

東京大学現代日本研究センター

2021年度年次報告書

UTokyo
Center for Contemporary
Japanese
Studies

2021
Annual Report

IN THIS ISSUE

FROM the DIRECTOR	03
TCJS in NUMBERS	04
OUR MEMBERS	06
Board Members	
Associates	
International Advisory Board	
RESEARCH	08
Gender in Japan	
Japanese Politics in the 21st Century	
Demography & Inequality in East Asia	
2021-22 EVENTS	12
Seminar Series	
Early-Career Scholar Forum	
Graduate Student Forum	
Gender in Japan Series	
Conferences	
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	33
Global Japan Studies	
COMMUNITY NEWS	34

FROM the DIRECTOR

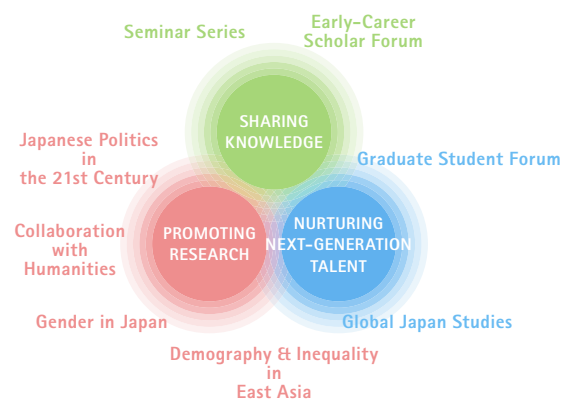
It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies (TCJS) has been quite active during the 2021 academic year, and I am proud of our activities which invited around 80 speakers from various research backgrounds and nationalities, including many talented graduate students, for seminars. I learnt a good deal from each presentation, and I am confident that the participants of the seminars and workshops felt the same. We are all in the middle of a tough time suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic, but I am sure we can overcome this global risk by actively working together to search for better lives. We now realized clearly how important and valuable international collaborations across different disciplines and with different approaches on common social issues are.

The primary aim of TCJS is to become a platform that is open to all researchers, young and senior, from all over the world to discuss social issues found not only in Japan but also in other nations and regions. Thus, we wish that TCJS would continue to play a critical role in stimulating innovative global collaborations and research in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, as well as being a driving force to encourage various types of innovations to contribute to the future of our planet. We will continue to work hard to explore such paths beyond those prescribed by traditional Japanese studies. We appreciate your continued support as we forge ahead in the years to come.



SHIRAHASE Sawako

Director, UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies
Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology
The University of Tokyo



TCJS in NUMBERS

What We Have Achieved

As of 2/28/2022

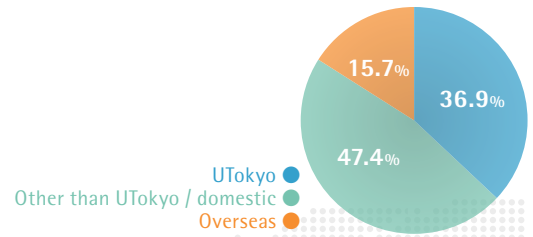
Seminar Series

Presentations by Senior Researchers

Conducted Once a Month

Total Number of Seminars = **13**

Total Number of Attendees = **260**



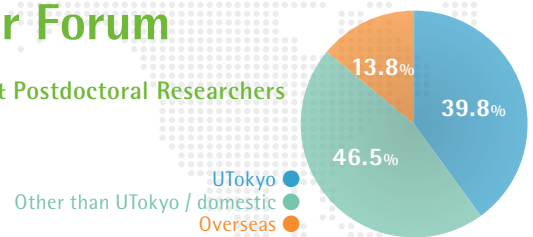
Early-Career Scholar Forum

Presentations by Assistant Professors & Postdoctoral Researchers

Conducted Once a Week

Total Number of Seminars = **27**

Total Number of Attendees = **437**



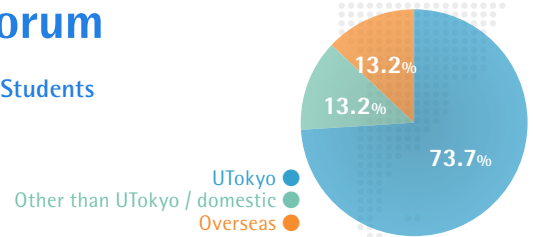
Graduate Student Forum

Presentations by Second Year Graduate Students

Conducted Once a Week

Total Number of Seminars = **22**

Total Number of Attendees = **194**



The graphs above show the breakdown of participant data for TCJS Seminar Series, Early Career Scholars Forum, and Graduate Student Forum respectively. While the characteristics of each event series are different, one common thing among these three events is that one in eight participants are from overseas. In addition, for Seminar Series and Early Career Scholars Forum, half of the participants in Japan are from outside of UTokyo, which shows how TCJS is well known, not only inside of UTokyo but outside of the University as well.

We would also like to mention that during AY2021, we have successfully co-hosted a symposium with the Science Council of Japan under the topic of "Dividing society under the COVID-19 pandemic: Focusing on the gender gap" and a session with the National Taiwan University focusing on the "Social Impacts of COVID-19 on Japan and Taiwan". Participant data from these two events are not included in the graphs above, however, we are pleased to report that both events had many audiences from all over the world.

TCJS in NUMBERS

What We Have Achieved

AFFILIATION OF PRESENTERS

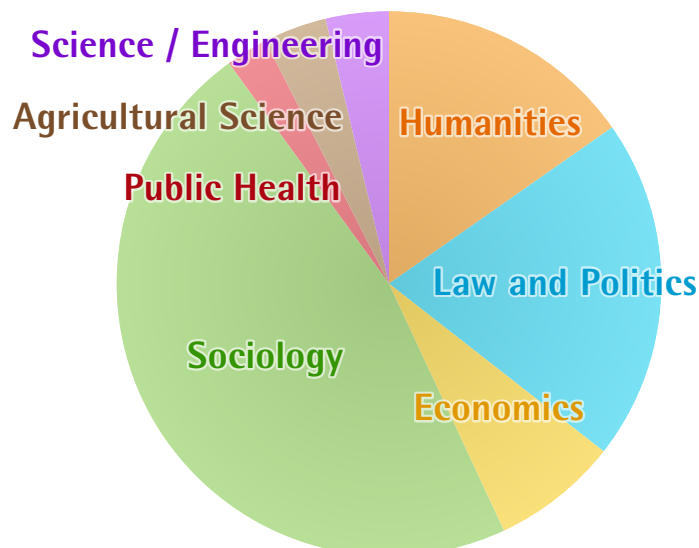
OVERSEAS

UCentre d'Estudis Demogràfics
Harvard University
Indiana University
Massachusetts General
Hospital
MIT
National Taiwan University
Northeastern University
University of Oxford
Princeton University
UC Berkeley
University of British Columbia
University of Pennsylvania
University of
Wisconsin-Madison
Yale University
Yonsei University

JAPAN

Aoyama Gakuin University
Women's Action Network
Gakushuin University
Kwansei Gakuin University
Kyushu University
Keio University
Kokushikan University
National Institute of Population
and Social Security Research
Seikei University
Chuo University
Tsuda University
Tokyo Woman's Christian
University
The University of Tokyo
Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of
Gerontology
Japan Women's University
Hitotsubashi University
Mejiro University
Waseda University

NUMBERS OF PRESENTERS BY DISCIPLINE



OUR MEMBERS

Board Members

SHIRAHASE Sawako



Director, UTokyo Center for Contemporary Japanese Studies and Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo

Kenneth Mori MCELWAIN



Professor, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo

OKAZAKI Tetsuji



Professor, Graduate School of Economics, The University of Tokyo

SAITO Mareshi



Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology and Director, Humanities Center, The University of Tokyo

YOSHIMI Shunya



Professor, Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo

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Associate Professor, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo

