

Doshisha University

2013 Report on the Individual Research Allowance – Research Progress and Results

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Department	Title	Name
Global Communication	Assistant Professor	Paul Carty
Research Topic	Comparing Classes with Mixed Populations of Students	
Summary of Research Results	<p>In the last school year, I have taught a course on Kyoto Culture to three different groups of students. One course at Doshisha Women's College is wholly comprised of 3rd year native speakers of Japanese. Another Kyoto Culture course at Doshisha Women's College is in the Japan Studies Program, which they provide for visiting foreign students. In this class there are 5 American students one student from China and 6 Japanese students. Finally, at Doshisha College I teach a class the Institute of International Liberals Arts (ILA). In this class, there were several students from around the world who have no or very limited Japanese language skill and native Japanese speakers who have spent time abroad and are bilingual or near bilingual.</p> <p>Japanese universities are undergoing dramatic changes as they try to increase the number of international students. At the same time, they are strongly encouraging their students to spend time abroad studying a second language.</p> <p>These three classes represent an excellent opportunity to compare how a course with similar content, Kyoto Culture can be taught in a variety of student populations. The number of such courses will continue to grow in the future. Teachers will have to confront a great variety of language and cultural backgrounds in their classes.</p> <p>My research intends to show how the focus and style of my teaching change based on the composition of the class. The research also will explore some of the inherent challenges with such classroom situations.</p>	