

SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 BURNETT BUILDING ROOM 114
6-8 PM



The Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment (LIASE) Program aims to support integrated, innovative projects and programs that promote Asian studies within the context of environmental studies. W&J's grant reflects the unique faculty strengths, programmatic interests, needs, and priorities of the College. Following successful completion of an 18-month exploratory grant, W&J was awarded a four-year implementation grant.

After reorienting grant activities to other regions of Asia, a total of 15 students were competitively selected for travel to Japan or Indonesia. The trips occurred during the months of June and July, 2023 with 14 days spent in each country. Selected students first had to successfully complete a semester-long, one-credit course on the history, culture, and environment of the two countries to be visited. Students were taught by faculty members who were also team leaders for the respective trips, as well as by Asian studies experts from outside the College. All are gratefully acknowledged later in this program.

Highlight Videos:

- 'The Archipelago: Stories from Indonesia"
- "A Journey to Japan"

Indonesia Presentations:

- Tanya Bankş "A Comparison of Social Constructs Within the United States and Indonesia"
- Jillian Curtis "Major Historical Events in Indonesia"
- Naomi Shemory- "Human Animal Conflicts on Sumatra, Indonesia"
- Jordyn White "Religious Tolerance and Community Ideals in Bandung, Indonesia"

<u>Japan Presentations:</u>

- Three Tiger "The Art of Tea: From Leaf to Cup"
- Kyleigh Jester "A Japanese Style Afternoon Tea"
- Caden Kim "Lifestyle of Japan"
- Paul Collier "The Importance of Religious Sites in Preserving Green Space in Japan"
- Cameron Loner "Geography in Japan"
- Isabella Fiore & Maxwell Jackman "The Art of Ukai"
- Theresa DeVincentis "Exploring the Aftereffect of Hiroshima"
- Natalie Ford & Felicia Filippini "Plastic Culture"
- Kourtney Byers "How Japan Uses Garbage for Good"

<u>Acknowledgements</u>

Co-PIs Dr. Robert East and Dr. Zheya Gai would like to thank the following individuals for their contributions before, during, and after the trips:

- Seminar facilitators/trip leaders for Japan: Drs. Jennifer Bayline, Elizabeth Bennett, Nobu Matsuno, and Han Ye.
- Seminar facilitators/trip leaders for Indonesia: Drs. James March and Buba Misawa.
- Asian Studies experts who served as seminar facilitators: Ms. Shadia Marhaban, Dr. Siti Kusujiarti of Warren Wilson College, and retired WLJ Professor of History, Dr. Patrick Caffrey.
- We gratefully acknowledge our partners in Indonesia: Staff/faculty of Universitas Katolik Parahyangan (UNPAR) and the International Centre for Aceh and Indian Ocean Studies (ICAIOS).
- Shadia Marhaban who provided invaluable contacts and backstopping throughout the Indonesia trip.
- Business Office staff Tammy Miles, Allison Hansen, and Susan Smith for handling many tedious financial transactions and grant accounting.