KAGE Rieko



Professor, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo

KATO Koichi



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KAWAGUCHI Daiji



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MAKIHARA Izuru



Professor, Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology, The University of Tokyo

MARUYAMA Jun-ichi



Project Professor, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo

Kenneth Mori MCELWAIN



Professor, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo

MINO Takashi



Deputy Director and Project Professor, Tokyo College, The University of Tokyo

MIZUNO Hirota



Project Assistant Professor, Humanities Center, The University of Tokyo

NUKAGA Misako



Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education, The University of Tokyo

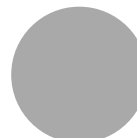
OUR MEMBERS

OKAZAKI Tetsuji



Professor, Graduate School of Economics, The University of Tokyo

SATO Yukiko



Associate Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, The University of Tokyo

TAMARUYA Masayuki



Professor, Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, The University of Tokyo

TOYA Riina



Associate Professor, Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo

WATANAVE Hidenori



Professor, Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo

International Advisory Board Members

Mary C. Brinton



Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology and Director, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University

Gerald L Curtis



Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Columbia University

Roger Goodman



Nissan Professor of Modern Japanese Studies and Warden of St. Antony's College, University of Oxford

Andrew Gordon



Lee and Juliet Folger Fund Professor of History, Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University

John Lie



C.K. Cho Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley

Hugh Patrick



R. D. Calkins Professor of International Business Emeritus at Columbia Business School Columbia University

PARK Cheol Hee



Dean and Professor, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University

James M. Raymo



Professor, Department of Sociology, Princeton University

Arthur Stockwin



Emeritus Fellow, St Antony's College and the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies University of Oxford

Steven Vogel



Chair of the Political Economy Program, the Il Han New Professor of Asian Studies, Professor of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

RESEARCH

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 one of the most important and urgent issues in Japan today. Unfortunately, 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. We initiated the Gender in Japan Seminar Series and invited speakers not only from academia but also from the government and business areas. There were many audiences for this series, and we confirmed that these issues on gender attract many people and are globally very important, particularly under COVID-19.

May 11

Mary C. Brinton

Harvard University

"Why Gender Inequality in Japan is Alive and Well"

May 26

Machiko Osawa

Japan Women's University

"Japan's Work-Life Balance Reconsidered"

July 7

Atsuko Muraki

Tsuda University

「女性活躍」のための政策の動向と残された課題 ～若草プロジェクトの活動から見てきたもの～ (Women's Empowerment Policy Trends & Remaining Issues: Lessons from the Little Women Project)

RESEARCH

Gender in Japan



Sep 19

Joint Symposium with the Science Council of Japan

「コロナ禍における社会の分断 ジェンダー格差に着目して」

(Dividing society under the COVID-19 pandemic: Focusing on the gender gap)

Sep 30

Young-Mi Kim

Yonsei University

“Female Managers and the Gender Wage Gap: Workgroup Gender Composition Matters”

Dec 17

Margarita Estevez-Abe

Syracuse University

“Gender, Partnership and Preferences for Work-Family Reconciliation Policies”

Jan 27

Yukako Uchinaga

Japan Women's Innovative Network (J-WIN)

経営戦略としてのダイバーシティ・マネジメント(Diversity Management as Business Strategy)

Feb 17

Sawako Naito

Mayor of Tokushima City

若手女性首長としてのやりがいと苦勞 (Challenges and Hardships as a Young Female Mayor)

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, 2020, featured a discussion about the social relevance and future pathways of political science research by GONOKAMI Makoto (President at the time, UTokyo) and TANAKA Aiji (President of Waseda). Collectively the Colloquium featured eight presentations by faculty and graduate students in the 2020-21 academic year.

RESEARCH



Demography & Inequality in East Asia

a collaboration with Princeton University

East Asia, including Japan, is one of the best fields to scrutinize current demographic issues represented by lowering fertility rates and aging population. We can find both commonalities and differences within East Asia, and we believe it would be more valuable to study it with cross-national perspectives of Europe, North and South America, and other Asian regions. Based on the common interests of the members of the University of Tokyo and Princeton University, we decided to build a platform 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. We have held five seminars so far under this project.

2021-22 EVENTS

List of Presenters



SEMINAR SERIES

p.13-16

Keiko Kunitoki	Masafumi Funato	Makiko Mitsunami
Takahiro Kinoshita	Michael R. Reich	Christina Laffin
Takashi Shimizu	Pei-Chia Lan	Gracia Liu-Farrer
Ekaterina Hertog	Jon Metzler	Jeff Kingston
Setsuya Fukuda	Kentaro Matsubara	Masaaki Mizuochi
Michinao Okachi	Takeshi Wada	Shintaro Yamaguchi

EARLY-CAREER SCHOLAR FORUM

p.17-23

Marcin Pawel Jarzebski	Asako Takashima	Hilary Holbrow
Naoko Hosokawa	Yujin Woo	Ryota Mugiyama
Toshiaki Shoji	Paula Curtis	Kaori Sato
Naoki Iguchi	Subodhana Wijeyeratne	Masaki Takahashi
Masako Tanaka	Adrienne Sala	Shohei Okamoto
Chigusa Okamoto	Taro Tsuda	Travis Seifman
Jordan Hamzawi	Isami Sawai	Eureka Foong
Tomoyuki Narisawa	Tomoko Matsumoto	Eunmi Mun
Yuki Asahina	Dea Bankova	Yuya Shibuya
Yuko Nakata	Nagafumi Nakamura	

GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM

p.24-29

Ziyin Zhu	Naoki Maejima	Chan LU
Taeun Kim	Liu Yifan	Jia Wang
Bjol Frenkenberger	Mina Pollmann	John Hayashi
Trevor Incerti	Niccolo Lollini	Naoko Uehara
Xiaoxing Wang	Fumiya Uchikoshi	Kaho Osaki
Jonas Rüegg	Toshiki Kawashima	Shiro Furuya
Eiji Unakami	YE Peng	Hikaru Yamagishi
See Pok Loa	Wataru Kawabe	Toshihide Takayanagi

GENDER IN JAPAN SERIES

p.30-31

Mary C. Brinton	Machiko Osawa	Atsuko Muraki
Young-Mi Kim	Margarita Estevez-Abe	Yukako Uchinaga
Sawako Naito		

CONFERENCES

p.32

2021-22 EVENTS



SEMINAR SERIES

APRIL 14

Moving Towards Vaccine Confidence for HPV Vaccine in Japan: Analysis and Proposals

KEIKO KUNITOKI | MD, MPH

MASAFUMI FUNATO | MD, MPH

MAKIKO MITSUNAMI | MD

TAKAHIRO KINOSHITA | MD, MPH

MICHAEL R. REICH | PhD

Vaccine hesitancy is a growing concern in global public health and illustrates serious problems arising from lack of social trust. We analyzed Japan's human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine crisis, which started with a rapid decline in the vaccination rate from approximately 70% to less than 1% and lasting until now, using a framework for examining barriers to access and use of health technologies according to four categories: architecture, availability, affordability, and adoption. Significant problems were identified in the architecture of the policy-making process, public information availability, adoption of evidence in decision-making body, knowledge and confidence among providers, and social trust from end-users. We propose a series of actions for key stakeholders (national government, municipalities, professional associations, politicians, civil society, and mass media). Through this case, we discuss how to build mutual trust, which is required to increase social trust in the vaccine and thereby regain vaccine confidence and reduce preventable deaths.

