

教員名(Name) : Kevin Ottoson**\*ゼミタイトル Seminar Title**

“Beneath the surface of the American Iceberg: Improving our understanding of U.S. cultural patterns”

**\*授業概要 Outline of the contents**

This seminar will examine the parts of U.S. American culture that can be difficult to see and teach. We will explore the beliefs and values of people representing all different geographical regions of the United States, including people from both rural and urban areas and a diversity of ethnic and racial backgrounds. Because learning a language involves learning about a culture or cultures that speak the language, it is important see it from others' perspectives, not just our own. The seminar aims to introduce students to deeper levels of American culture not normally presented in the media and most textbooks. Having this knowledge will give you a better understanding of your own culture, too. A deeper understanding of U.S and Japanese cultural patterns from a diverse will enable us to better understand how culture influences our actions and thoughts and hopefully enable us to be more appropriate and effective in our interactions with others. Being more effective and appropriate can help us get along with others and bring more peace our local and global communities.

**\*授業の形式 How the class is conducted**

In this seminar, we will look at different aspects of American culture through a series of activities that enable us to notice, compare, reflect and finally interact. To complete this series of activities, we will take part in microteaching projects where they will be required to research the beliefs and values of people representing different geographical regions of the United States of America. Finally, we will teach what they have researched to our seminar participants. Active participation in various discussions, research, and microteaching will deepen your understanding of U.S cultural patterns. You will be expected to complete reading and reflection tasks that will enable us to use class time for discussions and activities. The first semester will incorporate some short-term research projects, and in the second semester, students will work in teams to teach some components of our seminar on U.S. cultural patterns.

**\*課題・成績評価基準 Requirements and Assessment**

You will be graded based on (a) personal reflections, (b) homework tasks, and (c) research projects.

**\*その他 Others**

You will be required to participate actively in discussions and activities in class. This class will be conducted in English and may involve online collaborative work with students in other parts of the world