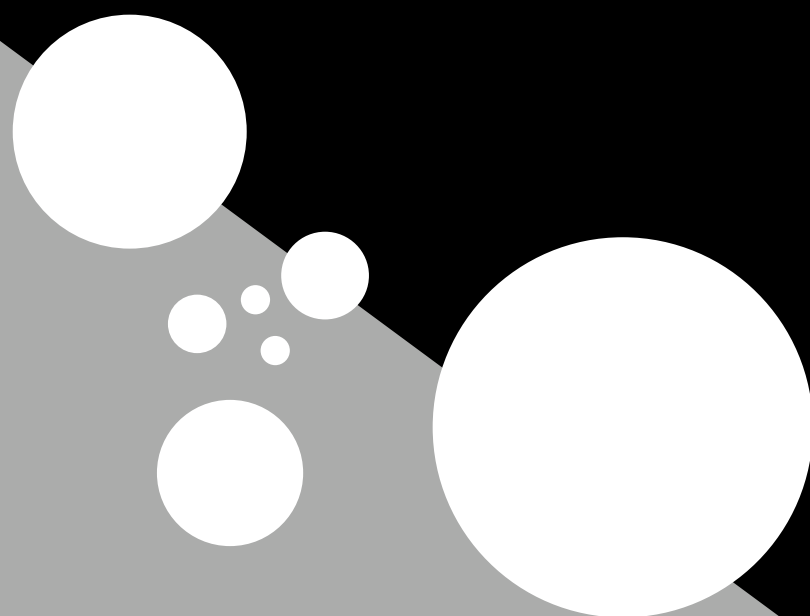


東京大学現代日本研究センター

2020年次報告書



UTokyo Center for
Contemporary Japanese Studies

2020 Annual Report

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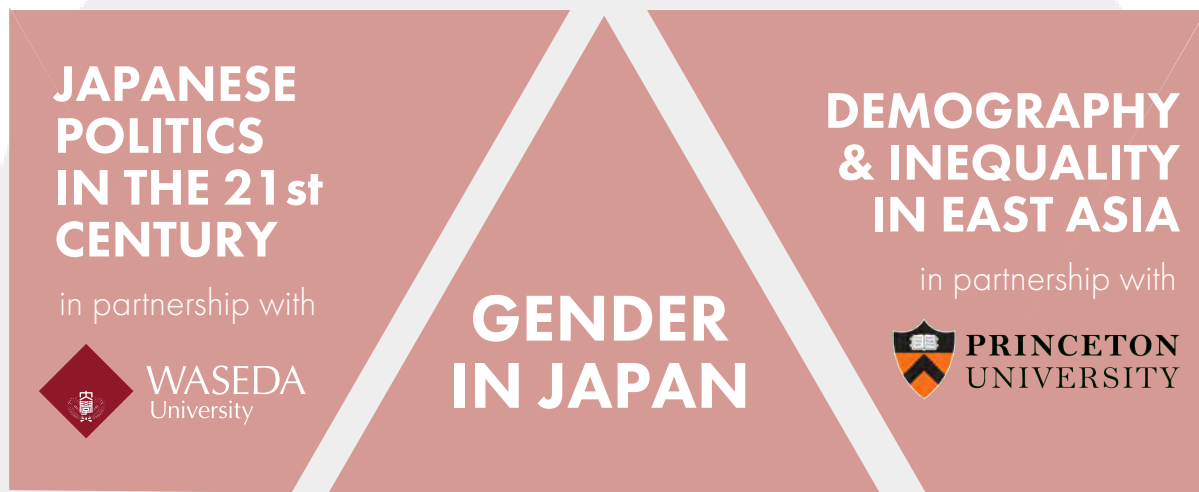
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TCJS AT-A-GLANCE

EVENTS



RESEARCH



FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is my pleasure to greet you as the founding director of the University of Tokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS). TCJS began its work in July 2020 as a meeting point for various schools and disciplines at The University of Tokyo.

The center's primary aim is to broadcast our Japan-focused research work – particularly in the humanities and social sciences, but in frequent partnership with the hard sciences – beyond Japan's borders. To that end, TCJS has devoted its first six months to hosting dozens of online seminars led by a diverse array of talented scholars. We hope that our work over the past half-year provides a solid foundation for a high-profile platform that gives voice to a new generation of scholars as they explore paths beyond those prescribed by traditional Japanese studies. We appreciate your continued support as we forge ahead in the years to come.



SAWAKO SHIRAHASE

*Director, UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies
Executive Vice President, The University of Tokyo
Professor, UTokyo Graduate School of Humanities & Sociology*

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*Graduate School of Interdisciplinary
Information Science*

2020-21 IN NUMBERS

44

Events &
Conferences

1,302

Event
Attendees

1 in 6

Attendees
based abroad

3

Research
Collaborations

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RESEARCH

JAPANESE POLITICS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

a collaboration with Waseda University

The UTokyo x Waseda Political Science Colloquium was established in December 2020, as part of the Basic Agreement for Collaboration and Cooperation between the University of Tokyo and Waseda University. It meets monthly to exchange research ideas, foster academic networks, and encourage collaboration between political scientists in both universities. The kick-off event, held on December 16th, featured a discussion about the social relevance and future pathways of political science research by Presidents GONOKAMI Makoto (UTokyo) and TANAKA Aiji (Waseda). Collectively the Colloquium featured eight presentations by faculty and graduate students in the 2020-21 academic year.