APRIL 28

"Premodern Japanese Studies" and Public Scholarship

CHRISTINA LAFFIN | University of British Columbia

This lecture will offer an overview of "Premodern Japanese Studies" in Canada and the US and an introduction to projects undertaken as "Public Humanities" initiatives. I will focus on the positioning of Japan and the Humanities at institutions in Canada, the US, and Japan and scholarly responses to perceived threats to the Humanities. How has the study of premodern Japan transformed over the past century and how is this linked to institutional structures and approaches such as Japanology, Japan(ese) studies, and transnational studies? How have scholars of premodern Japan tied their work to the influence of popular culture and political assertions of soft power? What potential is there for the "Public Humanities" framework to transform boundaries between disciplines or transcend traditional delineations between academic and public audiences. And can a better understanding of these issues offer any strategies for some of challenges Humanities scholars may face in Japan?

MAY 12

Infectious Diseases & Management: A Retrospective Look at Japanese Society before World War II

TAKASHI SHIMIZU | the University of Tokyo

In Japan (as well as in other countries) before World War II, people had been suffered from infectious diseases – such as the Spanish flu, Tuberculosis (TB), or Dysentery and resulting high risks of losing their lives, health or money. Japanese companies as well as their stakeholders – such as employees, consumers and shareholders – had to cope with such risks and a future uncertainty caused by them. In this seminar, I will investigate how they dealt with such risks and uncertainty and try to show that they built mutual trusts and established cooperative relationships to manage such risks and uncertainty. I will also discuss what are lessons we can learn from history to survive in the era of COVID-19.

JUNE 30

Contested Skill Regime and Divergent Migration Infrastructure: Comparing the Recruitment of Foreign Care Workers in Japan and Taiwan

PEI-CHIA LAN | National Taiwan University

Recent scholars have problematized the social construction of skills and competency in labor migration policies and governance. The formation of skill regime is especially ambivalent in the sector of migrant care work, characterized by feminization, racialization, and familism. This talk examines the divergence of migration policies and infrastructure in two major receiving countries in East Asia. Taiwan and Japan, both facing population aging and labor shortage, have nevertheless recruited foreign caregivers in distinct ways. Taiwan started the guest worker policy in the early 1990s and most care workers are recruited via for-profit brokers and placed at home. Only recently did Japan widen the gate for migrant caregivers through multiple tracks, including EPA (Economic Partnership Agreement) candidates, students, trainees, and "specified skills visa" workers; all of them are employed by care facilities and prohibited from working at private households. The comparison demonstrates how receiving states and migrant brokers co-participate in the formation of global care chains through the practice of recruitment, training, and visa documentation.

2021-22 EVENTS



JULY 14

Transnational Migration and Ethnic Business Involution: the Case of Indian–Nepali Restaurants in Japan

GRACIA LIU-FARRER | Waseda University

Researchers investigating immigrants' economic practices celebrate ethnic entrepreneurship as an alternative socioeconomic mobility strategy. Immigrants seize emerging market opportunities and utilize ethnic resources to achieve economic advancement when their entry into the mainstream labor market is blocked by language barriers or discrimination. Ethnic business can be involuted, however, leading to excessive internal competition, diminishing productivity and co-ethnic exploitation. This study uses the case of Nepalese immigrants' restaurant business in Japan to illustrate the characteristics and detriments of such involution. This study examines the transnational process that creates such an ethnic business. It explores the role of the immigration regime, the migration industry, and sociocultural characteristics of the immigrant community in shaping such an involuted ethnic business. It argues that an involuted ethnic business creates a situation of transnational precarity in which not only do immigrant workers have little means to achieve social and economic mobility in the host society but might also destabilize the socioeconomic foundation of the sending society.

SEP 15

THE FUTURE OF UNPAID WORK: How Could Automation Transform Time Spent on Housework and Care Work in the UK and Japan?

EKATERINA HERTOOG | Oxford University

Unpaid household work is a major activity that impacts economic and social well-being. It is essential for human reproduction and enables all other forms of work. Recent debates about the "future of work" have engaged with the impact of technology on labour from various perspectives but have yet to address unpaid labour. This paper addresses this gap by focusing on two questions: First, what is the likelihood that various types of unpaid work will be automated? Second, what is the likely impact of such automation on time savings and gender equality, notably by facilitating female participation in the paid labour market? We use three established estimates of the likelihood of automation of paid work occupations as proxies for the future likelihood of automation of similar housework and care work activities. We specifically match paid work occupations with a harmonized list of 19 housework and care work activities in UK and Japanese national time use data. This matching enables us to simulate several plausible scenarios of how automating a variety of unpaid work tasks may impact the unpaid workloads across gender and age groups. We find that most unpaid work activities are distributed within a range of 50 to 85 per cent across the two different automation likelihood scores. We analyze how the likely automation of these tasks is to decrease women's daily unpaid workload. We also run a simulation to investigate whether the reduction of the domestic load is sufficient for men and women currently outside of the labour market to take on full-time or part-time paid work. We estimate that automation could free 1.9–2.4% of women in Japan and 0.4–0.8% in the UK to take up full-time employment and 5.4–7.0% of Japanese women and 3.7–4.9% of British women to take on part-time jobs. The impact for men is much smaller than that for women, except for the potential full-time employment which is higher for British men compared to British women. The above is just one illustration of how labour-saving technology in the household can increase individuals' time use choices. Women may also choose to spend the newly available time to sleep more, develop their human capital, have more rest, etc. Our broader argument, therefore, is that automation could bring about increased personal choice which can lead to greater well-being.

OCT 6

Clusters: Locations, Ecosystems, and Opportunity

JON METZLER | the University of California, Berkeley

Clusters – or, more broadly, the economics of geography – has been topic of interest for decades, and indeed, Paul Krugman won his Nobel for his research on the subject! And in Japan, clusters have been viewed as essential for regional revitalization (地方創生). Remote work, and the Return to Work, adds a new wrinkle to the subject. Can cities that have not been able to replicate more successful clusters benefit from the pandemic and hybrid work?

OCT 27

The Politics of the Pandemic in Asia

JEFF KINGSTON | Temple University

The Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak since 2020 has had a variety of consequences, exacting a high death toll, swamping medical systems, derailing economic growth and saddling governments. The Covid-19 coronavirus outbreak since 2020 has had a variety of consequences, exacting a high death toll, swamping

2021-22 EVENTS



medical systems, derailing economic growth and saddling governments with massive debts. The pandemic has also had significant political consequences, facilitating democratic backsliding, shoring up authoritarian regimes, eroding digital and media freedoms and downsizing political leaders. In Japan, for example, PM Abe and Suga lost public trust due to perceptions they mismanaged the outbreak. Regional tensions have escalated due to intense public relations campaigns to assign blame and claim credit from vaccine diplomacy.

NOV 11

Social Consequences of the New Educational Assortative Mating in Japan
SETSUYA FUKUDA | National Institute of Population and Social Security Research

A recent study shows that the negative educational gradient in women's marriage in Japan has been reversed since 2005 and turned positive around 2013. The shift in educational gradient is brought by a decline in the marriage rates of homogamous marriages among less-educated women and an increase in the marriage rates of hypogamous marriages among highly educated women. While the consequences of this shift are important in understanding the mechanism of social inequalities in Japan, no systematic study has been conducted yet. By using nationally representative survey data, this study shows first descriptive results on how 1) the process of marriage, 2) economic and domestic role sharing, 3) family and gender values, 4) couple relationship and 5) fertility desire/outcome differ by educational pairings among Japanese married couples, and evaluates possible outcomes of the emerging new marriage pattern in Japan.

NOV 25

Property Regimes, Religious Power, and State Formation: Modern Transformation of the East Asian Region
KENTARO MATSUBARA | the University of Tokyo

This presentation focuses on the relationships between the protection of property and the formation of the state in Tokugawa Japan and Qing China, highlighting the differences in the roles of what we might call religious beliefs. The protection of the private property is seen as a basic function of the modern sovereign state. However, before the state systems of China and Japan were reformulated into modern sovereign states, the relationships between state bureaucracy and property regimes functioning at the level of local communities greatly differed in the two societies. This was partly due to different relationships between state bureaucracy and local communities. The difference in the formation of local communities was tightly connected to a difference in the roles of religious beliefs. Moreover, such differences in traditional social formation would influence the different ways in which China and Japan would integrate themselves into the Westphalian system of sovereign states in the 19th century.

