

# Meiji Gakuin University & LaGuardia Community College Crossing Paths (Spring 2022)



## WHAT IS CROSSING PATHS 2022

Meiji Gakuin University-LaGuardia Crossing Paths 2022 Project is an international collaboration project between Meiji Gakuin University (Prof. Jennifer Igawa) in Tokyo and the Japanese Language Program at LaGuardia Community College (Prof. Tomonori Nagano) in New York City. The Crossing Paths project started in 2021 as a result of effort to increase opportunities for learners of a new language (English or Japanese) to use their target language in an authentic and meaningful context.

In the project, a group of students or individual students are paired with their partner groups/students in the other college and communicate through short video-taped conversations in English and Japanese. Topics for conversation are carefully designed so that the participants can develop a sense of community and feel comfortable using their target language in an encouraging and supportive environment. Through this virtual collaboration, students will discover life and culture of the community of their partner students.

Anyone who is interested in virtual exchange opportunity can participate. Contact your instructor for more information.

## WHAT ARE REQUIREMENTS?

Each participant is required to make six short (1-2 min) videos in the target language (English for MGU students and Japanese for LAGCC students) on the following topics

### 1. Topic 1: Self introduction

Post deadline 4/25 & Response deadline 5/2

Each student presents self introduction, which may include name, major, campus life, hobbies, part-time jobs, family, favorite places and food etc.

### 2. Topic 2: Hometown

Post deadline 5/9 & Response deadline 5/16

Each student describes his/her hometown or neighborhood, choosing one or two aspects to focus on (e.g. particular place or interesting natural phenomenon).

### 3. Topic 3: Online learning

Post deadline 5/23 & Response deadline 5/30

Each student discusses online learning. Points to cover might include (but are not limited to) likes and dislikes about online learning, the benefits or drawbacks of online learning, and whether online learning promotes or hinders communication.

In addition to their own videos, the participant must respond to (comment on) their partner's videos. In total, each participant will make at least six videos.

## WHERE DOES IT TAKE PLACE?

We will use *Flipgrid* for this collaboration. You need to make an account on Flipgrid and join a group with your school e-mail (i.e., [xxxx@meijigakuin.ac.jp](mailto:xxxx@meijigakuin.ac.jp) or [xxx@live.lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:xxx@live.lagcc.cuny.edu)). The link to the Flipgrid group is <https://flipgrid.com/223db2bd> (or scan QR above)

## QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the project, contact Prof. Jennifer Igawa ([igawaj@eco.meijigakuin.ac.jp](mailto:igawaj@eco.meijigakuin.ac.jp)) @ MGU or Tomonori Nagano ([tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu)).