

KOREAN FLAGSHIP TIMES

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KOREAN LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP CENTER

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

CENTER NEWS

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

TUTOR REFLECTION

PHOTO GALLERY



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
MĀNOA



THE LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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The Korean Language Flagship Center (KLFC) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) was selected as the only Korean language Flagship program and one of 19 language Flagship programs nationwide through the AY 2024-28 Domestic Flagship Program Grant Open Competition. The Language Flagship program is a national initiative funded by the U.S. government, specifically through the National Security Education Program (NSEP). Its primary goal is to help students achieve superior proficiency in critical languages through domestic and overseas programs. Since 2002, the KLFC has been a leader in Korean language education, dedicated to training students with high proficiency in Korean to become the next generation of global Korean specialists. As the first Korean language and culture education center, the UHM KLFC has cultivated approximately 230 Korea specialists (as of the Summer of 2024), including graduates from the M.A. in Korean for Professionals program for the past twenty-one years. Thanks to the support of The Language Flagship, the KLFC can continue to nurture global Korean professionals in their chosen academic or professional fields. In addition to Korean Flagship graduates, many instructional faculty and staff have been involved in innovative Korean language teaching or program coordination/management for the past two decades, building a Korean Flagship community. On behalf of the Korean Language Flagship Center faculty and staff, I sincerely appreciate their years of commitment to the program's missions, goals, and contributions.

Korean Flagship graduates have recently visited our Center, bringing joy to us with stories from their diverse lives and professional careers. More than before, the KLFC faculty and staff met them in person and spent time talking about their personal and career life after graduation. It was one of the most valuable and meaningful moments since I joined the Korean Flagship program in 2007. Based on their comments, I want to introduce some of the critical features of the Korean Flagship program at UHM. Those features include camaraderie on a personal level and networking on a professional level. Camaraderie and networking are valuable and important aspects of a college undergraduate program that uniquely contribute to personal growth and career development. Unlike most students in U.S. higher education, Korean Flagship students benefit from various program activities and events. These include connections with alumni, frequent advising sessions with academic advisors to ensure timely graduation, emotional support among peers, strong community building, participation in career fairs, and opportunities for future endeavors with guidance and support.

We hope that more college students interested in becoming global professionals with Superior proficiency in a target language will join the Flagship program. This will definitely enhance their college experience and help them build professional relationships for career development.

KOREAN LANGUAGE FLAGSHIP CENTER



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Dianne Juhn
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KOREAN INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY



Dr. Sang Yee Cheon
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Han-Byul Chung
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Hyunsun Chung
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Mary S. Kim
Korean Linguistics



Dr. David Krolikoski
Korean Literature



Dr. Hye Seung Lee
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Mee-Jeong Park
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Hye Young Smith
Korean Linguistics



Dr. Emily Yoon
Korean Literature

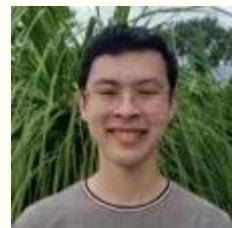
AY 2023 – 2024 CAPSTONE PROGRAM COMPLETION



Michelle Bradley
Korean



Matthew Eteuati, Jr.
Finance & Korean



Bryan McAniff
Travel Industry
Management &
Korean



Shannon Pederson
Second Language
Studies & Korean



Maro Robertson
Korean



Blayne Scott
Psychology & Korean



Elizabeth White
Korean

AY 2023 – 2024 BA GRADUATES



Ashley Pak
(Alumna)
BA in Korean
Fall 2023



LeeAnn Tom
BA in Korean
Fall 2023



Matthew Eteuati, Jr.
BBA in Finance
& BA in Korean
Summer 2024



Alana Miyake
(Alumna)
BA in Religion & Korean
Spring 2024



Michelle Bradley
BA in Korean
Summer 2024



Maro Robertson
BA in Korean
Summer 2024



Blayne Scott
BA in Psychology &
Korean
Summer 2024



Elizabeth White
BA in Korean
Summer 2024

AY 2023 – 2024 MA GRADUATES

Fall 2023

- Natalie Brentano Fonyi** Lost in Translation: Preserving Relationship Dynamics through Address Terms in Korean Drama Subtitling for Global Audiences
- Emma Schell** Differently Developed Reality: Assessing Representation, Perception, and Reality of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Korean Dramas
- Saaya Torii** An Analysis of Errors in Machine Translation

Spring 2024

- Emily Creasman** The Localization of Tourism Website Contents from Korean to English: A Case Study of the 'Daegu Tourist Information'
- Jill Sanders** Teaching Korean through Fairy Tales: Focusing on Elementary Age Learners of Korean as a Second Language
- Ruth Taylor** Learning a Third Language through a Second Language Environment: Increasing Intercultural Competence and Efficacy in Foreign Language Education

AY 2024 – 2025 CAPSTONE STUDENTS



Angeline Agag
Accounting, Honors &
Korean



Taryn Matsuda
Biology & Korean



Christine Mau
Korean



Kara Shaw
Business Management &
Korean



Keziah Yoo
Biology & Korean

Five students were qualified to participate in the AY 2024-2025 Capstone program. They started their Capstone year at Korea University to take college-level courses, attend internships, and participate in various cultural activities. To be eligible, students worked hard to score an Advanced Low or higher on their speaking, listening, and reading.

