

ASIA UNIVERSITY CWU*EWU*WWU AUAP ONLINE CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

REPORT #4

DECEMBER 11, 2021

GS * GLOBAL STUDIES

Synchronous Learning:

In **Weeks 8, 9, & 10** students have the unique opportunity to hear lectures from guest speakers related to each of the unit topics. (See the guests' bios on page 3) In **Week 8**, the first speaker, **Vincent Lee**, shared his experience with Cambodian Genocide and what it was like to be a refugee. Hearing about his life story and having the chance to ask questions was a very meaningful experience for students, staff, and volunteers. Following his presentation and discussion, students learned about **SDG #16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**. Students worked with volunteers to debrief vocabulary and concepts around human rights, governance, security, and stability. As always, another highlight of the class was the student led Newslog presentations and discussions.

Student Voice: "Mr. Lee's presentation was very important for me. He said, opportunity is always around us. So, we should move and not wait." "Mr Vincent's presentation was very special for me because he experienced history of movement. It was very valuable for me." "My good experience was in my newslog. I liked hearing Kai's opinion because I don't have Chinese or Taiwanese friends so I was happy to have this experience."

In **Week 9, SDG # 15, Life on Land**, was the focus point which gave students a chance to think about how their habits are related to the environment. Class began with guest lecturer, **Joan Bailey's**, engaging presentation about organic agriculture, geology, Japan and America, and Farmers Markets. Students were then able to connect her information with the weekly PowerPoint and their own experiences. Students participated in a Kahoot quiz to reinforce key vocabulary and concepts. Class ended with two students led Newslog presentations.

Student Voice: "Joan's presentation was interesting for me because I've not thought about geology and climate in my region. And I also interested in Miu's news log because she did follow up question very well, I learned from it." AND "What I learned from today's lessons is that agriculture is important all over the world. I want to tell Japanese agriculture to the world."

No One Wants To Be A Refugee

When you hear the word REFUGEE what comes to your mind?
Is he/she

- 1 Someone bad?
- 2 A thief?
- 3 A criminal?
- 4 An uneducated person?

The ANSWER is None of the Above

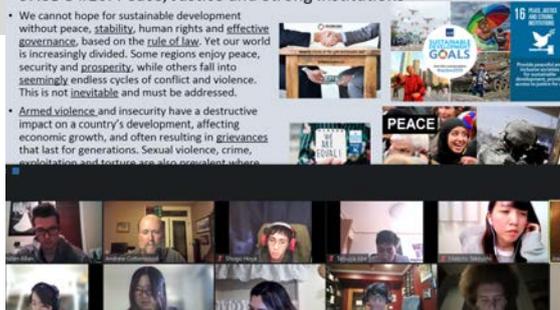
In order to have Peace, we need ↔ stability ↔ Growth ↔ Prosperity ↔ Knowledge/Education ↔ Peace.

From we could build our way into a Sustainable Development Goal and become a Strong Institution.



UNSDG #16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

- We cannot hope for sustainable development without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rules of law. Yet our world is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy peace, security and prosperity, while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is not inevitable and must be addressed.
- Armed violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on a country's development, affecting economic growth, and often resulting in grievances that last for generations. Sexual violence, crime, exploitation and torture are also prevalent where



KAI'S NEWSLOG

Solomons Capital Imposes Curfew After 3 Days of Riots



Debris lies on the street outside damaged shops in Chinatown, Honiara, Solomon Islands, Nov. 26, 2021.



Asynchronous Learning:

- Students are finalizing their Global Challenge interviews and preparing for an upcoming presentation about what they learned.
- Students took a quiz following each unit
- Students previewed lecture and guest speaker information prior to each class.
- Students submitted a final written reflection about the Video Chat.

ADVANCED FUNCTIONS

Synchronous Learning:

In **Week 8**, we had our second combined class with CWU and WWU students. The focus of the class was to practice the skills of asking for details, answering with details, helping someone explain, and clarification by summarizing. Students took turns asking each other about all sorts of things from what they would like to change about the world to favorite childhood toys. Everyone was eager to participate and practice the discussion strategies we've been learning while finding out more about each other.