Jan 13

Retirement Transition and its Outcome in Japan
MASAAKI MIZUOCHI | Nanzan University

Previous studies have not paid much attention to growing heterogeneity in the nature of retirement. Retirement does not always entail a clean departure from a career job and full withdrawal from the labor force but is often a complex process involving the gradual transition from full-time career employment to full retirement. Understanding the various retirement transitions is substantially important in the context of population aging, labor force shortages, changing pension policy, changing family environment, and growing poverty/inequality. Using a Longitudinal Survey of Middle-aged and Elderly Persons 2005-2019 collected in Japan, we classify the pattern of retirement transition by sequence analysis and examine the relationship between retirement transition type and individual attributes. Moreover, we estimate the effect of the pattern of retirement transition on some outcomes including health, subjective well-being, and economic condition in retirement life.

FEB 3

Current Japanese Sovereign Debt Situation and Policies to Mitigate a Crisis Triggered by Its Debt
MICHINAO OKACHI | the University of Tokyo

Many governments in advanced countries including Japan accumulate a large amount of sovereign debt. The IMF projects that the average sovereign debt-to-GDP ratio of advanced countries in 2021 will reach 123%, which is almost as same as the level after WWII. In terms of the Japanese case, many researchers estimate that its sovereign debt-to-GDP ratio will keep increasing because of high social security costs and interest payments. If this ratio is on the divergent path, it would not be sustainable for good and an economic crisis might be caused in the future. It will be beneficial to obtain a policy to mitigate the

2021-22 EVENTS



economic damage triggered by high public debt. He introduces several policies that the Japanese government can take when a sovereign debt crisis happens in Japan. Then, he explains his and prior research what kind of policy should the government take to minimize its effect in Japan.

FEB 24

Convention, Protest, or Violence? Explaining Tactical Choices in Contentious Political Events around the World

TAKESHI WADA | the University of Tokyo

Contentious political events—such as the collapses of socialist regimes around 1990, the Zapatista uprising in Mexico in 1994, the Arab Spring around 2010, and the Black Lives Matter movement since 2014—often catch us by surprise. Why do people use conventional tactics such as petitioning, voting, and lobbying to make claims at times, go out to protest publicly at other times, and even resort to violence on still other occasions? It appears that people's tactical choices are totally unpredictable, but the social movement literature suggests the contrary: their choices are highly predictable because these are dependent upon people's familiarity with the tactics. In a word, people cannot perform if they do not know how. This presentation explores such a cultural hypothesis about contentious tactics and repertoires and asks to what degree we can explain and predict tactical patterns. It conducts a cross-national comparison of tactical patterns using a data set of 10 million events worldwide, reported by Reuters, between 1990 and 2004.

MAR 17

Gender Gaps in the Labor Market in Japan

SHINTARO YAMAGUCHI | the University of Tokyo

Japan ranked 120th among 156 countries in the gender gap rankings in 2021. Focusing on gender gaps in the labor market, I review how they evolved in the last few decades and discuss how policies can narrow the gender gaps. Although the progress may be slow, the gender gaps have been steadily narrowing in the last few decades. Indeed, prime-age women's labor force participation rate in Japan has been higher than in the U.S. since 2015. While many factors seem to have contributed to this progress, I show empirical evidence that parental leave and childcare policies significantly increased women's labor supply. Unfortunately, the narrowing gender gaps stalled because of the COVID-19 pandemic that hurt women disproportionately. I argue that promoting men's participation in childcare and household chores is the key to further narrowing the gender gap in the labor market in Japan.

2021-22 EVENTS



EARLY-CAREER SCHOLAR FORUM

APR 2

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

MARCIN PAWEL JARZEBSKI | the University of Tokyo

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. Far from only posing only challenges, ageing and population shrinking can offer opportunities for many SDG targets. It is important to employ various technological, socioeconomic, institutional and governance interventions to leverage the opportunities and minimize the risks that the ageing and shrinking of urban populations will pose for long-term sustainability.

APR 9

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

ASAKO TAKASHIMA | the University of Tokyo

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.

MAY 14

Counterintuitive Effects of Restrictive Migration Policies

HILARY HOLBROW | Indiana University

Ostensibly, Japan's Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) brings interns from developing countries to Japan to learn advanced skills in manufacturing, construction, and agricultural firms. In reality, interns work menial jobs and receive little transferable training. But although COVID has underscored and magnified the vulnerable position of program participants, even the global pandemic has not laid bare the broader societal costs of TITP, which ultimately countermand the aims of the program and its proponents.

MAY 21

Inundating or Absorbed?

NAOKO HOSOKAWA | the University of Tokyo

Is the Japanese language inundated by loanwords? Or is it enriching itself by absorbing foreign vocabulary? We often hear such discussions in contemporary Japan. But why does this topic attract so much interest? This presentation is about her examination of public discussions on lexical borrowing. Through an analysis of recurrent wordings in the debates, she will shed light on an implicit contrast between 'national' and 'foreign' hidden in the metalinguistic discourse.

MAY 28

Public Perceptions of Citizenship and Migration in Japan

YUJIN WOO | Tohoku University

Is migration a plausible option in combating aging and shrinking population in countries with a strong emphasis on ethnic homogeneity? What kind of policies would be ideal to realize a multicultural society in such countries? To answer these questions, this presentation explores Japanese people's views on citizenship (who qualifies as "Japanese?") and migration (what kind of migrants are more favored?). Based on original survey results, it aims to provide evidence to influence policy discussions in regard to the recent debate over labor migrants in Japan. Specifically, it points out limitations with the current one-way assimilationist approaches pursued by the Japanese government and suggests a consolidation of social integration policies for both Japanese natives (i.e., recognizing and appreciating cultural diversities) and

2021-22 EVENTS



incoming migrants (i.e., understanding Japanese language and culture).

JUN 4

Why Does Non-regular Work Delay Marriage? A Role of Income and Job Characteristics across Relationship Status in Japan

RYOTA MUGIYAMA | Gakushuin University

Marriage timing has been delayed in parallel with the rise in non-regular employment in developed countries. However, little is known about why non-regular work is associated with delayed marriage. In addition, how the influence of non-regular work matters across different relationship status is still unclear. Using nationally representative panel survey data from Japan, we test two explanations—lack of economic independence and bad nonpecuniary job qualities—for why non-regular work is associated with delayed marriage across different relationship status. Considering differential expectation on breadwinner role, analyses are separately conducted by men and women. The results show that the association between non-regular work and delayed marriage is partly explained by lower income rather than worse job qualities. For men, lower income explains both the delayed formation of romantic relationship and the transition from romantic relationship to first marriage. For women, lower income has opposite mediating effect by different relationship status: the lower income delayed non-regular workers' formation of romantic relationship but prompt their transition from romantic relationship to first marriage. Although worse job qualities are significantly associated with the transition to marriage, they do not explain the effect of non-regular work for either men or women.

JUN 18

The Switch to Cashless Payments: Evidence from Japan's Point Reward Program

TOSHIAKI SHOJI | Seikei University

This paper uses credit card transaction data and examines the impact of Japan's point reward program for cashless payments. The main findings are as follows. First, the program increased the payment amount by 48-64 percent and the number of card users by 16-18 percent. Second, these impacts persisted even during the COVID-19 outbreak in April and May 2020 and after the program (in July 2020). Third, the program had larger impacts on firms that introduced payment machines after the program started than those already had payment machines.