KENNETH MORI MCELWAIN
The University of Tokyo



AIRO HINO
Waseda University

DEMOGRAPHY & INEQUALITY IN EAST ASIA

a collaboration with Princeton University

East Asia is home to some of the most demographically important countries in the world. A number of highly-skilled young social scientists are conducting important and innovative research, but this research often fails to travel beyond national borders. Therefore, the UTokyo x Princeton Demography & Inequality in East Asia Project aims to build a world hub for research on demography and inequality in East Asia that (1) fosters collaborative research among demographers and inequality scholars working on East Asia; (2) supports the training of next generation scholars; and (3) mentors advanced undergraduate and graduate students interested in East Asian demography and inequality at the University of Tokyo and Princeton University.



YU XIE
Princeton University



JAMES RAYMO
Princeton University



SAWAKO SHIRAHASE
The University of Tokyo



HIROSHI ISHIDA
The University of Tokyo

GENDER IN JAPAN

The Gender in Japan project was introduced at the UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS) in January 2021. Gender equality is among the most important and urgent issues in Japan today. Sadly, it is also an old issue on which there has been very little progress. Japan's gender gap is evident not only in its labor market, but also within families and society at-large. This project's kick-off seminar was given by Professor Chizuko Ueno in February 2021. The massive audience garnered by Professor Ueno's talk affirmed our sense that gender issues are of the utmost importance to our community inside UTokyo and beyond. We look forward to exploring these topics with exciting guest speakers at future Gender in Japan events.

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- KENNETH MCELWAIN
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- KUMIKO NAGAI

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- RISA KOBAYASHI
- SOHYUNG LEE
- SHUHEI KAINUMA
- ERIKA IGARASHI
- CARLOTA SOLA MARSINACH
- AKANE BESSHO
- RAFAELA YOSHIY OLIVARES
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- SUBODHANA WIJEYERATNE
- WEIYU ZHANG
- RYO MORIMOTO
- FUMIKO TAKAHASHI
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- ASAKO TAKASHIMA

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- AIJI TANAKA
- AKIRA INOUE
- MASARU KOHNO
- AIRO HINO
- KENNETH MCELWAIN
- RUI ASANO
- TOMOKI KANEKO
- CHIZUKO UENO
- RIEKO KAGE
- ANTONIO BENASAGLIO BERLUCCHI
- YU XIE
- JAMES RAYMO
- ISHIDA HONDA
- SAWAKO SHIRAHASE
- GLENDA ROBERTS



SEMINAR SERIES

The TCJS Seminar Series hosts talks by renowned Japanese Studies scholars from around the world in a monthly online forum, hosted by the UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies.

SEP
28

A Vision for Contemporary Japanese Studies

SHIRAHASE SAWAKO | The University of Tokyo

HOSHI TAKEO | The University of Tokyo

KENNETH MORI MCELWAIN | The University of Tokyo

The Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS) is a new platform for interdisciplinary research at the University of Tokyo. TCJS promotes and disseminates cutting-edge research that explores the challenges facing contemporary Japan and their global implications. By drawing on theories and empirical methods from across the humanities and social sciences, TCJS seeks to build upon and contribute to the network of interdisciplinary Japanese Studies centers at institutions outside Japan.

In this inaugural talk of the TCJS Seminar Series, the center's core members will discuss trends in how Japan is studied overseas, the pressing issues facing Japanese Studies today, as well as prospects for how we might evolve our field to better serve the needs of today's world.

OCT
21

The Historian's Craft in Contemporary Japanese Studies

OKAZAKI TETSUJI | The University of Tokyo

An Apology for Japanese Economic History

The title of this talk is an homage to Marc Bloch's "The Historian's Craft," which is known in French as "Apologie pour l'histoire ou Métier d'historien." Bloch was one of the founders of the Annales School and gave his life for freedom in 1944. In his book, Bloch set out to answer an essential question: "what is the use of history?" In this short presentation, I will share my thoughts on this question as it relates to Japanese economic history. Drawing on some of my recent work in Japanese economic history, I will address two main issues: "why history?" and "why Japan?"

SHUNYA YOSHIMI | The University of Tokyo

Scales of History: How Family History and Global History Work Together

In this short presentation, I will propose that there is correspondence between two scales of history: the social construction of "generations" and the so-called "long waves" of history. In modern and contemporary Japanese history, historic moments of change repeatedly appear every quarter-century: 1870 (more precisely: 1868), 1895, 1920 (more precisely: 1923), 1945, 1970 (more precisely: 1973), 1995, and 2020. Of course, this repetition is in a sense accidental. But it can also be interpreted in relation to the cycles of generational interval and the long waves of modern capitalism (world system). Using this hypothetical frame, I will analyze how contemporary Japanese history has been influenced by the historical practices of different generations, as well as by the structural condition of global capitalism.

NOV
25

Family and Inequality: "Diverging Destinies" in Japan?

