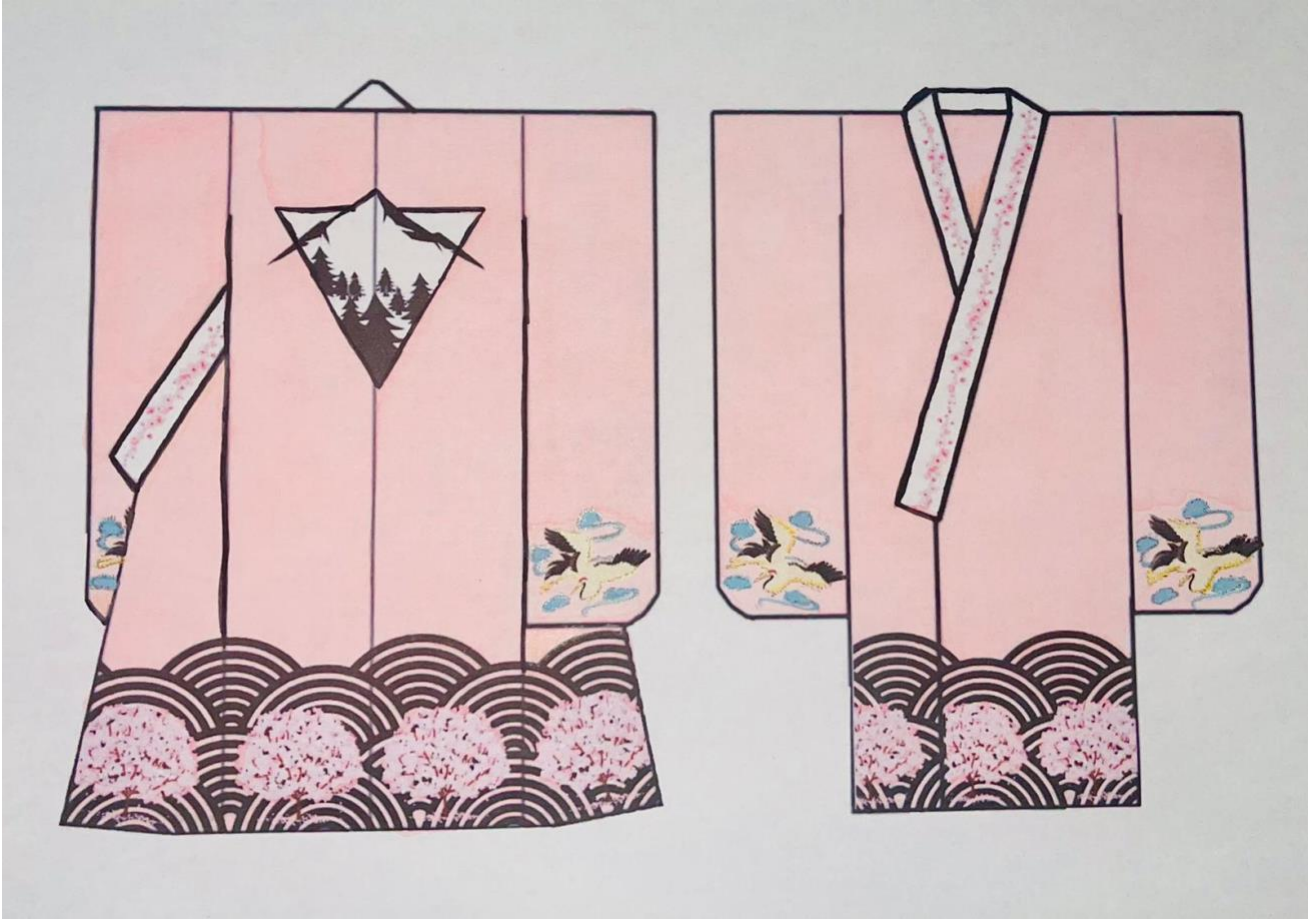


For this assignment, I decided to make my kimono out of silk because it is comfortable, and its smooth texture gives a sense of luxury. This fabric was naturally dyed with raspberries to obtain that pink tone, which brings a sense of softness and elegance to the kimono. In Japanese culture, pink is popular because it symbolizes femininity, spring, youth, and good health (Colors in Japanese & Chinese Culture, 2022). I decided to add this color because it is delicate and brings a touch of femininity to the design. Additionally, I selected three motifs. The first one was Crane. I incorporated them on the sleeves of my kimono because, according to the readings, Crane symbolizes longevity and good fortune, and I wanted to bring a sense of auspiciousness and positive energy to my kimono. The second was Seigaiha. I added this pattern on the bottom of my kimono because it represents waves and the ebb and flow of life, meaning the constant movement and change that occurs in our lives, reminding us to embrace the ever-changing nature of the world. The third was Sakura, which I added on the Eri and top of the Seigaiha pattern of my kimono because it represents new beginnings, renewal, beauty, and transience of life, adding a touch of beauty to the piece. I added it to my kimono because it reminds us to appreciate the present and embrace the beauty in every moment. Lastly, I printed a triangle of pines on the back of my kimono because I love wintertime, and in Japanese culture, pine is associated with strength, resilience, and longevity.

The techniques I used to create the imagery of my kimono were a combination of dying, print, and embroidery. After dying my fabric, I printed a black Seigaiha pattern on top of the pink background at the bottom of my kimono. Then, I started adding the embroidery. The Sakura and the Cranes were embroidered to the fabric using both hand and machine embroidery to bring out the delicate details of the cherry blossoms and to add texture and dimension to the cranes in the design. I also added a touch of gold to bring a sense of luxury and elegance and light blue details to contrast it with the pink color. I chose those motifs for my design because they hold special meaning in Japanese culture. I wanted my kimono to embody these symbolic elements by adding depth to the overall design.





## References

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