JUN 25

Council on East Asian Studies

PAULA CURTIS | Yale University

The image of medieval Japan is often that of the warrior, with little attention paid to the producers, traders, and other humdrum individuals that provisioned people of all statuses, from agricultural laborers to emperors and their contemporaries. This talk brings into focus the activities of lower court nobility and metal casting artisan organizations, those who negotiated and supplied the crucial resources that kept elite events and everyday life functioning in premodern society. Focusing on the imperial court reveals how Matsugi Hisanao, a low-ranking courtier, reestablished lapsed patronage relationships with metal casters in the later sixteenth century. His pursuit of transregional business relations with casters and their provincial overlords was built upon a long legacy of economic and social privileges enjoyed by casters as purveyors of goods and services to the elite. And yet, much more than simple laborers, a close examination of caster prerogatives and modes of identification in text about them and metal objects by them reveals the permeability and fluidity of social status in medieval Japanese society, as well as how the labor of some of its least visible figures in and beyond the court were critical to the longevity of its most iconic institutions of authority.

JUL 2

Mental Health Effects of Long Work Hours, Night & Weekend Work, and Short Rest Periods

KAORI SATO | Kokushikan University

Although the prior literature has examined the relationship between work schedule characteristics and worker mental health, establishing the causal effect of work schedule characteristics is challenging because of endogeneity issues. This paper investigates how various work schedule characteristics affect workers' mental health using employee surveys and actual working hours recorded over seventeen months in a Japanese manufacturing company. Our sample includes 1334 white-collar workers and 786 blue-collar workers observed from 2015 to 2016. Our major findings are as follows: long working hours cause the mental health of white-collar workers to deteriorate even after controlling for individual fixed effects. Furthermore, working on weekends is associated with mental ill health—the negative effect of an hour

2021-22 EVENTS



increase in weekend work is one and a half to two times larger than that of weekday overtime work for white-collar workers. On the other hand, short rest periods are not associated with mental health for them. Our results indicate that taking a relatively long rest period on weekends is more important for keeping white-collar workers healthy than ensuring a sufficient daily rest period. Regarding blue-collar workers, our analysis reveals that working after midnight is associated with mental ill health, whereas short rest periods are not associated with their mental health. This suggests that the strain of night work is a more important determinant of mental health for blue-collar workers. The differences in the relationship between work schedule characteristics and workers' mental health for white-collar and blue-collar workers can be explained in terms of different work styles, different expectations, and different degrees of selection. We conclude that working for long hours or irregular hours deteriorates the mental health of workers, but its impact is likely to differ significantly across job types.

JUL 9

Japanese University Students' Critique on the Hiring Process of Firms
NAOKI IGUCHI | Mejiro University

Selection by a person's non-cognitive features is common in companies' hiring process. There have been criticism that it leads to the applicants' self-blame, or that it plays a role in the reproduction of inequality. However, these critiques have not always led to change in the selection process. This presentation aims to describe the lived experiences of youth in such circumstances. Also, it aims to clarify the effects that critique can have in such difficult circumstances. This presentation focuses on the critique of the job searchers themselves by drawing on interview data. He will show the types of critique, the difficulties they experienced on making an acceptable public claim, and how they responded privately, through the selection of companies.

AUG 6

'Dr Rocket': Itokawa Hideo and the Reconstitution of Masculinity
SUBODHANA WIJEYERATNE | Tokyo Woman's Christian University

Aeronautical engineer Itokawa Hideo (1912–1999) has long been regarded as the 'father' of Japanese rocketry. He was important enough that when naming the asteroid visited by their trailblazing Hayabusa mission in 2003, the Japanese Space Exploration Agency settled on the name 'Itokawa.' This apotheosis occurred in the context of Itokawa's elevation into the 'father figure' of the Japanese space program – a position akin to that held by Konstantin Tsiolovski and Wernher von Braun in the United States and Soviet Union space efforts. The manner in which these figures are remembered and presented publicly reveals details about how modern societies engage with not only individuals, but notions of progress and technological modernity they represent. Itokawa's career shows us that the authority and public personae of father figures are intimately tied up with notions of masculinity and authority that are prevalent in their social milieux. In the case of Itokawa, his career encompassed both attempts at reclaiming the masculine status denied to him and his colleagues by Japan's defeat in the Second World War, while at the same time exploring idiosyncratic modes of 'scientific' renovation for elements of masculinity he thought were no longer relevant to the modern world. At the same time, Itokawa – particularly in his later career – proposed alterations to conventional Japanese gender relations in which 'science' and 'objectivity' were used to alter social expectations of both men and women. This presentation will explore Itokawa's writings and opinions on both men and women to explore how he extended his patriarchal authority well beyond the remit of engineering.

AUG 20

Economic Consequences of Manipulation of Social Insurance Benefits
MASAKI TAKAHASHI | Hitotsubashi University

This paper investigates the economic consequences of manipulation of social insurance benefits in the context of public long-term care insurance (LTCI) in Japan. We first document novel discontinuity and bunching in the distribution of health scores that determine benefit levels for LTCI. The observed distribution suggests that LTCI recipients tend to receive more generous benefits than they should because medical examiners manipulate recipients' health score. To quantify the impact of manipulation on long-term care (LTC) expenditures, we develop partial identification and nonparametric estimation methods that allow for flexible restrictions on counterfactual distribution. Our baseline estimation indicates that the manipulation increases monthly LTC expenditures per recipient by 60.2-227.9 USD (3.7-15.5%). We also find that the lower bound on manipulation effects is robust to various restrictions.

SEP 3

Comparative Politics of Tax Reform: The Role of Experts in Japan and NZ

2021-22 EVENTS



MASAKO TANAKA | the University of Tokyo

Tax reform is rare because it is hard. To cope with tax protest movement, government officials tend to establish tax commission, consisting of experts, academics, and businesspeople. In this presentation, she compares Japan and NZ to examine how experts play a role in tax reform. Experts of both countries review the problem of current taxation system and make proposals or recommendations to the Minister. Some proposals are accepted, but others are not. Focusing on the institutionalization of economic knowledge within the state, she explores what determine the difference.

SEP 10

Judicialization of Occupational Health Political Process: The Case of Karôshi-karôjisatsu and the Articulation of Multiple Temporalities

ADRIENNE SALA | the University of Tokyo

We analyze the articulation of administrative, legislative and political temporalities with the temporality of collective action and legal mobilization organized by the anti-karôshi movement since the 1960s. The back-and-forth movement between legal mobilization and collective action can be understood in relation to the three temporalities that characterized the movement three main objectives: recognition as a professional disease (administrative and judiciary temporalities), enactment of karôshi prevention law (legislative temporality) and reform of the working time regulation (public action temporality). Articulation of these different temporalities is pivotal to the judicialization of occupational health political process.

SEP 17

COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Japan: Determinants, Reasons, and a Potential Solution

SHOHEI OKAMOTO | Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology

Even though the degree and duration of vaccines' efficacies remain unconfirmed, widespread vaccination, by establishing herd immunity against the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19), is a demanded step to the pandemic end. However, vaccine hesitancy, defined as 'delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccine services', can hinder achieving herd immunity. In this study, we investigated determinants and reasons for COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy, utilizing a sample of Japanese adults aged between 20 and 74, collected through an online survey in July 2021. Furthermore, we conducted a conjoint experiment to evaluate if relaxing social distancing policies can increase vaccination intentions.

SEP 24

Urban Redevelopment Program and Shopping Externality

CHIGUSA OKAMOTO | Chuo University

We quantify the externality of redevelopment program of urban shopping center on its neighborhood, exploiting the urban redevelopment program in the central shopping district in Tokyo as a natural experiment. The demolish of 77-years old apartment unit and a construction of shopping complex generated immediate hike in the neighborhood land price and long-term increase of the aggregate sales of neighborhood clothing stores. The redevelopment program did not change the land use of neighborhood because of the tight regulation of land use; the resulting inelastic supply of land induced substantial land price hike.