JAMES RAYMO | Princeton University

Research on the "diverging destinies" of children provides a compelling and influential framework for understanding how growing socioeconomic differences in family behavior contribute to inequality and the reproduction of disadvantage. Despite the international prominence of this framework, it has received almost no attention in research on family and inequality in Japan. In this talk, I discuss demographic trends in Japan relevant to the notion of diverging destinies, consider what we can learn by incorporating Japan into the broader international research conversation, and summarize related work that colleagues and I have conducted in recent years. I stress the theoretical and empirical value of considering intergenerational family relationships, gender inequality, and the changing economic environment.

JAN
20

Gimmicks, Politics, and Narrative: Japan's Thwarted Commemorations, Celebrations, and Comebacks

DAVID LEHENY | Waseda University

This presentation surveys efforts to symbolize Japan's putative re-emergence as a global power, from the 2018 plans to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Meiji Restoration through the as-yet-uncertain 2020 Tokyo Olympics. It focuses in particular on the rhetoric of a Japanese comeback, particularly under Prime Minister Abe's cabinets, and on mediated representations of the collective agency that Japan supposedly once had and that is in the process of reconstructing. By drawing from recent theoretical work by Sianne Ngai, Jelena Subotic, Ayse Zarakol, and Lauren Berlant, this presentation inquires about the affective dimensions of historical representation, and identifies risks that failures of spectacle, whether because of unexpected political contestation (as in the Meiji commemoration) or of bad epidemiological luck (as in the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic Games), lay bare the gimmicky nature of political rhetoric.

MAR
11

Contemporary Japanese Lookism: What Underlies "World's Three Beauties" Discourse

KUMIKO NAGAI | The University of Tokyo

Cleopatra VII, Yang Guifei and Ono no Komachi, or Helen. They are called "the world's three greatest beauties of all time" in Japan. They appear in various TV commercials and other media today. Many people wonder why these women were selected and why it seems to be a story that is widespread only in Japan. Tracing the history of this discourse, the origin dates back to the Meiji and Taishō eras and in the story that seems to tell about diversity at first glance, Japan's international relations and views on women after the Sino-Japanese War and the Russo-Japanese War are hidden. The speaker would like to discuss the background to the discourse and issues that this story highlights, which lead to the current concept of lookism in Japan.

EARLY-CAREER SCHOLAR FORUM

The TCJS Early-Career Scholar Forum invites postdoctoral researchers and pre-tenure faculty studying Japan to present their research in a weekly online forum, hosted by the UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies.

NOV
13

Diverse Paths into First Childbirth and Socio-Economic Differentials in Contemporary Japan

RYOHEI MOGI | Centre d'Etudis Demogràfics

This talk will discuss how paths into first childbirth (i.e., the sequence of engagement, cohabitation, pregnancy and marriage) have become more diverse in Japan over the decades, as well as how these paths are influenced by socio-economic inequalities.

NOV
20

Multidisciplinary Collaborations for Sustainable Solutions

FLORA WEIL | UTokyo Institute of Industrial Science

Multidisciplinary collaborations and design thinking are two methods that can help develop innovative ideas, especially when it comes to responding to complex topics such as sustainability. Two projects, Dust to Dust and Probes, developed as collaborations between DLX Design Lab and Sakai Lab and Yagi Lab respectively will be presented to exemplify this approach. These two projects were carried out as part of a series of UTokyo collaborations supported by Toyoshima, centred around the topic of sustainability.



DEC
4**Broadband Internet & Labor Market Consequences**

KIHO MUROGA | Kyushu University Graduate School of Economics

This paper estimates the effects of internet penetration on labor force participation, hours worked, employment status and wage. We found that internet penetration increases the probability of labor force participation. Our estimates also show that internet penetration is associated with a substantial increase in wage, especially for males. In addition, non-college-graduated groups are highly affected by internet penetration for both men and women. Those results suggest that internet penetration helps encourage more labor force participation because of an increase in wages.

JAN
15**The Emergence of Modern Humanitarian Activities:
The Evolution of the Japanese Red Cross Movement
from Local to Global**

MICHIKO SUZUKI | UTokyo Institute of Social Science

This research argues that from the beginning, native Japanese traditions of humanitarianism expressed in the modern Japanese notion of humanitarianism (jindō: 人道), literally meaning 'the way of humanity' infused the ethos of the JRCS. It also argues that while at the national level the JRCS enjoyed the patronage of the Imperial Family, organisationally it developed into a strong grassroots movement that expanded its activities beyond the ICRC's mission of providing medical aid to combatant in international conflicts. The rapid growth of the JRCS was made possible by the involvement of ordinary people in humanitarian activities in the form of self-reliant efforts to survive social uncertainties such as poverty, natural disasters, epidemic diseases, and civil wars brought about by the Meiji Restoration.

