; therefore, everything was new and interesting. Especially, I was interested in two things: 1) the fact that all human beings have been blessed with the ability to use language and 2) the grammatical differences between English and Thai in the process of gaining languages. Although the content of the lecture was difficult, I enjoyed it. I felt that learning linguistics is complicated and profound.