OCT 1

Reexamining Ruling Party Leadership Elections in Japan: A Historical Case

TARO TSUDA | Kansai Gaidai University

The election of the Liberal Democratic Party's top leader (sôsai or president) is one of the most important rituals in contemporary Japanese politics. Since its founding in 1955, the LDP has been Japan's dominant political party and under the country's parliamentary system, the head of the majority party in the National Diet almost inevitably doubles as the prime minister. In characterizing LDP leadership elections, analysts have often focused on the role of money, factions, and backroom deals in what are essentially elite intraparty contests. Policy goals or ideological affirmations expressed during these events tend to be seen as lip service done to give candidacies a veneer of higher public purpose. To what extent is this true? In this paper he reassesses LDP leadership elections, focusing on the election of 1964. This case involved standard machinations by party bosses and their factions but was also heralded by some as centered on policies and programs to an unprecedented level. After analyzing how this contest was evaluated by prominent political participants and observers, he will examine the media coverage at the time and available information about public opinion. This study will carefully consider the conventions and rituals of such party leadership elections, also aiming to draw connections to contemporary Japanese politics, in

2021-22 EVENTS



which the LDP remains very much in charge.

OCT 8

Ryukyuan Embassies to Edo on Parade: Reading Procession as a Ritual Form

TRAVIS SEIFMAN | the University of Tokyo

Over the course of the 17th-19th centuries, seventeen formal embassies from the Okinawan kingdom of Lūchū (Ryūkyū) journeyed to Edo to engage in ceremonies ritually reaffirming the kingdom's relationship to the Tokugawa shogunate. In numerous locations along their round-trip journey, the embassies were put on public display in grand processions, flying banners, wearing costumes, and playing music while escorted by a mass of Kagoshima domain samurai warriors. These processions, and illustrations of them, played a central role in informing popular conceptions among early modern Japanese of Lūchū's cultural character and political status. Drawing upon a number of visual and textual sources, this paper examines the political significance and impact of visual, material, and performative aspects of these processional displays, with a particular eye to analyzing procession as a distinctive form of ritual performance.

OCT 22

Unveiling Valence: Explaining LDP Dominance in Japan

JORDAN HAMZAWI | Harvard University

I discuss how party policy and valence shape Japanese politics. Drawing from the literature valence, which highlights the significance of things like competence and capability on voter choice, I provide evidence that the LDP lost in 2009 due to poor policy positioning while facing the DPJ, a party with comparable valence. However, after the DPJ split apart, the LDP was able to dominate a fragmented opposition once more through its relatively superior valence. I conclude that opposition parties in Japan are either poorly positioned on policy relative to voter preferences or do not have the necessary valence to compete with the LDP even when better positioned on politics

NOV 5

Oka Yoshisato and Political Science in Post-war Japan

ISAMI SAWAI | Hosei University

Oka Yoshisato (1921-1999), a professor of political science at the UTokyo Faculty of Law, is famous for his book *Politics Seiji* in Japan, which showed his original and systematic insights on politics in general. However, presumably since the number of his works is very limited and that his writing style is difficult to understand, few researchers have investigated Oka's study of political science. By relying on a variety of sources including transcripts of his lectures as well as his book collections, this presentation examines the development, transformation, and challenge of Oka's study of political science, particularly emphasizing the impact of historical and intellectual backgrounds of the 1960s. Furthermore, this presentation argues that the re-evaluation of Oka's study would lead to revealing the 'Japanese' features of political science in the post-war period, which still have some impacts on contemporary political studies in Japan.

NOV 12

Getting Women to Ask for More: Designing for Gender Equity in Negotiation in Online Freelancing

EUREKA FOONG | the University of Tokyo

The online gig economy has the potential to mitigate gender inequities in the workplace by providing flexible, remote, short-term opportunities to find paid work. However, prior work suggests women ask for lower hourly pay rates than men in online freelance marketplaces. Several factors could explain these gaps, such as gender "likability" biases that penalize women for more assertive behaviors, like negotiation, and differences in how men and women evaluate their worth. In this talk, I will discuss results from a design-based research study to understand challenges female freelancers perceive in rate-setting and negotiation online. My team completed 19 participatory design workshops with online female freelancers from 13 countries. I highlight opportunities to design tools that promote gender equity in online negotiation and rate-setting by mitigating fears over global competition, ambiguity in negotiation norms, and challenges building trustworthy client relationships at distance.

DEC 3

Improving Local Food Brands – Domestic Wheats for Japanese Udon Noodles –

TOMOYUKI NARISAWA | Saitama Industrial Technology Center

Improving food self-sufficiency ratio is a big issue in Japan, and increasing the use of domestic wheats is

2021-22 EVENTS



one of the effective means. Our laboratory has conducted studies to increase the use of domestic wheats for Udon noodles. "Norin61" (N61), a domestic wheat that was once popular in Japan, remains a perennial favorite because of its excellent sensory characteristics including the unique taste/flavor compared with Australian Standard White (ASW) wheat. Currently, N61 has been replaced by "Satonosora", which is one of the successors of N61. Satonosora has desirable properties for agricultural producer such as disease resistance and crop yields like ASW, but it is inferior in Udon making because of a less unique flavor compared with N61. Through the chemical analysis to clarify the formation mechanism of the Udon flavor, I established a technique for flavor enrichment in the noodle-making process. The technique has been recently applied to the development of new value-added noodle products by various companies.

DEC 10

Elite Mobility and Continuity during a Regime Change
TOMOKO MATSUMOTO | the Tokyo University of Science

How does a regime change influence elite mobility? Our study provides new evidence that the impact of a regime change on elite mobility is not linear but different by phases of a regime change, collecting elite data after the Meiji Restoration in Japan (1868). We analyze the impact of the regime change from the two aspects: (1) composition of elites or the elite membership and (2) the internal hierarchy within them. Regarding the elite membership, the regime changes surely opened an opportunity for commoners to join the elite group. The share of the elites whose fathers were commoners increased. On the other hand, although the commoners' disadvantages in achieving higher ranks within the elite group was insignificant after the regime change but this did not last long. After the new regime established, the internal elite hierarchy again started to reflect the social stratum of the former regime and weaken meritocracy.

JAN 14

Merit-Based Reward Systems and Gender Wage Inequality in Large Japanese Firms
EUNMI MUN | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

It is widely believed that meritocratic employment practices reduce gender inequality by limiting managers' reliance on non-merit factors, such as biases. An emerging stream of research, however, questions the belief, arguing that meritocratic practices often fail to reduce inequality and may paradoxically increase it. Despite these opposing predictions, we still lack convincing empirical findings to adjudicate between them. Typically relying on data from a single organization or industry, most previous studies suffer from limited generalizability and cannot properly account for the large variation in the implementation of merit-based reward systems across organizations, let alone identify the origins of the variation. We attempt to overcome the limitations by constructing large-scale linked employer-employee

JAN 21

Contradiction as Injustice: How Senses of Inequality Differ Across National Contexts
YUKI ASAHINA | Hankuk University of Foreign Studies

Similar levels of inequality may be coded as acceptable or unacceptable in different places. To account for misrecognition of inequality, the existing studies highlight the roles of ideological legitimation and situated comparison through which individuals read inequality around them, but these accounts can be further elaborated upon. This paper argues that it is neither the belief in ideology nor social comparison alone but rather the relationship between the two which shapes particular ways in which inequality is experienced. The dominant collective narratives rooted in macro-level contexts and individuals' situated comparisons shape perceptions of the contradiction (or lack thereof) between how people think things should be and how things are in three specific ways. The proposed framework is put to use with interviews with 98 millennials in Japan and South Korea.

