Certain words now in our knowledge we will not use again, and we will not forget them. We need them. Like the back of the picture. Like our marrow, and the color in our veins. We shine the lantern of sleep on them, to make sure, and there they are, trembling already for the day of witness. They will be buried with us, and rise with the rest.
THE GROWING DEMAND FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

BY AMY KENDREE

Our healthcare system is expanding in addition to the number of United States citizens who do not speak English as their first language. According to the Ameritech College of Healthcare, approximately 41 million people in the United States speak Spanish as their native language. However, Spanish is not the only language that is in demand. Healthcare professionals who speak Mandarin, Chinese, French, and Vietnamese are also in high demand! Because of this, employers are seeking healthcare professionals who speak foreign languages to tackle the language barrier that often poses a challenge in the healthcare field. Having knowledge of a second language as a healthcare worker can provide many advantages, such as better communication with patients, increased quality of care, and the ability to address the patient’s needs accurately. Bilingual healthcare professionals are desirable in the field because they allow hospitals, doctors offices, and other providers the ability to accommodate all patients with the most efficiency. Having bilingual professionals on staff is also more cost-efficient because they eliminate the need to hire additional translation services. In addition, they can make sure the patient feels at ease by communicating every step of the medical process and providing full transparency along the way. Overall, having foreign language experience is always a strong resume builder and is especially applicable in the healthcare field because they treat patients from many ethnic backgrounds which allows the hospital to appeal to a diverse population.
What comes to mind when you think of Japan? Do you think of elegant kimonos, rich in color and history? Do you picture the cherry blossoms falling gently with the breeze, your own personal hanami to enjoy viewing the flowers? Do you see the aloof elegance steeping Mount Fuji in the distance, her snow-capped summit seeming ageless against the creations of humanity? However you think of Japan, the country and its culture are steeped in history, grace, and knowledge. One aspect that comes easily to mind is the language.

We wanted to explore what is it about Japan and Japanese that has drawn students from over eight different colleges across the university to study, and minor, in Japanese. So we asked our forty minors: What is your why? And they responded.

Our department has Japanese minors majoring in 19 departments from 8 colleges across our University.

BY HANNAH HEATH
When I took my first Japanese class, I was purely interested in the culture. Which is a fancy and evasive way of saying that I was into anime and wanted to learn the language simply because I liked anime. However, as I learned the language, and learned more about the culture as a whole, I discovered an immense passion for the language itself, such that I am now independently studying Classical Japanese. This discovery lead to an unfortunately short-cut study abroad to Japan, where I discovered two more passions of mine: Living in Japan, and Japanese history. These passions have eclipsed nearly everything else in my academic life to the extent that I am currently writing my capstone thesis on the subject of Japanese History, complete with a partial translation of a work written in Classical Japanese, and I intend to attend graduate school in Japan to eventually become a professor of Japanese History and Historical Language (If indeed, such a title exists).

In other words, the Japanese program at CSU in conjunction with its excellent Study Abroad program can be said to have entirely changed the trajectory of my career and interests, for which I am quite grateful.
I first became seriously interested in studying Japanese after I had the experience to study abroad in Hiroshima in the summer of 2016. I had never travelled outside of the country before, and this short study abroad ended up being one of the most life changing experiences I have ever had. I did not know any Japanese prior to going, but through the kindness and generosity of the people around, I was able to pick up bits of the language. My high school did not offer Japanese classes, but I knew as soon as I got to college that I wanted to pursue Japanese study. I was so happy to learn CSU offered a Japanese minor, and I have been diligently studying for 3 years now. I hope one day the university will consider adding a Japanese major, too.