

## Kyoto Spring School 2016

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### (a) Academic outcomes

I acknowledge that the program is an exchange of students between two universities – Kyoto university and ULIS for the purpose of study more about relationship between ASEAN and Japan. First of all, there were plenty room for me to improve my skills of Japanese language. After having the chances to study Japanese with native speakers and having the advantage of studying alone with a tutor, I came to have more confidence in making conversations in Japanese. Then I was able to learn more about Japanese culture which was undoubtedly interesting and useful knowledge as well. Especially, when we visited shrines and museums, I got the first-hand experiences of studying Japanese architectural structures as well as of being able to enjoy beautiful scenery of Japan. I am hoping to once again participate in this program.

### (b) My experiences in Kyoto University

After attending some classes at Kyoto university, I had a deep impression about Kyoto university – I think I am in love with the students and teachers. They taught me not to be afraid of using wrong grammar or words but to show my confidence when talking to the others. Moreover, I trained myself to be punctual and to develop the need to always build a personal plan for my actions. Since Japanese always set times for their works, in order to catch up with them, being on time is the best way to show respect to them from me. Knowing that I would return to my university soon then I felt that I had to be strict with my timelines as I might never get back these days again.

### (c) The content of the program

I divide the program into three main parts: studying, touring, and demonstrating. The first day I took a tour around the Kyoto university with the students, which was absolutely helpful. After that we started to learn about Japanese culture, I thought that practicing writing kanji and studying about history of Kyoto were the most interesting time. The advantage of these is that they were taught by both Japanese and English which was indeed excellent. The second part of the program consists of several tours around Kyoto. I think that Biwa lake was one of the most beautiful scenery I have ever witnessed in my life as the environment was completely clean, not to mention the background with blue sky and green mountains. After learning about Japanese and Kyoto culture, I had a chance to demonstrate my ability as the aspect of this program I enjoyed the most. Therefore, I chose Japanese festivals in ASEAN countries as the topic of my group in order to express my joyfulness with Japanese culture.

### (d) The impact of the program on your career plans

With these experiences, I feel more confident about Japanese. I have overcome the feeling of shyness when using wrong Japanese structure and grammar. My point of view on the ways of studying Japanese has changed significantly. I need to speak a lot and express myself so that I will become a fluent language user. After returning to my university, I am looking forward to becoming a Japanese teacher after I graduate. With my knowledge and experience of visiting Japan, it is my wish to help people know more about Japanese culture and language as Japan in my mind is a wonderful country. The Japanese has a long history with unique traditional culture which is worth learning and experience. On the other hand, Japan is always a grateful friend for Vietnam, I hope that I can contribute more to the nations' relationship.