JAN 28

Creative Data Visualization Applied to Various Domains, a Showcase of Japan-Related Projects
DEA BANKOVA | Reuters News & Media

In my work, I use data visualization and data art, combined with analysis and machine learning as a means to facilitate an exchange of information, ideas, and even emotions with the audience. Between 2020 and 2021, I worked at the Watanabe Lab on several projects that explore topics unique to Japan, and in this talk, I will showcase a few, as well as discuss the creation process (analysis, design decisions, and story). Specifically, I will discuss a project with Watanabe Lab and Iwate Nippo to create a digital archive of thoughts and experiences of survivors of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, and a separate visualization of the biggest earthquakes in recent Japanese history. I will also present a personal data art project that explores Japanese anime over the past 50 years from the point of view of international fans.

2021-22 EVENTS



Time permitting, I will demo other creative visualization work.

FEB 4

Intertwined Relations between Communication in Cyberspace and Economic and Political Situations in the Physical World

YUYA SHIBUYA | the University of Tokyo

Social media is everywhere. Their ubiquity and pervasiveness in today's society have awakened interest across research fields. My project approaches social media-related phenomena in Japan through an interdisciplinary lens. In particular, we examine how economic, political, and social situations in the real world relate to and impact people's communication in the digital world and vice versa. In this talk, I look at this dynamic relationship through various cases, including COVID-19 and the 2020 Olympics. Specifically, I will discuss communication strategies, economic incentives, people's narratives and discourses, and policy implications in the current information age.

MAR 4

Emerging Challenges of Unoccupied Houses in Japan

YUKO NAKATA | the University of Tokyo

This research analyzes legal issues that have contributed to the growing number of unoccupied properties in Japan and proposes how the Japanese government should manage them with trust. Unoccupied houses have become an important concern in the aging society of Japan. It is said that unoccupied properties adversely affect the community environment. They are at a high risk of collapsing and could be hotbeds of crimes. The existence of unoccupied properties also reduces the value of surrounding areas. Local governments and the Land Bank of the Public-Private Partnership have tried to take measures to this problem, but they are not effective because of the lack of enforcement. It has been believed that local governments cannot address the problem and exercise coercive power on owners of unoccupied properties under the current legal system. However, this research argues that, even within their limited authority, local governments could take effective measures by utilizing trust.

MAR 11

The Merits and Demerits of Ambiguous Objectives: Japanese Troops Withdrawal from Iraq and South Sudan

NAGAFUMI NAKAMURA | the University of Tokyo

Why do intervening states find it difficult to make the decision to withdraw from armed peace operations? According to previous studies that focus on the withdrawal of the operation leading country (e.g., U.S.), this is because ambiguous intervention objectives (e.g., preventing hotbeds of terrorism) are accompanied by complex criteria with which to evaluate whether those objectives have been achieved. Given this ambiguity, the operation leading country has to persuade those who emphasize the most demanding criteria for achievement of the objective (e.g., the elimination of all terrorists in the intervened states). On the other hand, this study insists that ambiguous objectives may justify the withdrawal of countries that contribute troops (e.g., Japan). Given this ambiguity, their operation participating countries can emphasize the least demanding criteria (e.g., protecting civilians until intervened states' security forces are prepared to protect them). This study tests this hypothesis through the case studies of Japanese withdrawal from Iraq and South Sudan.

2021-22 EVENTS



GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM

APR 6

Indirect Patent Infringement in Japan
ZIYIN ZHU | the University of Tokyo

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? An Analysis through Homiphily
NAOKI MAEJIMA | the University of Tokyo

In this presentation, he 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? He 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 27

The Secret to Make Japanese Food More Delicious: Japan's National Mold, Koji Kin
CHAN LU | the University of Tokyo

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. In order to create further industrially useful strains, it is necessary to solve the problem of incompatibility between strains. Therefore, here she is investigating the cause of compatibility by searching and analyzing genes related to incompatibility among Koji Kin strains. 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 | the University of Tokyo

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.

JUN 22

Description Requirements in Patent Law Especially in Biopharmaceutical Industry

2021-22 EVENTS



LIU YIFAN | the University of Tokyo

Biotechnology-related inventions are inventions in the technical field where it is difficult to predict the effect based on the structure or characteristics of an object, and the standard of the description requirements is often unobvious. Her presentation addresses this problem by introducing what are description requirements (enablement requirement, support requirement, and clarity requirement) in Japan and previous studies in this area, and explaining why it is hard to decide whether inventions meet the requirements or not in biopharmaceutical industry. By giving examples of biotechnology related cases in Japan, especially one of recent cases in 2018 that has sparked a lot of discussion, she will be making an analysis of these cases and giving a short conclusion.

JUN 29

Diverging Destinies in Japan: Educational Differences in the Long-term Effects of Maternal Employment on Development of Japanese Children

JIA WANG | University of Wisconsin-Madison

Maternal employment is an important determinant of child development and a key family behavior in “diverging destinies” research. Existing studies pay insufficient attention to educational differences in the relationships between maternal employment and children’s well-being, and how such educational gradients may depend on different types of maternal employment. This study focuses on Japan, an East Asian society where educational disparities in maternal employment are limited compared to the west, and a large proportion of mothers are working in nonstandard jobs. Results demonstrate overall negative effects of cumulative exposure to maternal work on Japanese children’s well-being, particularly for cognitive scores. Such detrimental effects, however, are almost exclusively limited to children with less-educated mothers without a college degree. In particular, less-educated mothers’ longer hours and regular jobs have substantial adverse impacts on children’s cognitive outcomes, whereas negative influences of nonstandard jobs are less pronounced. Our study reveals diverging destinies of Japanese children primarily due to educational differences in “returns” rather than compositional differences of family behaviors, and highlight the importance of considering types of maternal employment under changing economic environment and specific contexts.

JUL 6

Tokyo’s Startup Village: Carnivalism, Paternalism, and Bureaucracy

BJOL FRENKENBERGER | University of Oxford

His research focuses on how founders in Tokyo’s start-up ecosystem try to retain key stakeholders. He is interested in how trustworthy behaviour becomes defined differently by various groups (founders, VCs, employees) throughout the early stages of the startup lifecycle (seed stage, early stage, growth stage) and how this appears to underlie conflicts within startups and the startup ecosystem. Tokyo’s startup ecosystem, the village or mura, seems characterized by the negotiation of past ideals such as the strong social ties of the ‘ba’, new policy-driven demands for neoliberal meritocratic struggle, and a future-focused, anti-bureaucratic strain which defines itself in opposition to the corporatism and conservatism of the large corporate. He argues that the ‘traditional’ focus on paternalistic models demanding loyalty and commitment still appears valid in the mura but runs into problems related to different socio-economic structures that fail to provide incentive structures matching such demands. At the same time the appeal of such models is now explained beyond tradition alone and becomes related to expectations of ‘speed’ (or the experience of immediacy) which is enjoyable in itself and intertwined. These and other ideological claims are driven by time pressure and various ‘what-ifs’ (threats, temptations, hopes etc.) often posed by the demands of modern ‘audit cultures’. Tokyo’s startup space appears in this sense as one instance of Japan in ‘flux’, where traditional and new concepts collide, where hope comes into being and subsides.

JUL 13

Leader Preferences and Alliance Formation

MINA POLLMANN | MIT

Existing theories of alliance formation explain alliances as being caused by a changing balance of power, balance of threat, or balance of interests. These structural theories do not account for the role of leaders’ agency in alliance formation. By contrast, she analyzes the causal role of leaders in alliance formation. She develops a new method—probabilistic counterfactual analysis—to identify alliances in which a leader caused the alliance, and alliances in which leaders did not cause the alliance. Her primary cases are Japan in the Anglo-Japanese Alliance (1902), in the Tripartite Pact (1940), and in the renewal of the US-Japan Alliance (1960). In her presentation, she will introduce probabilistic counterfactual analysis as a method, demonstrate the application of this method in the case of Japan in the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and

2021-22 EVENTS



provide a summary of her preliminary conclusions from additional cases.