FALL 2023 SELECTED EVENTS



1. CHUSOK

September 29, 2023

KLFC BA students Kara Shaw and Grace Kim gave an informative presentation on Chusok (Korean Thanksgiving). Students and faculty acquainted to each other while playing Yutnori (traditional Korean game) while sporting fancy Hanbok (traditional Korean clothing) at the CKS.



3. 2023 Hawaii International Film Festival

October 26 – November 5, 2023

Students attended the annual HIFF showcase, where they enjoyed watching Korean films and had the chance to meet famous Korean actors.



2. THE 23rd KOREAN STORYTELLING & ESSAY CONTEST

October 7, 2023

The annual contest was again dominated by KLFC students this year again; the awardees were Siena Bulagay, Taryn Matsuda, Sarah Carswell, Esther Choi, Jaylin Morimoto, Devin Woodward. The Grand Prize winners were Lillian Martosko (Storytelling) and Leo Pope (Writing).



4. IGNITE GREEN IDEAS

December 7, 2023

KLFC hosted an in-person Ignite Green Ideas Speech Event in partnership with the Language Flagship Technology Innovation Center. This is the sixth annual event where six students participated in the Green Ideas, Inc. specialized simulation course to prepare for students' upcoming capstone program. Angeline Agag won the Best Speech award.

SPRING 2024 SELECTED EVENTS



1. Spring 2024 Official Gathering

January 19, 2024

Students and faculty attended the mandatory orientation to be informed of updates and new policies while also being introduced to one another.



3. Seollal

February 9, 2024

Students and faculty were invited to celebrate Korean New Year (Seollal) by donning Hanbok, playing Yutnori, and sharing rice cakes with one another.



2. KBFD Film Screening

January 26, 2024

120년 전 나라 밖 한글 여정

The Journey of Hangul

Students attended and appreciated a special documentary produced by KBFD-TV, which explores how Hangul and the Korean language have been portrayed, experienced, and practiced at various educational institutes in Hawaii for 120 years. The film also features the KLFC and its achievement over the past years.



4. Korean Cuisine Experience

March 1, 2024

KLFC invited a local Korean chef specializing in authentic Korean dishes to host a special lecture and hands-on cooking session for students. The students were introduced to making kimbap. At the end of the class, the students proudly exhibited their first pieces of gimbap and enjoyed them immensely.



5. Korean Culture Day: Visit from HP Baldwin High School, Maui

April 5, 2024

For the annual Korean Culture Day this year, KLFC extended a special invitation to students from HP Baldwin High School in Maui, where KLFC had conducted a recruiting session last year. The visiting students thoroughly enjoyed the events at Culture Day and participated in a one-hour information session about KLFC.



7. Year-End Ceremony

May 3, 2024

KLFC celebrated the successful completion of the AY 2023–24 and recognized students' academic achievements.



8. 2024 Summer Intensive Program

Overseas: June 7 – August 19, 2024

Yonsei University, South Korea

Domestic: May 20 – August 9, 2024

UH Manoa



6. BA STUDENT CONFERENCE

May 3, 2024

The annual KLFC BA Student Conference was hosted in person with the support of the Center for Language & Technology. Six students presented their extensive research on the latest Korean culture, socioeconomic issues, and social phenomena. The audience complimented the presenters with questions for the development of future academic research.

9. K-12 & COLLEGE OUTREACH

August 25, 2023	AFROTC Recruitment
October 21	Discover Manoa
January 11, 2024	Moanalua High School Recruitment
February 26	Waipahu High School Recruitment
April 3	Hawaii Language Roadmap & Multilingual Career Development Day
April 5	Baldwin High School (Maui) Info Session

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

In the academic year 2023-24, students made significant strides in mastering advanced-level Korean language proficiency and cultural expertise, fully immersing themselves both in the classroom and within the local Korean community. KLFC is proud to share these accomplishments with fellow students and faculty. Highlights of the year include sweeping every award at the annual Korean Essay & Speech Contest in Fall 2023. Additionally, two students were awarded the prestigious Boren Scholarship in Spring 2024. Michelle Bradley and Bryan McAniff received the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award for their outstanding work with VANK (Voluntary Agency Network of Korea) while completing their internships as part of the Capstone program in Korea. KLFC is proud of Ashlee Stacey, who showcased her original compositions at the Orvis Auditorium at the UH Manoa this spring. Having scored at the superior level on his oral proficiency interview assessment, which is required upon completing the KFOP in Korea, Matthew Eteuati shares the crucial tips for studying Korean most efficiently.

THE 23rd KOREAN STORYTELLING & ESSAY CONTEST OCTOBER 7, 2023

AWARDEES

Leo Pope
Grand Prize
Essay

Lillian Martosko
Grand Prize
Storytelling

Sarah Carswell
Storytelling

Jaylin Morimoto
Storytelling

Esther Choi
Essay &
Storytelling

Siena Bulagay
Storytelling

Taryn Matsuda
Storytelling

Devin Woodward
Storytelling



Esther Choi



Lillian Martosko



Siena Bulagay

2024 BOREN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES



Christine Mau
Korean

Boren Awards are funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), which focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security. Boren Scholarships provide up to \$25,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in areas vital to U.S. interests.