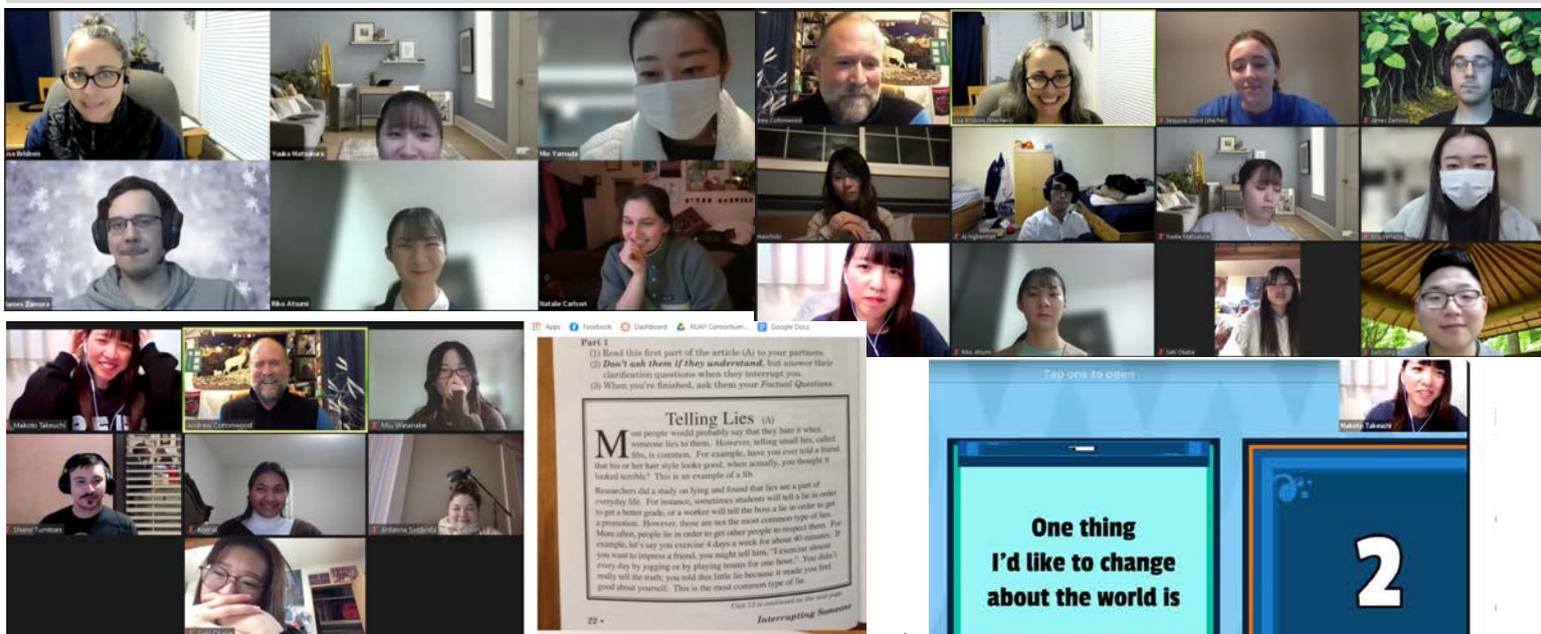
At the end of the class, each site debriefed the experience. Students expressed how much they really enjoyed talking with the students from the other site as well as with class volunteers! Several students shared how much they are looking forward to the next blended class! These meetups are so great for the students as they get a chance to talk with new people and more opportunities for listening and critical thinking in a fun, low-stress environment.

In **Week 9**, students practiced the discussion skill of politely interrupting someone. It was interesting to see the students work through the unfamiliar and sometimes uncomfortable process of interrupting the teacher, volunteers, and other classmates. By the end of the lesson, everyone was successfully interrupting using the target group discussion strategies. It was a delight to be a part of this meaningful learning experience and to witness the AUAP students practicing this challenging skill with such courage.

Everyone has improved a great deal since the beginning of the semester and confidence is growing when speaking and practicing difficult language skills!

Student Voice:

- After practicing the skill of interrupting, students shared how challenging the skill was for them. One student remarked, "This was the most challenging class because interrupting is very hard for me and for Japanese students but I enjoyed describing words and learning the meanings of new words!"
- Another student remarked, "I can't wait for the last combined class! It was a lot of fun!"



GLOBAL STUDIES - GUEST SPEAKERS

Vincent Lee:

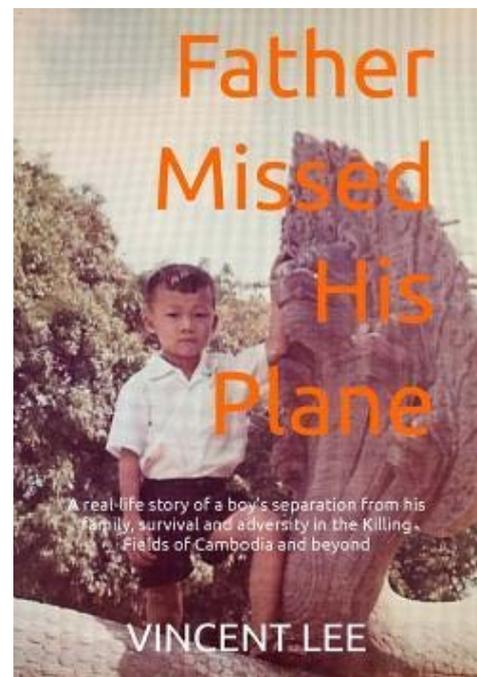
Week 8 -

Mr. Vincent Lee from Refugees Empowerment International.

A very moving speaker. Vincent is a great support to REI. To learn more of Vincent's background you can learn about his experience in his book, 'Father missed his plane.'

Here is his latest post on LinkedIn

"It was 40 years ago today that I woke up in my brand new land, called Down Under. Before that, I was a refugee, a survivor of the Khmer holocaust. Like the Nazis, this was a systematic mass slaughter of urban people under the Khmer Rouge regime from 1975~1979. And like many survivors, it was easier to ignore these memories, some people would not even mention this painful history of Cambodia. However, I remembered, too, that amongst the pain and grief, the sadness and horror of my ordeal, there were many good things, too: courage, strength, power over evil, and hope. The Refugee issue still happens around the world, a few years ago was in Syria, and today in Myanmar and Afghanistan. Refugees are not a burden. It is humanity. Thank you, Australia for giving me a chance to start a new life. "



Joan Bailey:

Week 9 -

Ms. Joan Bailey is an American writer living in Japan where her work focuses on food, farming, and farmers markets with the occasional travel piece thrown in for good measure. Her articles, essays and reviews can be found at The Japan Times, Civil Eats, Modern Farmer, Permaculture Magazine, Chicken Soup for the Soul, Metropolis Magazine, and Outdoor Japan.



Robin Lewis:

Week 10 -

Mr. Robin Lewis, Representative Director, Social Innovation Japan (SIJ), will speak to AUAP students about plastics. SIJ was featured in NHK World's "Tokyo SDGs: Saying Sayonara to Plastic Waste." The show dives into Japan's relationship with single-use plastic and covers a range of interesting solutions to tackle the plastic problem in Tokyo and beyond. SIJ's co-founder Robin Lewis joined NHK hosts Chris Pepler and Emma Howard to explore issues such as circular economy, sustainability education and building a movement for a more sustainable world.