JAN
22**Visualization & Archives as Technologies of Seeing**

STEVEN BRAUN | Northeastern University College of Arts, Media, and Design

In this presentation, I'll discuss the relationship between data visualization and archives as "technologies of seeing": both are technologies that make choices about what can or should be rendered visible in the eyes of others. In visualization, we make design choices about what data to collect, how to analyze them, and how to express them through visual encodings, and these choices determine whose voices or identities get privileged or displaced in public discourses. Likewise, in the creation of archives, choices must often be made about what to preserve, how to preserve, and how to make that which is preserved accessible over space and time. This discussion will be explored through projects that interrogate the role of visualization and archives in the study of Japan, particularly as a country situated in a world in trauma, transition, and uncertainty.

JAN
29**The Formation & Development of the Japan Agricultural
Cooperatives**

HIROFUMI KAWAGUCHI | UTokyo Graduate Schools for Law & Politics

Political scientists have analyzed how war contributes to state formation and development. In a defeated country, however, such a wartime legacy is difficult to inherit due to a postwar regime change. To understand how this difficulty is overcome, Japan after WWII, which experienced the drastic reform under the postwar occupation by the United States, is analyzed here. As an example of a wartime legacy that was not eliminated despite the postwar reform, this work focuses on farmers' organization in 20th-century Japan. Beginning with the prewar era, I examine the government mobilization of farmers during WWII and its inheritance to Japan Agricultural Cooperatives (JA), which has been the most politically influential and widely organized farmers' group in contemporary Japan.

FEB
5**A Quest for Equality: International Connection in Japan's Space Program, 1950–2003**

SUBODHANA WIJEYERATNE | Keio University Faculty of Business & Commerce

Despite its considerable independent accomplishments – such as the extraordinary Hayabusa probes – international links have been a core to the development of the Japanese space program. One of the crucial elements of this is story of its gradual alienation from the United States. From 1954 to the 1980s, Japan's space aspirations were intimately connected to the assistance their former conquerors could provide. In the 1970s and 1980s, however, strategic and economic priorities led to the US limiting technology exports. The Japanese also began to experience major frustrations with American assistance – which, combined with recovering national confidence in the context of an economic boom, impelled them to branch out to other countries for space cooperation, while reducing their reliance on the USA.

FEB
12**"Social Management" for Personal Data Collection**

ZHANG WEIYU | UTokyo Graduate Schools for Law & Politics

The rules of privacy and personal data protection have experienced two major changes due to the epoch-making technologies: Internet and AI. Those changes bring two contradictions for personal data management: individual rights vs. weakness for them to control, and the huge demand for data vs. high cost and isolation phenomenon. Realizing the above contradictions, this presentation will explore "social management" mechanism as supplement to the current personal data protection.

FEB
19**Wild Boar Chase: Half-Life Politics of Nuclear Things & Multispecies Collaboration of Contamination & Containment in Coastal Fukushima**

RYO MORIMOTO | Princeton University

In this talk, I examine the half-life politics of nuclear things by focusing on local residents' uncanny encounters with wild boars in their abandoned homes. Lurking out of the deep woods, boars have conquered the evacuated land that the government has been using to store decontaminated waste. Tracing the wild boars' lives and deaths in relation to people's shifting conceptualization of "nature," "contamination" and "safety" illustrates local residents' struggles to resist the banal physiological and psychological violence that low-dose radiation exposure has imposed on their sense of wellbeing, and their efforts to negotiate an alternative ecological future of the aftermath.

FEB
26**Job-Hunting Among 2nd Generation Immigrants in Japan**

FUMIKO TAKAHASHI | UTokyo Komaba Organization for Educational Excellence

In this presentation, I will explore the transition from education to the labor market for second-generation immigrants and refugees in Japan - individuals who have one or both parents are migrated to Japan or who were born in Japan or migrated to Japan in their early teens -. The challenges that the second generation of immigrants experience at the transition from university/graduate school to the labor market in Japan seem to stem partly from insufficient recognition of their existence by companies, as well as structural factors. I will present the result of the case studies of the three people who have migrated to Japan as refugees and are now working in domestic companies and will discuss the factors behind the obstacles toward racial equity at the transition from education to the labor market.

MAR
5

Cluster, Capital, Community of Practice: Re-Examining the Relationship between Art Networks & Place

PAN MENGFEI | Aoyama Gakuin Graduate School of Management

This presentation examines the relationship between art networks and geographic place from the perspective of art sociology. Through employing concepts such as “art network”, “cultural capital”, “social capital”, and “community of practice,” it investigates mainly the situation in modern Tokyo from the Meiji Period and analyzes the phenomenon of artist clusters, their motivations, actual benefits, and the impact on the places from the clusters. Drawing research from art history and urban studies, this presentation not only reveals the significance of place for the art networks but also argues for an expansion of research scope to envision the place as an agency to better understand the art collectivity in contemporary Japan.

MAR
12

Time & Space in Japanese: Concepts of Mental Lexicon and Strategies of Description

MARIA TELEGINA | Tokyo College

My research is focused on the perception and expression of time and space concepts in contemporary Japanese. Through the frameworks of cognitive linguistics and cognitive semantics, it examines material obtained through a set of experiments with Japanese native speaking participants – a free word association experiment and spontaneous speech experiments on temporal and on spatial description strategies. The findings of my study demonstrate that some of the strategies of extended spatial and temporal description seen in Japanese native speakers have not been described in research conducted on more extensively investigated languages.