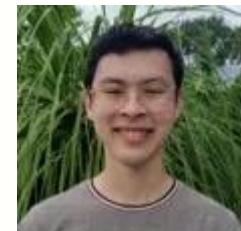
Keziah Yoo
Biology & Korean

2024 U.S. PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD AWARDEES



Michelle Bradley
BA in Korean
Summer 2024

Michelle Bradley and Bryan McAniff, AY 2023 - 24 Capstone participants, were awarded the prestigious U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award for their efforts in promoting Homer B. Hulbert, an influential American missionary, journalist, and Korean independence activist, during their internship at VANK in Korea.

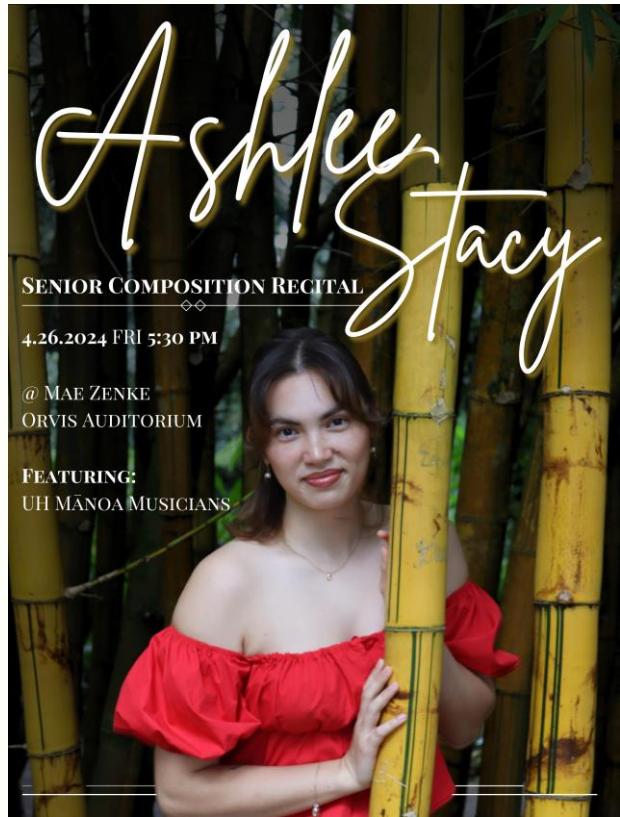


Bryan McAniff
BS in Travel Industry
Management &
BA in Korean
Fall 2024

This award continues a tradition at KLFC, following last year's recognition of Mackenzie Migdal for her efforts in promoting Hulbert's lifelong dedication to Korea. KLFC is proud to continue this academic and professional excellence tradition as they prepare to become global professionals.



SENIOR COMPOSITION RECITAL



KLFC's Ashlee Stacy presented her original musical compositions in a special performance at Orvis Auditorium, located within the music building. The event took place on Friday, April 26, at 5:30 PM. KLFC students, alumni, and faculty gathered to celebrate Ashlee's remarkable achievements. Ashlee, a dedicated student of music composition and Korean double major, worked tirelessly to master the Korean language and immerse herself in the culture, all while expanding her creativity and talents in music. Her unique blend of musical and cultural studies delivered an inspiring and memorable performance. The event was a fitting tribute to Ashlee Stacy's hard work and exceptional talent.



ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW (OPI) EXPERIENCE

Hello, my name is Matthew Eteuati, and I have recently completed my Korean Flagship Capstone year in South Korea. During my time in Korea, I achieved a Superior rating on my Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) just before returning home. I'd like to share some strategies that proved effective in my language learning journey.

1. Repetition

Consistent repetition was crucial in developing my Korean language skills. It not only improved my ability to recall vocabulary and grammatical structures but also significantly enhanced my overall comfort level when speaking Korean. One effective method I used was writing practice dialogues and presentations by hand. During my free time or when preparing for weekly presentations, I would:

- Write out a practice script at a cafe
- Review it while reviewing class rubrics
- Rewrite it from memory, referring to the original as little as possible
- Repeat this process, often producing three slightly different versions by the end of one session



Matthew Eteuati, Jr.
BBA in Finance & BA in Korean
Summer 2024

2. Maximizing Interaction

To overcome initial speaking anxiety, I engaged in regular conversations with instructors, fellow students, coworkers, and language partners. Daily lunch discussions with coworkers about personal topics and class subjects provided valuable, authentic practice. These interactions helped me gain confidence in various conversational settings and allowed for a higher personal expression in Korean.

3. Reading, Watching, and Shadowing

To prepare for the OPI, especially the challenging "news" segment, I immersed myself in Korean media:

- Scanning news article headlines and reading them aloud
- Listening to and shadowing news programs on YouTube
- Shadowing actors in movies and K-dramas.



MATTHEW ETEUATI, JR.
BBA IN FINANCE & BA IN KOREAN
SUMMER 2024
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

한국으로 떠난 것이 엊그제 같은데, 벌써 1년이 지나 캡스톤 프로그램이 끝났다. 한국에서 1년 동안 공부를 하며 선생님들의 지도 덕분에 캡스톤 마무리 시험을 잘 치르고 금의환향할 수 있었다. 하지만 5년 전, 한국어를 전혀 몰랐던 나는 한글의 자음과 모음조차 낯설었다. 나는 지난 5년 동안 하와이 대학교 한국어 플래그십 프로그램을 통해 한국 어휘, 문법, 역사, 그리고 사회까지에 대해 배워왔다. 그렇지만 내가 대학 시절 첫 가을학기 2019년 9월쯤에 처음 이 프로그램에 관심을 가지며 전상이 교수님 사무실로 찾아갔을 때 교수님이 나의 실력을 시험하려 한국 말로 대화해봤는데 나는 한마디도 알아듣지 못했었다. 당시의 나는 KOR 101에서 [가], [나], [다], [라]와 같은 기초부터 공부를 해야 되는 상태였다.



