

---

2017-18 Field Notes

Field Notes from Abroad: Person to Person

---

10-17-2017

## Yuki

Bethany Rice  
*Linfield College*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl\\_fieldnotes\\_1718](https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl_fieldnotes_1718)

---

### Recommended Citation

Rice, Bethany, "Yuki" (2017). *2017-18 Field Notes*. Essay. Submission 7.  
[https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl\\_fieldnotes\\_1718/7](https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl_fieldnotes_1718/7)

This Essay is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It is brought to you for free via open access, courtesy of DigitalCommons@Linfield, with permission from the rights-holder(s). Your use of this Essay must comply with the [Terms of Use](#) for material posted in DigitalCommons@Linfield, or with other stated terms (such as a Creative Commons license) indicated in the record and/or on the work itself. For more information, or if you have questions about permitted uses, please contact [digitalcommons@linfield.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@linfield.edu).

Bethany Rice

Japan

October 17, 2017

Yuki

There are many nuanced lifestyle and habitual differences between people of Japanese culture and people I encounter at home. One cultural difference I've noticed is a difference in how people outwardly express themselves here. It appears to me that many people here act very common, reserved and self-contained, especially in places like trains where any talking is uncommon. The city itself is surprisingly peaceful and quiet, even though it's larger than Portland. Besides the broader cultural differences, there are dozens of small ones. I veer left instead of right on sidewalks and staircases. I accept money with both hands. I change into indoor slippers when I enter the house. I don't eat and walk at the same time. Besides habits like these, there are also notable differences in tastes and preferences. For example, I ate horse a few weeks ago, something I never would have experienced at home. I didn't love it personally, but it's fairly common here.

Conducting the interview with a Japanese student wasn't what opened my eyes to the cultural differences we shared. These differences are noticed when I'm hanging out with other students, traveling, shopping, sitting in class, or playing video games. Every week I spend here in Japan, I learn so much more about the culture. There are always surprises that excite me and keep my life here interesting.