MAR
19

How Elastic is Capacity Choice in Welfare Facilities? Evidence from Notches in Japan's Childcare Subsidy Scheme

TAIYO FUKAI

Economic & Social Research Institute & UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

Many countries are struggling to provide childcare services to help people balance work and family life, but the focus has tended to be on building new facilities rather than making more effective use of existing facilities. In this study, we estimated the critical structural parameters for the supply of childcare services and conducted policy simulations by scrutinizing the institutional design of public childcare services in Japan. Specifically, we focused on the amount of money each facility receives per child admitted, or the unit cost of childcare, which is funded by a combination of government subsidies and user fees. As this amount decreases discontinuously with the size of the facility, this creates an incentive for facilities to not increase their size any further, which causes facilities to bunch at a threshold. This degree of bunching has information that allows us to identify structural parameters that specify how elastic the supply of capacity is to the unit cost. Policy simulations using this model show that it is possible to expand the supply of childcare centers without increasing the burden on either government or users by eliminating these discontinuities.

APR
2

Ageing & Population Decline: Implications for Sustainability in the Urban Century in Japan & Globally

MARCIN PAWEL JARZEBSKI

Tokyo College

Currently many parts of the world, especially urbanized countries, experience a major demographic transition characterized by an ageing and declining population, and Japan is one of the most rapidly going through this process. The ageing and declining population bring tremendous challenges for societies but also it provides opportunities for a positive changed towards more sustainable societies. The purpose of this presentation is to rationalize this interface by (a) identifying the challenges and opportunities that ageing and declining urban populations will have for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and (b) identifying some emerging interventions to capitalize on the opportunities and reduce the challenges.

APR
9

Apology in Foreign Policy: Why an Apology is Made by a State

ASAKO TAKASHIMA

UTokyo Institute for Advanced Global Studies

As the history problem became an issue for Japanese foreign policy since around 1990, the issue started to be targeted academically. Many studies have laid focus on the concept of apology. However, an apology which is accepted by an apologized country can be different according to situations. Thus, the question should not be which apology is accepted or not, but why an apologizing country would make an apology even when it may not be accepted. To answer these questions, this paper will shed light on how the Japanese government apologized to other countries from the viewpoint of political narrative. A detailed analysis of the Japanese Prime Ministers' annual greetings on 15th August at the Memorial Ceremony of the War Dead and the Prime Ministers' talks (Danwa) which are presented around 15th August regarding the anniversary of the end of the War will allow us to understand why an apology is made or not.

GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM

The TCJS Graduate Student Forum invites Japan-focused graduate students to present their dissertation research and solicit feedback in a weekly online forum, hosted by the UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies.

NOV
17

Employment Effect of Minimum Wages in Dual Economy: Evidence from Thailand

SAISAWAT SAMUTPRADIT | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

When there is a sector not covered by the minimum wage law, the two-sector model predicts that minimum wage increase pushes workers from formal to informal employment. Using Thai data from 2010 to 2015, during which the country experienced an irregular increase in minimum wages of about 60 percent, I found no impact on overall employment but an employment reduction in the sector covered by the minimum wage legislation and an increase in the size of the uncovered sector. Although Japan had a much smaller uncovered sector of approximately 10 percent of total employment, an increase in minimum wages could displace workers from regular employment to self-employment or family business.

DEC
1

Intrahousehold Property Ownership & Women's Labor Market Behavior

XINWEI DONG | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

This study investigates the effect of intrahousehold property ownership change on married women's labor market behaviors, using an exogenous institutional change in the marriage law in China.

JAN
12

Quiet Acquisition: The Politics of Justification in Japan's Military Capability Trajectory

DEIDRE MARTIN | University of California, Berkeley

What explains variation in acquisition strategies advanced industrialized states adopt when attempting to develop their security capacity? States' defense programs vary widely; patterns of acquisition often vary and rarely exclusively reflect pressing security threats. Furthermore, most developed industrial democracies face significant political and budgetary constraints when attempting to build up their defense capabilities; while they are usually able to develop anything they want, they are unlikely to be able to develop everything that they want. States' security policy development patterns, therefore, represent the result of strategic choices, have important implications for states' international interactions and relationships, and provide clues regarding domestic priorities, constraints, and intent.

JAN
19**Japan's Path to Multicultural Coexistence:
Children's Names and Culture at a Local Preschool**

YUKI NAGAE | UTokyo Graduate School of Information

This study looks at one Japanese preschool in an area that has historically been home to people from diverse socio-cultural backgrounds. Using children's names as a key point of inquiry, it examines how people interpret "culture" and attempt "co-existence" in their daily lives. There are two reasons I consider preschools. First, preschools are community centers that build relationships with local residents through child-raising. Second, preschools are institutions which provide early-childhood education and childcare to develop children's social skills.