초급 수업부터 시작을 했으며 이후 4년동안 하와이대학교에서 다양한 한국어 강의를 들었다. 그러나 수업을 듣는 도중에 전 세계적으로 피할 수 없었던 COVID 19 팬데믹이 발생하는 바람에 모두가 온라인 수업으로 전환할 수밖에 없었다. 그로 인해 대면 수업이 불가능해지면서 학생과 교수 간에 거리감이 생길 수밖에 없었지만, 플래그십 선생님들 덕분에 다양한 온라인 활동이 마련되었고, 한국어 연습이나 튜터링과 같은 언어 학습 기회도 많이 제공되었다. 과제, 발표, 그리고 연설로 가득찬 짧은 4년이라는 시간이 지나갔고, 작년 7월부터 플래그십 한국현지 프로그램에 참여하게 되었다. 4년동안 기대해온 프로그램이었지만, 막상 시작하니 어떤 일이 나를 기다리고 있을지를 아예 몰랐다. 결코 쉽지 않은 과정이었지만, 도전해 보니 정말 보람이 있는 1년이었다고 말할 수 있다.

현지 프로그램은 하와이대학교에서의 공부보다 난이도가 훨씬 더 높았다. 끊임없는 발표들뿐만 아니라 한국 문화와 언어에 둘러싸인 새로운 환경은 처음에 힘들었다. 하지만 동기들과 함께 어려움을 헤쳐 나가면서, 프로그램의 도전들은 우리를 더욱 끈끈하게 만들었을 뿐만 아니라, 예상치 못한 방식으로 한국어 실력과 생활력을 향상시켰다는 것을 이제야 깨달았다.

예컨대 한국 서브웨이에서 메뉴를 주문할 때 어떤 재료를 빼달라고 요청해야 하나 미국에서는 재료를 추가해달라고 말해야 한다. 그래서 처음에는 채소 메뉴의 대부분을 언급했던 직원들한테 어색한 눈길을 받았다. 하지만 몇 달이 지나면서 우리는 점차 적응할 수 있었다. 우리는 음식을 주문하는 것뿐만 아니라, 수업 노트를 잘 받아쓰고 심지어 은행 직원과 상담하는 것까지 한국어로 자연스럽게 할 수 있게 되었다.



한국에서 생활하고 일하는 것은 정말 새로운 경험이었다. 출근 시간에 불비는 지하철을 타는 것부터 한국의 일상적인 부분들을 하나하나 익혀 나갔다. 이러한 몰입 환경 덕분에 교실에서만 배우는 것보다 훨씬 더 깊이 있는 언어 능력과 한국 문화 이해를 향상시킬 수 있었다.

돌이켜보건대, 하와이 대학교와 고려대학교의 선생님들께서 베풀어 주신 지도와 동기 학생들과의 협력이 큰 도움이 되었다. 그분들의 도움 덕분에 무사히 졸업 시험을 통과하고, 다양한 지식과 경험을 쌓아 귀국할 수 있었다. 처음에는 완전 초보자였으나, 이제는 능숙한 한국어 사용자로 성장한 여정이었다. 비록 도전적이었으나, 정말 보람찬 경험이었다.



Five years ago, I couldn't even read Hangul, the Korean alphabet. Now, I've just completed a year-long Capstone Program in South Korea, marking the end of an incredible journey that began with beginner Korean classes at the University of Hawaii (UH).

Over four years at UH, I progressed through various Korean courses, gradually building my language skills. However, midway through my second semester, the COVID-19 pandemic struck, forcing us into online learning. Despite the physical distance this created between students and professors, the Korean Flagship Language Center (KFLC) faculty and staff provided exceptional support. Their efforts in offering online Korean practice sessions and tutoring allowed me to continue improving my proficiency, even in challenging circumstances.

Those four years flew by, filled with assignments, presentations, and speeches. Then, last July, I embarked on the long-awaited Korean Flagship Overseas Program. After anticipating this study-abroad opportunity for so long, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I'd be lying if I said it was easy, but the challenges made it incredibly worthwhile.

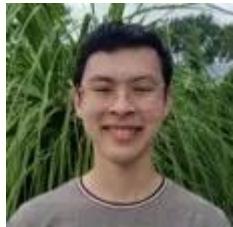
The overseas program was significantly more intense than our studies at UH Manoa. We faced seemingly endless presentations, and the constant immersion in Korean culture and language was initially overwhelming. However, as my peers and I struggled together, I found that the program's difficulty not only brought us closer together as a cohort but also forced us to improve our Korean and life skills in unexpected ways.



For instance, I quickly learned that ordering at Subway in Korea was quite different from the US. In Korean, you must tell the worker which items you don't want in your sandwich, the opposite of what we do back home. At first, I was met with strange looks after listing almost every item on their vegetable menu. But as months passed, my peers and I adapted. We found ourselves not only ordering food with ease but also taking class notes and even dealing with bank tellers smoothly in Korean.

Living and working full-time in South Korea was an eye-opening experience. I quickly learned the ins and outs of daily life, including navigating packed trains during rush hour. This immersion accelerated my language learning and cultural understanding far beyond what classroom study alone could achieve.

