

Contemporary Japan

General Discussion Areas - EXTRA CREDIT - COVID-19, your thoughts and experiences

This is an extra credit post and you can get up to 10 points. Please share your thoughts, daily experiences, struggles and observations of the ongoing situations related to COVID-19 in the US and in the world. We will discuss the issue related to COVID-19 and Japan later, but I would like to begin our discussion based on our daily experiences. Please share anything - your own thoughts, news stories, etc. on this issue. Of course you can discuss something on Japan too, but this topic is not limited to Japan.



COVID-19 in Japan

Chikako Fukao - Mar 28, 2020 7:23 AM

This COVID-19 negatively affects my study abroad. Just one week ago, I just booked my flight ticket and came back to Japan. I was supposed to stay Bozeman until May, so I am still shocked by this unexpected situation. However, from this Thursday, Japan just started an immigration restriction toward travelers from the U.S., so it was a good decision to come back before that. I am in self-quarantine now.

In order to deal with COVID-19, Tokyo government requested citizens to stay home as much as possible in this weekend. However, there is no lockdown in Japan, so the number of cases is rapidly increasing in a few days. I am very concerned about this rapid increase, so I think that Japan also should consider lockdown.

As we discussed discriminations in Japan, this COVID-19 might be a new target of discrimination. Just few hours ago, Chiba (Next to Tokyo) governor announced that he will not reveal personal information whom passed away because of COVID-19 in order to protect the bereaved family from a discrimination. Personal information means name, age, sex and living area. Actually, my mother is scared of a discrimination, so she did not tell my neighborhood that I just came back from the U.S. COVID-19 may be a serious problem in terms of a discrimination.

Additionally, most Japanese people wear facial mask now. However, it is very hard to buy mask, so people make a line in front of the drug store in the early morning.