

Form B-2
(FY2022)
Must be typed

Date (日付)

(Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)

Activity Report -Science Dialogue Program-
(サイエンス・ダイアログ事業 実施報告書)

- Fellow's name (講師氏名): _____ Nicola Charlotte THOMAS
(ID No. TJ21105117FA _____)

- Name and title of the lecture assistant (講義補助者の職・氏名)

Alexandra Roland, phd student

- Participating school (学校名): Yamanashi Prefectural Kofu First High School (Kofu-city, Yamanashi)

- Date (実施日時): _____ 18/11/2022 _____ (Date/Month/Year: 日/月/年)

- Lecture title (講義題目):

Urban empowerment: the case of Yata in Osaka

- Lecture format (講義形式):

◆ Onsite ・ Online (Please choose one.)(対面 ・ オンライン(どちらか選択ください。))

◆ Lecture time (講義時間) 80 min (分), Q&A time (質疑応答時間) 40 min (分)

◆ Lecture style (ex.: used projector, conducted experiments)

(講義方法 (例: プロジェクター使用による講義、実験・実習の有無など))

PowerPoint presentation

- Lecture summary (講義概要): Please summarize your lecture within 200-500 words.

My lecture consisted of a short introduction of myself and my research focus, explaining what an urban sociologist does. Before I introduced myself, I started with asking the pupils about which public spaces they appreciate and what changes they would like to see in their hometowns. By asking them this question, I wanted to connect the content of my lecture with their own every-day life. We discussed this for several minutes.

After introducing myself, I shortly presented the field of my previous research, which had to do with planning conflicts and allotment gardens in European cities before moving on to my current research in Japan. I encouraged discussion by asking the pupils if they had ever been to Osaka and what their perception of Osaka is, before presenting my research case -the neighbourhood of Osaka-, my research interest and methods.

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I described the challenges Yata is currently facing and how this is related to its historical development and Japan's urban development policies of the past 50 years. I then proceeded with presenting two urban empowerment projects in Yata, explaining the actors and goals behind the projects. I explained that both have very different approaches - one is a community and bottom-up approach while the other project involves private actors redeveloping residential land into a business park - yet both are attempts to change the social and spatial vacancies that are present in the Yata neighbourhood following 20 years of disinvestment. I explained how both projects are trying to bring about changes, but also talked about the challenges they are facing as well as potential negative aspects for the local communities.

◆Other noteworthy information (その他特筆すべき事項):

The lecture made the pupils aware that there are urban areas facing severe challenges and which policies the state of Japan and the city of Osaka have developed in order to improve urban deprivation. I also introduced the term social sustainability and urban empowerment to the pupils. By asking them questions during the lecture, the pupils were made aware that their own spatial experiences and perspectives are valid and hold interesting insights.

- Impressions and comments from the lecture assistant (講義補助者の方から、本事業に対する意見・感想等がありましたら、お願いいたします。):

Alexandra Roland was present to translate important content and the question-and-answer session following the lecture. She commented to me that she very much appreciated being present, thought the lecture was very interesting and would like to listen to more lectures by me. She also said that the pupils were very engaged and interested, and that it was a success for all involved.