Looking back, I'm grateful for the guidance of my teachers both at UH and in Korea and for the help of my peers. Their support was instrumental in helping me successfully complete my final exams and return home with a wealth of knowledge and experiences. While the journey from complete beginner to proficient Korean speaker was challenging, it has been an incredibly rewarding adventure that has shaped both my language skills and personal growth.



BRYAN MCANIFF
**BS IN TRAVEL INDUSTRY
 MANAGEMENT & BA IN KOREAN**
FALL 2024
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

STUDENT REFLECTIONS

UH Manoa 대학교에 입학하고 여행관광학과에 합격한 과정에서 외국어 수업 202까지 들어야 한다는 요구사항이 있었습니다. 일본어와 한국어 중 고민하게 되었습니다. 고등학교에서 2년간 일본어를 공부하였으나 특별히 잘하지는 못하였습니다. 다만 일본어와 음악의 관계가 좋았습니다. 반면 어머니가 한국인이라는 점에서 한국어와의 연관성이 있었습니다.



한국어와의 관계는 항상 복잡하였습니다. 어머니께서는 하와이로 이민 오면서 영어 습득에 어려움을 겪으셨지만, 결국 원어민 수준의 유창성을 달성하셨습니다. 그래서 저에게 같은 여정을 강요하고 싶지 않으셨고, 집에서 한국어를 거의 사용하지 않으셨습니다. 13살 때 저의 한국어 어휘는 '네', '아니요', '엄마' 세 단어에 불과하였습니다. 그래서 할머니께서 근처 교회의 한국어 수업에 등록시켜 주셨지만, 1년 후에도 한글을 천천히 읽을 수 있게 된 것이 유일한 성과였습니다. 이러한 경험으로 인해 한국어 학습을 피하게 되었습니다.

그러나 고등학교를 졸업하고 가족과 함께 한국에 2주간 방문하면서 한국어 학습에 대한 제 관점이 바뀌었습니다. 원래 한국어를 배우는 것은 한인 2세로 태어난 저에게 자아 발견의 수단으로 바꿨습니다. 그래서 한국어 플래그십 프로그램에 등록하기로 결정하였습니다. 이 프로그램은 긍정적인 면과 도전적인 면을 모두 가진 혁신적인 경험이었습니다. 언어 학습의 한계를 시험하였고, 한국의 명문대학에서 한국 학생으로 생활할 수 있게 해주었습니다. 또한 다양한 친구들을 사귈 수 있었습니다.



그러나 이 경험은 한국어의 복잡성을 드러내기도 하였습니다. 한국인처럼 생기고 한국어를 할 줄 알면서도, 문화적 언어적 장벽에 부딪히는 경우가 있었습니다. 다른 플래그십 학생들 이랑 대화하면 비슷한 고민이 있는 것을 알게 되었습니다. 결국 한국에서의 목적이 단순한 학업 성취가 아니라 잊지 못할 경험을 만드는 것이라는 깨달음에 이르게 되었습니다.

1년 전의 저와 비교하면 확실히 변화하였습니다. 불편함을 받아들이고 마음가짐의 변화로 도전에 맞서는 법을 배웠습니다. 한국어 플래그십 프로그램은 단순한 언어 습득 이상의 의미가 있었습니다. 문화 탐험과 개인적 성장의 깊은 프로그램이었습니다. 돌아보면, 진정한 가치는 언어 능력 뿐만 아니라 다양한 관점을 배우며 맷은 인연에 있다는 것을 깨달었습니다.



When I first entered university and got accepted into the TIM school, one of the requirements was to study a second language. After careful consideration, I found myself torn between Japanese and Korean. I had studied Japanese for two years in high school, and while I wasn't particularly proficient, I enjoyed the language and its connection to music I loved. On the other hand, there was Korean – a language tied to my heritage as a half-Korean.

My relationship with Korean has always been complex. My mom, a native Korean speaker who immigrated to Hawaii in her high school years, had achieved near-native English fluency. However, her journey wasn't without challenges, and she didn't want to force me to undergo the same journey. As a result, she decided not to force Korean on me, speaking it infrequently at home. By the age of 13, my Korean vocabulary was limited to just three words: yes, no, and mom. My Korean grandmother, concerned about this, enrolled me in a Korean language class at a local church. After a year, my only achievement was the ability to read the Korean alphabet, albeit slowly. This experience led me to avoid learning Korean until I graduated high school, and my family took me to Korea for two weeks.

That trip transformed my perspective on learning Korean. Learning the language evolved from an expectation placed on me as a second-generation Korean American into a means of self-discovery and understanding my place in the world. So, I decided to enroll in the Korean Flagship program, and I don't regret it for a moment. The program has been a transformative experience, bringing both positive and challenging aspects. It pushed me to my limits in language learning, allowed me to live as a Korean student at one of the country's most prestigious universities, and connected me with diverse friends who broadened my perspectives.



However, the experience also revealed the complexities of identity. I often encountered cultural and linguistic barriers despite looking Korean and speaking the language. Conversations with fellow Flagship students showed similar struggles. This eventually led to a realization that my purpose in Korea wasn't just about academic achievement but about creating unforgettable experiences that might not come again.

Comparing myself to who I was a year ago, I've undoubtedly changed. I've learned to embrace discomfort and face challenges with a shift in mindset. The Korean Flagship program has been more than just language acquisition; it's been a profound journey of cultural exploration and personal growth. As I reflect on this experience, I recognize that the true value lies not just in the language skills I've gained but in the perspectives, I've developed and the connections I've forged along the way.





