

THE GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE LESSONS

The Council of Ohara Professors

The way we live our daily lives has changed significantly with the need to prevent the spread of the new corona virus infection, COVID-19.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, physicians recommend reducing personal contacts. Thus, online has become an effective teaching method that eliminates meeting in person. Ikebana has been practiced by touching and feeling flower materials and noting their different characteristics, this will not change. To learn the basic techniques of introductory ikebana, even for those students a bit more advanced, online study provides practical skills. Further, we feel students who have been arranging in face-to-face lessons will learn skills if they are confident to practice online arrangement without instruction about specific details.

In this age of online practice, we think the balance between online and face-to-face study is the most important issue. The more advanced the lesson, the more face-to-face lessons are necessary. Therefore, the Council of Ohara Professors would like to set up guidelines for online and face-to-face practice as follows:

COURSES	CREDITS
1. Introductory Beginner Intermediate Assistant Teacher's 1st Term	} <i>All online</i>
2. Assistant Teacher's 2nd Term Instructor 4th Term Master 3rd Term Master	} <i>Less than half online</i> } <i>More than half face-to face</i>
3. Associate 2nd Term Master (3 years)* 2nd Term Master (4 years)* Associate 1st Term Master (5 years)* 1st Term Master (5 years)*	} <i>Half at most online</i>

**Certificates for degrees listed in 3 are not earned by the number of credits alone but also by the number of years in practice; from the lowest degree - 3, 4, 5, and 5 years, respectively.*

As a special consideration until the end of 2020, more than half of the credits will be available online, due to the current the new corona virus infection.

Challenges specifically for online practice:

1. Teachers and students must prepare the communication equipment and environment for online lessons.

The easiest way to explain this is for both teachers and students to set their Smartphone for video and sound then place on a tripod or a method that shows the sample arrangement and student's arrangement. One thing to be especially careful about is that both teachers and students maintain a wireless LAN (Wi-Fi) Internet environment. On a regular mobile phone line, communication costs may increase.

2. Preparing the student's flower materials:

Students will learn a great deal by procuring flower materials for each lesson. Some information as to what is appropriate for the arrangement must be given by the instructor before the lesson. Obtaining correct materials for the arrangement, at the proper stage and condition for the lesson are excellent skills for students to learn.

3. How to convey the three-dimensional ikebana effect through a Smartphone camera:

The best method to show a three-dimensional effect of the sample arrangement and the student's arrangement is with a Smartphone camera set on video with sound and held in a tripod or a method that shows the arrangement. The teacher may have to show students how to do this at first.

In the event that a Smartphone with video and sound are unavailable, showing the sample arrangement or the student's arrangement in a straight-on photo and adding a side photo, conveys correctness in the way the stems slant forward relative to each other and the Ohara guidelines for the arrangement's construction.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.