JAN
26**Establishment Dynamics in Post-War Japan:
Disappearing Startup and Shrinking Size**

ZHU XUANLI | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

This paper documents three important but largely undocumented facts on the evolution of the establishment dynamism in post-war Japan. First, the entry rate continues to decrease since the late 1950s, along with a declined and stagnated exit rate. As a result, the population of business units keeps growing older. Second, the average size of establishments fall substantially in the 1960s and 1970s, especially in manufacturing and construction sectors. Third, the average life cycle growth of the establishments that enter in a typical year is low, and correlated with the cohort's average size at birth. We find that while the decline in labor force growth rate can account for most of the decline in entry rate, labor friction costs, either distorted or not, fail to explain the declined average establishment size and the retarded life cycle growth. Finally we argue that the evolution of the subcontracting in post-war Japan may contribute to the patterns in average establishment size and average life cycle growth that we observed.

FEB
2**The Market and the Red Carpet: Value Transforming Platforms,
Social Networks, and the Transnational Film Industry Circuit
in Asia and Beyond**

STEN-KRISTIAN SALUVEER | UTokyo Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies

The PhD thesis draws by the the recent emergence of the discipline film festival studies, by providing a pioneering look behind the scenes of the international film festival circuit and the inner mechanics between the red carpet spectacle of the film festival, and the forces of capital and practice within the film and content markets that supply the festival with talent, content and finance. Specifically the work examines the historical, technological and cultural forces behind the transnationalization of the film festival and the market, the actors, networks and practices of the film industry circuit, the dichotomous relationship in transforming cultural capital to fiscal capital between the red carpet and the market, as well as cosmopolitan identity building activities in the global film community through the technology of assemblage of international co-productions.

FEB
9**Dynamic Mechanisms and Heterogeneity of Urban Land Ownership**

RISA KOBAYASHI | UTokyo Graduate School of Engineering

I assumed that landowners' land ownership behaviors were at the edge of urban development and changes in urban space and that modeling their behavioral norms could provide insights into urban planning. I constructed a model of landowner preferences for land ownership patterns that take into account landowner heterogeneity and time preference. The model is validated using the old land registers used in modern times in Japan.

FEB
16

Civic Groups and Japanese Local Assemblies' Foreign Policies: A Panel Data Analysis of Resolutions Regarding North Korea (1993~2018)

SO HYUNG LEE | UTokyo Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Over the last few years, Japanese prefectural assemblies have issued a considerable number of resolutions concerning North Korea. However, those numbers vary throughout the whole Japanese 47 prefectural assemblies. What accounts for such variation in the number of resolutions concerning North Korea that each legislative body adopts? What are the main factors influencing the local assemblies to adopt bills concerning North Korea? In order to explain the varying numbers of written opinion and resolution adoption across prefectures, this research empirically studies the impact of civic groups on local government using original panel data on the whole Japanese 47 prefectures from 1993 to 2018.

FEB
25

Transition to Broader-Based Politics: The Role of Suffrage Extension in Early 20th Century Japan

SHUHEI KAINUMA | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

Modern industrialisation typically coincides with gradual democratisation through enfranchisement and intra-elite competition between traditional landlords and emerging capitalists. Does the redistribution of the de jure political power through suffrage extension provoke the transition in intra-elite power structures reflected in political representation? This study explores suffrage extension, induced by the wartime tax increase during the mid-1900s Japan, and its regional heterogeneity to estimate its impact on the occupational composition of the House of Representatives.

MAR
2

Baby Boom in Post-War Japan: Analysis with Individual Data

ERIKA IGARASHI | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

Between 1947 and 1949, Japan experienced a high fertility crude birth rate of over 32%. This period is well known as the baby boom. There has been little empirical research on the conventional theory regarding the baby boom period in Japan due to a lack of data on the characteristics of pregnant women. My study examines the high fertility in the postwar period using individual documents to identify the characteristics of the pregnant women. And I measure the relationship between pregnant women in the baby boom period and demobilized soldiers. I can verify the effectiveness of other factors contributing to the birth rate because the documents contain information about household income, land area, and family composition.

MAR
9

Ruikatsu Activities in Tokyo: Exploring the Link between Crying and Mental Health

CARLOTA SOLA MARSINACH | University of Oxford

While ruikatsu is presented as an activity aiming to improve mental health by relieving stress through crying, I will argue that ruikatsu is in fact understood and used in two different ways. On the one hand, ruikatsu is used as a tool to relieve stress and thus be able to control oneself and endure in 'normal daily life.' On the other, ruikatsu is used to facilitate the expression of one's honne in order to strengthen bonds with others and improve communication, be it in the personal sphere or in the workplace. In this way, in my presentation I will show how these two understandings and uses of ruikatsu reveal two competing views regarding emotional expression in Japan, and how these views are tied to broader medical and socio-political stances.

MAR
16

Theorizing Social Inclusion of Immigrants and Persons with Disabilities through Urban/Peri-urban Agriculture: Implications from Canada and Japan

AKANE BESSHO | Tokyo College

In this study, we focus on urban/peri-urban agriculture as potential space for social inclusion of immigrants and persons with disabilities. For the first part of the presentation, I will discuss a multiethnic community farm in Toronto, Canada as a case study to explore the process of immigrants' "role shift." For the second part, I will present preliminary findings of the nationwide survey on organizations engaging in agricultural activities with persons with disabilities, identifying their motivations, scales, and current challenges.