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STUDENT REFLECTIONS



벌써 캡스톤 프로그램을 마쳤고, 플래그십 전공도 거의 다 끝내게 되어 믿기지가 않는다. ‘시간 참 빠르다’는 말은 진심이다! 지난 1년 동안 한 학생뿐 아니라 한 사람으로서 큰 변화를 경험했으니, 다른 플래그십 학생들도 한국에서 성공할 수 있도록 나의 캡스톤 프로그램 경험에 대해 쓰고자 한다. 가장 분명한 변화는 물론 나의 한국어 실력이 눈에 띄게 향상되었다는 것이다. 8년 전, 방과 후 매일 방에서 한국어를 독학으로 배우는 것으로 나의 한국어 학습 여정을 밟기 시작했다. 2년 후에, 고등학교 3학년 때 9개월 동안 서울에서 생활하는 것으로 이어졌고, 이곳에서 한국어 실력의 탄탄한 기초를 쌓을 수 있었다. 따라서 하와이 대학의 한국어 플래그십 프로그램에 자연스럽게 관심을 가지게 되었다. 특히 서울에 다시 가서 한국어 실력을 한층 더 높이고 싶었기 때문에, 캡스톤 프로그램에 대한 기대가 매우 컸다.

캡스톤 프로그램은 부인할 여지 없이 상당히 어려운 프로그램이다. 하지만 이 힘든 과정 덕분에, 한국어로는 물론 영어로까지 스트레스 대처, 시간 관리, 인간관계 접근법에 대한 새로운 것을 많이 배울 수 있었다. 빽빽한 일정과 새로운 책임은 처음에는 큰 충격이었고, 하와이에서 한국어를 배우는 방식과 차이가 많았다. 그러나 한국인 대학생 생활에 점점 적응했고, 선생님들의 높은 기대와 꽉 찬 스케줄 덕분에 한국어 실력을 빨리 향상시킬 수밖에 없었다. 또한, 이 프로그램은 스트레스를 해소하기 위한 문화 활동과 여행 기회를 많이 제공했다—고연전과 IPSELENTI, DMZ 투어, 제주도 졸업여행 등에 대한 행복한 추억들이 머릿속에 떠오른다. 개인적으로 이 프로그램의 가장 가치 있는 점은 인턴십 경험이었다. 여러 가지의 회사 종류 (스타트업, 대기업 등)에서 일해 보게 되었기 때문이다. 처음으로 전문적인 환경에서 한국어를 사용하는 것이 쉽지는 않았지만, 이 인턴십을 통해 앞으로 어떤 작업 환경에서 일하고 싶은지, 어떤 일을 하고 싶은지에 대한 새로운 통찰을 얻을 수 있었다.

캡스톤 프로그램에 대한 긴장감이 느끼는 후배들에게 충고 한 마디 해 주고 싶다. 이 프로그램에 성공하려면 그 불안감을 억누르고 모든 기회를 잡아야 한다. 한국어로 의사전달을 충분히 하지 못한 때가 있어서 처음에는 깊고 의미 있는 관계를 맺기가 어려웠으나, KFOP 20기의 학생들과 선생님들의 끊임없는 지지와 지도 덕분에 포기하고 싶은 때가 하나도 없었다. 가장 중요한 것은 무엇보다도 공부와 정신건강 사이에 균형을 찾는 것이며, 캡스톤 프로그램을 끝이 아니라 삶의 하나의 이정표로 생각하면 될 것 같다. 기억에 남을 만한 해로 만들어야 한다.

It's hard to believe that I've already completed my Capstone year abroad, and basically finished my Korean Flagship major as a whole. They weren't lying when they said the time goes fast! This past year has been extremely impactful, and there are many ways I've transformed as both a student and a person, and I'd like to share my experience in Korea so that others can find success during their own Capstone year. The most obvious change is the drastic improvement of my Korean skills. I began my Korean learning journey 8 years ago by self-studying Korean in my room every day after school. This culminated into spending my junior year of high school in South Korea, where I was able to build a solid foundation for my Korean skills. Thus, it was no wonder that I was immediately drawn to the University of Hawai'i and its Korean for Professionals major. I was especially interested in the Capstone program it provided, as it seemed like a great opportunity to return to Korea and reach new heights in my Korean ability. My Capstone year was undeniably difficult, but this also meant that it had a profound impact on how I handle stress, manage my time, and approach social interactions in both Korean and English. The packed scheduling and sudden onset of new responsibilities was quite a shock at first, as it's very different from how we learned Korean in Hawai'i.



But we were able to adjust to this new way of learning, and the rigorous schedule and high expectations from our teachers meant that I had no choice but to improve my Korean at a rapid pace. We also got to take breaks from our stress by participating in many cultural activities and class trips, such as the Yonsei-Korea sports matches, IPSELENTI, visiting the DMZ, and even going to Jeju. I personally found the internship experience to be most valuable. I got to experience two different companies during my Capstone year, which I enjoyed because I got to see two different types of companies in South Korea (a startup vs an older, established company). Even though it was nerve-wracking having to use Korean in a truly professional environment for the first time, the internship experience helped me realize what types of environments I would want to work in, and what kinds of work I want to do.

