

## King's College London Undergraduate Summer School

July 17 ~ July 28 2023

Saeko Otani  
Faculty of Law

I joined the course titled “Global Health and Social Justice” at King's College London Undergraduate Summer School. It was a 10-day course and students from 10 countries attended and had discussions together. They were from various majors such as medicine, pharmacy, law, and journalism. In addition, the professor was very good at facilitating discussions while extracting each students' opinions, therefore the discussions were always very insightful.

Through the summer school, I have realized that the concept of “health” was subject to change. I thought “health” was a clear concept, meaning the absence of any diseases or mental disorders. However, the lectures made me noticed that it greatly reflected the values of society. For example, in malaria-prone countries, people regard it as natural and unavoidable, that makes malaria control hard to penetrate. Similarly, there is a case that certain mental conditions are recognized as "mental disorders" only after diagnostic methods and medications are developed.



Since Japan is trying to accept more foreign workers, we might face the difficulty in defining “health”. In order to secure healthy life for all and achieve social justice, the discussion should be held from various angles. In this context, I noticed that GLP-GEFIL was meaningful since students from various majors study together and I look forward to discussing with them again in Phase 2, which will start from this October.



It was also a fruitful experience for me to study in London, which is the biggest and international city in UK. Walking around various areas and observing the scenery and people's outfits, I realized that it was possible to accept diversity while sustaining the country's identity.

The experiences through the summer school were truly eye-opening for me in terms of learning social justice at practical levels. I really appreciate the warm support from the Tazaki Foundation, which enabled me to experience them all.