MAR
23

An Economic Analysis of Childcare Policy in Japan

RAFAELA YOSHIY OLIVARES | UTokyo Graduate School of Economics

As Brazilian community celebrates thirty years of immigration in Japan, the integration of young migrants to Japanese society has become a matter that requires more and more attention. Research data indicates that compared to students from Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese background, Brazilian students have the lowest educational achievement reaching only 60% of high school enrolment and 10% of Japanese university enrolment, not to mention the high dropout rate.

In this research, I conducted semi-constructed interview with students and educators of three different types of ethnic non-formal education (ENFE) – distance higher-education, job training and language learning - to identify their role in the empowerment of migrant youth as well as their limitations.

MAR
30

Religious Spaces and the Development of Tama New Town

YU TAKAHARA | UTokyo Institute of Industrial Science

After WW2, urban areas in Japan have experienced many developments caused by the growth of population. What such developments have almost always encountered in their construction site are religious spaces such as shrines, temples and Jizos because they are everywhere in human's habitat. They are still so important for our continuous living environment that the relationship between urban development and religious spaces should be discussed. Nevertheless, such discussion seldom conducted so far in Japan.

This study examines how and why religious spaces changed by Tama New Town project(1965-2005), a typical of huge public urban developments in the post-war Japan. Through fieldwork, interviews and investigating related documents, I analyze how the Japanese urban development valued and designed religious spaces and what is the effect of their renewal on the new town. This study will contribute to realizing multi-cultural city which is needed in contemporary diverse society by giving consideration on collaboration of two different features, modernity of urban development and premodernity of religious spaces.

APR
6

Indirect Patent Infringement in China and Japan

ZHU ZIYIN | UTokyo Graduate Schools of Law & Politics

The so-called indirect patent infringement can be generally understood as manufacturing or selling parts of the patent. In most countries, it is set as a principle that unless an assumed product contains all the technical elements described in the patent claim, it should not be deemed as an infringement. However, with the indirect infringement rule, even if some elements are unfulfilled, the manufacturing or selling such product is still prohibited. The difficulty is under which situation can and should the principle be broken, or to say how should the requirements of indirect infringement be designed in law. This study would like to point out the questions remained unclear in China based on the current situation and then take the Japanese law as a comparison to try to find the answers.

APR
13

How Do Hobbies Connect People? Focusing on Homophily

NAOKI MAEJIMA | UTokyo Graduate School of Humanities & Sociology

In this presentation, I will discuss the possibility that online media and hobbies can connect heterogeneous people. As the proverb says, "birds of a feather flock together." People who have similar social attributes tend to become friends naturally, without any help. In sociology, this tendency is called "homophily." Homophily is a universally observed and strongly robust tendency in social network formation. However, under what conditions can the mechanism of homophily be weakened? I will introduce two research findings. First, from fieldwork in a high-school classroom, it was revealed that the online social network was less homophilous than the offline. Second, ongoing research shows that the intermarriage rate is higher among couples who meet through their hobbies than couples who meet through other opportunities.

APR
20

Thinking about Modern Japanese Architecture & Society through Architecture Competitions

RYOSUKE YOSHINO | UTokyo Department of Architecture

The purpose of this presentation is to reveal the characteristics of modern Japanese society through a survey of architecture design competitions. In case of Japan National Stadium, the main stadium for The 2020 Summer Olympics and Paralympics, Zaha Hadid's proposal, which won the competition, was subjected to censure, and her plan was rejected and the competition was redone. This was an event that presented the negative history of competitions in Japan, and suggested how many difficulties are involved in the competition process in Japan, where the social functions of architects and competitions are not fully understood. Looking back on the history of competitions in Japan, I would like to discuss the relationship between architecture and society.

APR
27

The Secret to Making Japanese Food More Delicious: Japan's National Mold, Koji Kin

CHAN LU | UTokyo Graduate School of Agricultural & Life Sciences

Japan's national mold—*Aspergillus oryzae*, generally called Koji Kin, is the mold traditionally used in Japanese food fermentation industries for centuries, including sake, soy sauce and miso. Hence, its breeding is significantly important for Japanese food culture. In nature, Koji Kin has not been found to be able via male and female mating for breeding, just like animals or plants. However, recent research has revealed that Koji Kin actually has two types of sex, and it may become possible to carry out cross breeding. For mating, cells need to survive after fusion. We have found that there are various affinity preference combinations among different pairs of Koji Kin strains, some of which can be compatible with each other and others cannot. If we clarify the critical genes causing incompatibility and then break the cell fusion barrier, it is expected to produce new Koji Kin with more taste and flavor, which can make Japanese food more delicious than before, and meet the appetite of more people in the whole world.

MAY
6

Gender Inequality Among Japan's Elderly as Seen through Household Labor Division in Elderly Married Households

TAE EUN KIM | UTokyo Graduate School of Humanities & Sociology

As women's participation in economic activities increased, discussions on the share of housework were actively carried out, but many previous studies showed that men's share of household chores is still much lower than that of women's participation in economic activities, and that women are placed under the double burden of work and housework (Hochschild and Machung, 2012). However, most of the previous studies on the distribution of housework have focused on the distribution of housework in the active generation. Housework for the elderly has not received much attention than the current generation, but it can be seen as a very important topic from the perspective of the recent progression of aging and inequality. The purpose of this study is to confirm the wife's share of housework in the household share of elderly couples, and to examine what factors affect the wife's share of housework from the perspective of a relative resource.