For anyone who is nervous about doing their Capstone year abroad, my message would be to tamp down your fear and put all of yourself into every opportunity you get. The hardest part for me was my inability to express myself fully with others, which at first made it hard to create deep connections. However, I was surrounded by a supportive cohort of other Flagship students that I knew I could always rely on. The most important thing is to find a balance between studying and mental health, and remember that the Capstone year isn't the end, but simply a milestone in your life. You must make it one worth remembering.



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STUDENT REFLECTIONS



안녕하세요. 제 이름은 이지향입니다. 혼혈로서 대학에 입학하기 전에 한국에 여러 번 놀러갔고 심지어 거주하기도 했지만 부족한 한국어 능력으로 인해 가족과의 소통에 어려움을 겪었고 결과로 가족과의 단절이 존재했습니다. 이 단절감은 대학에 입학하고 나서야 완전히 깨닫게 되었고 그때부터 한국어를 다시 배우기로 결심했습니다. 전반적으로 저의 KFOP와 Capstone 프로그램 경험은 매우 힘들었고 도전적이었지만 제 인생을 바꿨다고 믿고 있고 이 선택에 대해 감사하게 생각합니다. 사실 대학을 시작할 때 하와이 대학교가 미국에서 최고의 한국어 프로그램을 가지고 있다는 사실을 몰랐습니다. 이 사실을 나중에 배웠고 KFOP 선생님들과 친구들의 지원 덕분에 3학년때 한국어 플래그십 전공으로 전환했습니다. 그 이후로 저는 한국의 문화, 언어 및 역사를 배우고 이 프로그램 덕분에 두 번이나 한국에 갈 기회를 얻었습니다.

이 프로그램을 통해 한국어와 한국 문화를 배우는 것은 물론 예상치 못한 인생의 교훈을 배우고 새로운 삶의 방식을 경험할 수 있습니다. 여러분은 이 프로그램을 통해 한계를 넘어서고 자신의 능력을 재발견하며 동료들과 함께 슬픔과 기쁨의 눈물을 나누게 될 것입니다. 무엇보다도, 프로그램을 마친 후에는 자신에게 자랑스러운 마음을 가질 것입니다. 이 프로그램에 참여할지고민 중인 분들께, 자신의 배경이나 한국어를 배우려는 이유와 상관없이 모두가 이 프로그램에서 많은 것을 얻을 수 있다고 믿습니다.

저는 원래 한국어를 전공할 계획이 없었지만, 이제는 다른 길을 상상할 수 없습니다. 한국어를 배우는 것은 제 문화와 가족과 다시 연결될 수 있는 기회였으며 대학을 마치고 돌아보니 이 프로그램을 통해 그 목표를 이룰 수 있었다고 생각합니다. 이에 대해 매우 감사하게 생각합니다. 먼저, 저를 항상 응원해주시고 힘이 되어주신 부모님과 가족들께 감사드립니다. 하와이 대학교 및 고려대학교의 훌륭하고 항상 지원해주신 교수님들과 튜터분들께 깊은 감사를 드립니다. 마지막으로 1년 동안 함께 어려움을 이겨낸 동료들에게도 감사드립니다. 다시 한번, 이 자리에 함께 해주신 모든 분들께 감사의 말씀을 드리며 앞으로도 더욱 열심히 노력하겠습니다. 감사합니다



Hi! My name is Elizabeth White (이지향). I was born to a Korean mother and an Irish-American father. Although I traveled to Korea many times and even lived there before college, my lack of language skills created a barrier between me and my family, resulting in a disconnect that I didn't fully feel until I started college. This realization led me to relearn Korean through the Korean Flagship Program (KFOP) and Capstone.

Overall, my experience, although tough and immensely challenging, has been life-changing and a path I'm grateful I chose. I started college unaware that UH had the best Korean language program in the U.S. This was a pleasant surprise—**우연**, one might say—and with the support of KFOP teachers and friends, I switched to the Korean Flagship major in my junior year. Since then, I've learned Korean culture, language, and history and had the opportunity to go to Korea twice, all thanks to this program.

It's obvious this opportunity allows you to learn the Korean language and culture—that's to be expected. But what I'm most grateful for is the chance to learn life lessons and experience a new way of living. You will be pushed beyond your limits, rediscover your capabilities, shed both sad and happy tears with your peers, but most of all, you will leave this program grateful and proud of yourself. To those of you debating whether to join this program, I truly believe everyone has something to gain from this program, no matter your background or reasons for learning Korean.

Although I didn't initially plan to major in Korean, I can't imagine it any other way. For me, learning Korean meant reconnecting with my culture and family. Now that I've finished college, I look back and believe I was able to do so through the Capstone Program, and I'm incredibly grateful. Thank you to my supportive family and parents. Thank you to the supportive and amazing teachers and tutors at UH and Korea University. And lastly, thank you to my fellow classmates who I had the opportunity to overcome challenges and grow with during the capstone year.



MEGHAN DELANEY
KLFC DORAN DORAN INSTRUCTOR
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TUTOR
REFLECTION



나는 지난 1년 동안 도란도란이라는 소그룹 회화 수업을 맡았는데 정말 즐거운 경험이었다. 이 수업을 준비하면서 제일 중요하게 생각했던 점은 학생들이 부담 없이, 스트레스 없이 한국어를 연습할 수 있는 시간을 마련해 주는 것이었다. 나는 우리 학생들처럼 비원어민이어서 학생들의 고민을 잘 이해한다.

