456Methodological Preliminary

Determine the source of information – take care of information consistency.

Having too much information.

Do not just give facts; you have to provide arguments based on facts.

Big questions for the course:

WHAT:

* What is it (the topic)?
* What are the elements of it?
* What are the equivalents (if they exists here)

If not, why?

HOW:

* How is it done?
* How does it arise?

WHY:

* Why is it interesting (and to whom)?

i.e., for anime:

DO NOT just go through the history of anime.

Why do you pick anime as your subject? Think how your work would contribute to the academic field.

business perspective, how it is valuable to Japanese’s economy; or how it is considered as Japan’s soft power?

otoku culture;

What about the global impact: China, Korea, and the rest of the world, how is the world using Japanese products, having Japanese foods.

Observe a phenomenon.

* Learn about existing accounts.

i.e., the stress: work culture, considering how it is coming into being?

Why it is stressful?

How it comes? i.e., case study, drinking with boss, overburden, senpai-kowhai culture, these facts has some kind of similarity.

Hypothesis (your account).

* Learn about existing accounts.

Asking questions – and then giving your answer. (argument)

You may find multiple answers, it is fine.

i.e., collective society, some kind of internal obligation.

Particular culture ideology.

Testing

* Further data collection

Considering about culture bias, personal bias.

Readjustment of the Hypothesis

* May return to the second step.

Conclusion

* Future plans
* Implications of this study

Disclaimer

* In real life, these steps are more messy.

Perspectives of Japan: Approaches

* What are the cultural characteristics of Japan?
* Wha are the views on Japanese culture seen from outside?

Consider like how the American or Canadian consider about Japan.

* What are the views on Japanese culture seen from inside?

How cultures from different parts of Japan differ? i.e., Tokyo vs. Osaka

* What are the views on Japanese culture that you construct?

Values:

* Religion, Society, Family structure

Hierarchy

Asia family structure i.e., ancestors culture

Systems:

* Political, social, economic, religious

Japanese capital vs. American capital

Customs:

* Festivals, food, clothing, architectures, music, arts and crafts

Cultural products

Nature:

* Geography, climate, disasters

How these turbulent environment affects people? Earthquakes, tsunami, and typhoon

The minimalist approach

* Easiest (== Fragments of knowledge)

Generalist (Encyclopedic knowledge)

* Time consuming – (list of knowledge: uncooked)

Typical researchers