



Università
Ca'Foscari
Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: Virtual “ryuugaku” for real interactions and job-hunting: supporting Covid online teaching of Japanese language oral and written production skills -2-

FUNDING PROGRAMME: Japan Foundation

CALL: Online studying-exchange and job-hunting support project

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Asian and North African Studies

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Maria Marcella Mariotti

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs

€ 14.950,00

Overall funding assigned to UNIVE

€ 14.950,00

ABSTRACT:

After the great success of the **pilot project** between Jan-March 2021, we would like to ask for funds to support and continue a further development of the project between May 2021 and March 2022.

The main objective of this project is **to provide students of Japanese Language a virtual study abroad program, which includes: A. virtual study-abroad/job-hunting (to increase the employability of Japanese companies), B. virtual study-abroad interaction (to create opportunities for direct exchange and conversation with Japanese students).** The **Virtual Job-hunting side** of the project had so great success that students hope to build not only an automatic email builder as of the pilot project (under execution now), but they developed research **to help Italian speakers to write an appropriate Cv, too.** This renewal is meant to develop the “**Cv builder system**”. as well. integrated into Jalea Business e-learning platform for Business Japanese, as it is the ‘email builder system. It will be available for all Italian speakers, and, if Japan Foundation would like to support it further, can be already set up for English speakers of Japanese **all over the world as well. Results of the pilot project** (Jan-March 2021), and of the continuum, will be used and **checked between September and December 2021 in the Business Japanese classes** by students, native speakers teachers (Ms. Nishida), tutors (to be selected) and professor (Aprof. Mariotti). The outcomes will be tested through oral exams in January and February 2022.

As for the **Virtual Interaction side** of this *Virtual ryuugaku project*, we want to **consolidate the great outcomes of the pilot project** Jan-March 2021 (see. <https://nolbrick.wordpress.com/>). The pilot project **got into the online classrooms too**, involving students from Japan into the usual Ca' Foscari study routine, adding **innovative insights** into Japanese Language Teaching and Learning from the NoLBrick (No Level Brick Foreign Language Education) perspective too. Students from Ca' foscari as well from Japan were amazed by the **extremely strong motivation they found into talking and writing in Japanese not only with peers (which usually brings too much anxiety and competitiveness) but with younger and older peers too (kohai and senpai).** We want to **reproduce the project and make it even better**, to cope with still ongoing difficulties due to Covid-era: some families are not able to economically cope with study abroad exchange expenses, or can not cope with still current uncertainty of world

health under pandemic. Starting from May to contact Japanese partner Universities and Institutions (e.g. Ashinaga Foundation), we want to be prepared to **accept and help as many students as possible**. We aim at gathering 40 participants from Japan (possibly 60), so as to enjoy their company and perspectives in the “VR Exchange Project chat channels”, as well as in the “Online Classroom free conversations” classes/lessons.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
15th May 2021	31st March 2022