Japan Culture Program (1.0 credits)
Location: Sunset Breeze-Hota, Chiba, Japan
Host: The Film Academy at Magic Hour
Dates: January 2nd - January 6th
Professor: Staff

Description:

The intent of the culture program is to give students a taste of Japan’s history and culture through classroom instruction and field trips. This includes discussion ranging from how to buy a metro card, to staying to the left rather than right on an escalator, to the range of exceptional foods (i.e. Japanese eat sushi on special occasions. They have a far more varied cuisine than most who’ve never traveled to Japan realize). The culture program will primarily be held at Sunset Breeze-Hota, a seaside retreat center in Chiba. Students will receive a block of instruction on basic Japanese history and culture. Take a trip to the nearby largest Buddha in Japan and explore the Japanese tradition of celebrating the New Year. Another block of instruction will cover survival Japanese, essential phrases, feminine versus masculine speech, etc. Other highlights include haiku by the sea, fan making and woodblock printing, a viewing of a Japanese film classic, and a Matsuri performance given by the local townspeople followed by barbecue.

Requirements:

Full attendance, punctuality, and participation as a Cultural Samurai. A journal to record observations. A reflective essay (6-8 typed pages) on your impressions of Japan, its history, culture, cuisine, etc., with final attention and thought to your overall experience/immersion (due January 24th by email to: morgan.schulz@qc.cuny.edu). Ultimately, the journal and final essay are not only for your “grade” but mementos of your trip as well.

Texts:

A course packet will be provided.