예를 들어서 많은 학생들은 실수할까 봐 다른 사람 앞에서 이야기하고 싶어 하지 않는다. 아니면 이야기는 하고 싶은데 무슨 말을 해야 할지 몰라 생각하다 보면 시간이 오래 걸려서 결국에는 아무 말도 못하는 경우가 있다. 이런 학생들의 고민을 없애기 위해, 학기 초 수업을 시작할 때 나는 학생들에게 도란도란의 두 가지 원칙을 알려준다. 첫 번째, 일반 수업과 달리 도란도란에서 정확성은 그렇게 중요하지 않다. 우리가 일반적으로 대화할 때 문법과 어휘를 실수해도 의사소통이 가능하듯이, 도란도란에서 대부분의 경우에 나는 학생들의 실수를 고쳐주지 않는다. 그리고 학생들에게 나는 작은 실수에 신경 쓰지 않으니 학생들도 자기가 실수할까 봐 고민하지 말라고 말해준다. 말을 많이 해야 말하기 실력을 늘릴 수 있으니 정확성 대신 말을 많이 하는 것에 신경 쓰라고 한다. 두 번째, 학생들에게 대화하는 방법을 알려준다. 우리 학생들은 영어로 얘기할 때는 자연스럽게 대화하지만 외국어로 말하면 기본적인 것을 잊어버리는 경우가 있다. 그래서 학생들이 오래, 부드럽게 한국어로 대화할 수 있게 다 같이 대화의 전략(대답할 때 디테일하게 말하는 것, 상대방의 대답을 바탕으로 질문해 주는 것, 생대방 말의 뜻을 한국어로 확인하는 것 등)을 다시 확인하고 학기동안 연습한다. 이 두 가지 원칙을 계속 주지 시키며 도란도란에서 학생들과 즐거운 대화도 많이 하고 재미있는 게임도 함께 했다. 그러자 일주일에 한 시간만 만나는 수업인데도 단 몇 주만에 학생들의 말하기 실력이 느는 것과 자신감을 얻은 것을 볼 수 있었다. 작년에 친절하고 열심히 하는 학생들을 가르칠 수 있어 매우 기뻤다. 우리 학생들을 다시 만날 수 있기를 기대하고 있고, 새로운 학생들을 재미있는 회화 수업에 반갑게 초대할 수 있기를 기대하고 있다.

For the past year I had the wonderful opportunity to teach a small-group conversation class called 'Doran Doran'. When preparing for this class and deciding what and how to teach, I knew that the most important thing was to provide a welcoming and stress-free environment for students to practice their Korean. Like my students, I am a non-native Korean speaker, so I understand a lot of their worries. For example, many students do not want to speak in front of others for fear of making vocabulary and grammar mistakes.

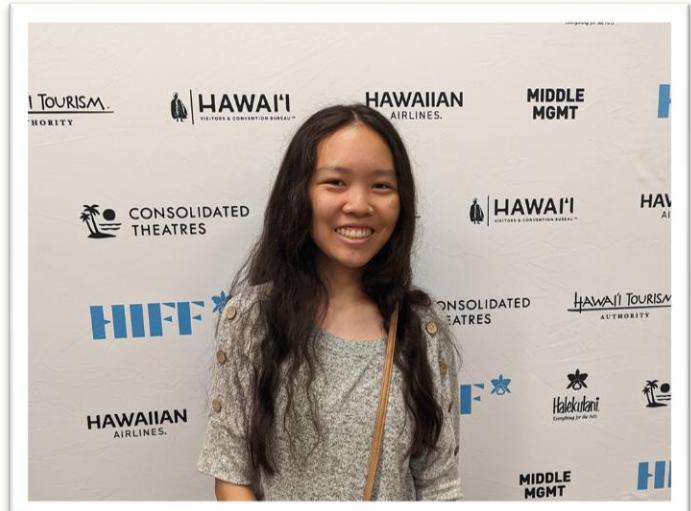


Other students may want to speak, but it takes them so long to think of what to say that, ultimately, they end up saying nothing at all. To help mitigate some of these concerns, at the beginning of each semester I explain the two most important parts of Doran Doran. The first is that linguistic accuracy is not as important as it is in a regular Korean class, since communication can happen even when we make some grammar or vocabulary mistakes. This is why, for the most part, I do not correct small mistakes during our Doran Doran class. And just as I am not worried about students' mistakes, I encourage students not to worry about making them either. Instead, we focus on simply speaking as much as possible, since that is the only way to improve. The second thing I emphasize is how to have a conversation. Students are naturally able to do this in English with little thought, but oftentimes when they need to do so in a foreign language, they forget the basics and are unable to keep the conversation going. So, we review the basics (e.g. providing detailed answers to questions, asking follow-up questions, and using Korean to ask for clarification), and then continue to practice them for the rest of the semester. Keeping these two guiding principles, my students have spent the last year playing fun games and having interesting conversations. Although we only meet for one hour a week, I was able to see all of my students improve and gain confidence after only a few classes. I was very lucky to have been able to teach kind, supportive, and hard-working students who embraced the purpose of the class. I look forward to seeing some of them again this year and look forward to welcoming new students to Doran Doran.

PHOTO GALLERY

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2023 Ignite Green Ideas
December 7, 2023



Ariana-Nalani Sumajit
2023 Hawaii International Film Festival
October 19, 2023



ePortfolio Workshop
Ms. Soo Lee
April 12, 2024



Kara Shaw
2024 Korean Culture Day
April 5, 2024

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