CONFERENCES

DEC
16

UTokyo x Waseda Political Science Colloquium: Session 1

MAKOTO GONOKAMI | President, The University of Tokyo
AIJI TANAKA | President, Waseda University
AKIRA INOUE | The University of Tokyo
MASARU KOHNO | Waseda University
AIRO HINO | Waseda University
KENNETH MORI MCELWAIN | The University of Tokyo

JAN
14

UTokyo x Waseda Political Science Colloquium: Session 2

RUI ASANO | Waseda University
TOMOKI KANEKO | The University of Tokyo

FEB
22

Gender in Japan Series: 日本のジェンダー格差、なぜ解消しないのか CHIZUKO UENO | The University of Tokyo & Women's Action Network (WAN)

We have spent a year in the grip of the COVID-19 pandemic. Times of crisis tend not to bring forth new and unprecedented change, but rather to exacerbate and amplify the familiar contradictions of everyday life. It has been those women who were already in dire straits to begin with who have felt this burden most keenly. How can a country have the world's third largest GDP, and yet rank 121st in gender equality? This is a puzzle—and a problem—for Japanese society. By the same token, it is a puzzle—and a problem—that the University of Tokyo's ratio of female student enrollment cannot break past 20%, even though we live in an age when four-year college enrollment rates for both men and women are about 50%.

MAR
1

UTokyo x Waseda Political Science Colloquium: Session 3

RIEKO KAGE | The University of Tokyo
ANTONIO BENASAGLIO BERLUCCHI | Waseda University

MAR
17

Demography & Inequality in East Asia Conference: Should We Discuss East Asian Demographics using a Social-Stratification Framework?

YU XIE | Princeton University
JAMES RAYMO | Princeton University
ISHIDA HONDA | The University of Tokyo
SAWAKO SHIRAHASE | The University of Tokyo

MAR
24

Gender in Japan Series: Married Japanese Salarywomen's Strategies for Maintaining Careers & Well-Being in the 2000s

GLENDA ROBERTS | Waseda University

This talk will focus on a question I asked in my 2019 Japan Focus publication, 'Leaning Out for the Long Span,' asking, how do women in ordinary career positions maintain both their careers and their well-being when their husbands are rarely able to substantially contribute to childrearing and domestic management? I will discuss the building a career over the long span of marriage and childrearing, and the choices ordinary salary women make not to lean in too far, while enlisting intergenerational support in order to manage their family lives. While such strategies may not propel married women into the ranks of upper management, they are survival strategies while the children are growing up. ata come from a longitudinal set of fourteen women in the same Tokyo corporation, whom I have been interviewing at 3-5 year intervals since 2003.

COMMUNITY NEWS

James Raymo | Princeton University

Published a paper on marriage intentions in Japan: Raymo, James M., Fumiya Uchikoshi, and Shohei Yoda. 2021. "Marriage Intentions, Desires, and Pathways to Later and Less Marriage in Japan." *Demographic Research* 44: 67–98.

Steven Vogel | U.C. Berkeley

Serves as co-chair of the Network for a New Political Economy, a new initiative to rethink political economy and develop an alternative intellectual paradigm to neoliberalism. He co-authored (with co-chair Neil Fligstein) a manifesto for a new political economy in *Boston Review*, available on the Network home page: newpoliticaleconomy.berkeley.edu

Michiko Suzuki | The University of Tokyo

Has a forthcoming journal article: "Japanese Red Cross Society' s Emergency Responses in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, 1945." *Social Science Japan Journal*, 2021. London: Oxford University Press. This article explores the previously unstudied records of the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), which narrate the heroic tale of the Red Cross personnel who carried-out the organisation' s emergency response in the immediate aftermath of the nuclear detonations in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. JRCS aid works walked into 'ground zero' to render aid to civilians, soldiers and Allied POWs without discrimination. This article argues that their actions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki were attributable to strict quasi-military training, which transcended the ideology of an Imperialist institution.

Ryohei Mogi | Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics

Has the following journal articles forthcoming (1) Mogi, R. & Spijker, J. (forthcoming). The influence of social and economic ties to the spread of COVID-19 in Europe. *Journal of Population Research*; (2) Riffe, T., Acosta, E., ..., Mogi, R., et al. (forthcoming). A database of age-structured COVID-19 cases and deaths (COVERAGE-DB). *International Journal of Epidemiology*; (3) Lazzari, E., Mogi, R., & Canudas-Romo, V. (forthcoming). Educational gradient and parity contribution to completed cohort fertility decline in low fertility settings. *Population Studies*; (4) Mogi, R., Nisén, J., & Canudas-Romo, V. (2021). Cross-sectional average length of life childless. *Demography* 8937427.

Daiji Kawaguchi | The University of Tokyo

Has a forthcomin a paper with Yuko Mori in the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*: "Estimating the Effects of the Minimum Wage Using the Introduction of Indexation."



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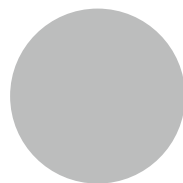
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