JUL 20

Colonial Conservation in the Japanese Empire

JOHN HAYASHI | Harvard University

His presentation looks at the history of the Japanese Empire in order to ask questions that lie at the heart of environmental management, colonialism, and the place of indigenous peoples in modern states. Resource extraction has often been understood as central to imperialism, but in the early 20th century Japanese officials were often equally interested in protecting resources such as timber and water to ensure sustained use. In a colonial context, this amounted to conservation through exclusion—defining indigenous environmental practice as ecologically harmful and seeking to eliminate it. Drawing from his research on Taiwan, he traces the development and consequences of what he calls colonial conservation, the idea of saving land from the people who live on it. Finally, he suggests ways in which this history can speak to contemporary issues, both in Japan and across the globe.

JUL 27

Do Firms Benefit from the Revolving Door? Evidence from Japan

TREVOR INCERTI | Yale University

A growing literature finds high returns to firms connected to legislative office. Less attention has been paid to benefits from bureaucratic connections, despite well-documented bureaucratic revolving door hiring practices. Leveraging a 2009 law requiring Japanese bureaucratic agencies to report private sector hires of former civil servants, we construct a comprehensive dataset of all revolving door hires in Japan. Using this dataset and data on Japanese government contracts and loans, we test for systematic benefits that accrue to firms who hire former bureaucrats. Specifically, we hypothesize that bureaucratic rehiring will be associated with an increased likelihood of receipt of government contracts, government loans, and reputation boosts.

JUL 30

Becoming a Farmer in Contemporary Japan: Pro-Rural Migration and New Entry in Agriculture

NICCOLO LOLLINI | University of Oxford

Based on extended fieldwork conducted in Japan, this presentation discusses widespread difficulties faced by new entry farmers from a non-farming background in securing livelihood from agriculture. He considers the five key hurdles involved in the establishment of a farming business: access to land, housing, farming know-how, capital, and market outlets.

AUG 3

The School Life and Future Prospect of Kurdish Female Migrant Youth from Turkey: Role of Night-Time High School during Their Asylum Seeking

NAOKO UEHARA | the University of Tokyo

Currently, movement across nation-states has been a common phenomenon for more people in the era of globalization. Thus, the difference between “immigrant” and “refugee” has been arbitrarily politicized. From this point, the refugee determination process has been heavily affected by political interest rather than humanitarian aspect. In Japan, refugee acceptance has been very limited based on the narrowed interpretation of the Refugee Convention of 1951. Among asylum seekers, although no accurate number is known, Kurdish people from Turkey who or whose parents flee to Japan as asylum seekers constitute one main ethnic group who remain undocumented or “quasi-legal or liminal legal status”. Considering these backgrounds, this presentation examines how the liminal legal status of Kurdish students during asylum seeking affects their life at a night-time high school and their future prospects. Based on participant observation at a night-time high school and life story interviews with four Kurdish female students, her research focuses on their academic aspiration, disclosure of their legal status, and the ways in which the night-time high school includes/ excludes the needs of the Kurdish asylum seeking students.

AUG 24

How to Reconstruct Historical Weather by Old Diary?

XIAOXING WANG | the University of Tokyo

Climate change greatly affects human society. Learning about past climate helps to predict future changes more accurately. Before modern instrumental measurements became available, old diaries provide valuable

2021-22 EVENTS



information about historical weather. Especially in Japan, there are over 50 diaries recording daily weather information at more than 18 locations during the mid-Edo period to the early Meiji period. These descriptive records are valuable; for example, cloud cover information converted from old diaries can be combined with the latest high-technology of numerical weather prediction. However, there are still some challenges to this fusion approach. This presentation will introduce some disadvantages in an existing method and explain how he/she will improve it. He/She will present whether this new method improves the reconstruction results. In general, this presentation will introduce the potential of diary-based information for weather reconstruction in Japan.

SEP 7

Why Do Few Women Apply to Selective Colleges in Japan?: Explaining Horizontal Gender Stratification in Higher Education
FUMIYA UCHIKOSHI | Princeton University

Gender gap in higher education has reduced or reversed in many countries, while women are still underrepresented in selective institutions, and importantly, it varies by countries. This paper provides an institutional explanation that helps us to understand the cross-national variation in the gender gap in elite education by focusing on the Japanese case, an extreme outlier where women only account for one in five undergraduate students at top universities. Specifically, I hypothesize that, by reinforcing women's risk-aversion, admission system characterized by high-stakes exams amplifies gender gap in elite education driven by women's lower expected return to elite education. I test the hypothesis by examining the transition to post-secondary education among Japanese high-schoolers, an ideal case where application opportunities for selective institutions (national universities) are considerably limited compared to non-selective ones (private universities) and thus a number of high schoolers fail to pass the entrance exam and prepare for the exam next year (Ronin). Using longitudinal data that track high school students until graduation, I investigate whether and how male and female students, even if they have similar academic ability, choose their post-secondary education differently. Results show a significant gender gap in preparing for the exam next year. Since a majority of Ronin students aim to enter national universities, the gender gap in Ronin experience plays a critical role in explaining women's underrepresentation in selective institutions. I also found that, among students who aim to enter national universities in their 1st to 2nd year in high school, women are more likely to choose risk-averting behaviors, like lowering the goal (aiming for junior colleges in their final year of high school) or applying to private universities via admission not based on the high-stakes exam. After describing the "leaky pipeline" of women in elite education, I conduct between/within gender analysis to explore potential factors that explain gender differences in college application behaviors.

SEP 21

The History of Theological Education in the Japanese Orthodox Church
KAHO OSAKI | the University of Tokyo

Orthodox Christianity was introduced in Japan from Russia in the latter half of the 19th century. Then Orthodox seminaries were established in Japan in the Meiji era. The seminarians studied Russian language, Japanese and Chinese classics, history, geography as well as theology. In this presentation, first we outline the history of theological education in the Japanese Orthodox Church, then compare the curriculum and the textbooks used in the Tokyo Theological Seminary with those of the Russian seminaries. The purpose of this study is to clarify the problems they faced and their solutions to teach Orthodox Christianity brought from Russia in Japan through comparison of theological education between the Japanese Orthodox Church and the Russian Orthodox Church.

SEP 28

Identity and Ambition in the Drafting of Japan's Deep Sea Geographies
JONAS RÜEGG | Harvard University

Japan's oceanic expansion since the mid-nineteenth century pushed the archipelago's boundaries to newly charted islands and vaguely defined oceanic borderlands in all directions. Redefining a formerly secluded island nation as an expansive pelagic empire shifted the focus of Meiji period geographers to the underwater landscapes that tied the islands together. This project discusses the way identity and imperial ambition became engraved in the virtual environs of a steadily developing deep-sea topography that keeps serving national interests in the age of deep-sea resource exploitation.

OCT 12

"Katakana is a Commodity": An Economic History of Japanese Script Reform Movements, 1920-45
TOSHIKI KAWASHIMA | University of Pennsylvania

2021-22 EVENTS



This presentation offers an economic historical analysis of a script reform in interwar Japan. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, some Japanese believed their complex kana-kanji writing system to be a major hindrance to economic development and proposed various simplified scripts. While the literature has mainly focused on nationalistic reform programs led by the Tokyo government, it has neglected the role of other movements including those led by businesspeople. This presentation focuses on the history of script reform campaigns of the Kana Script Society (Kana moji kai), a pro-katakana and anti-kanji group founded by Taylorism-influenced wealthy entrepreneurs from Osaka in the 1920s. The relationship between script reform, economic ideas, and international economic policies will be discussed. First, the proto-economic model used in the discourse of the Kana Script Society anticipated economic theories of standardization including Paul David's work on QWERTY keyboards in the 1980s. To market a new script, the businesspeople used an economic model of the dynamics of script users through an analogy with the existing economic systems such as railways. It anticipated concepts such as path dependence, network effect, and switching costs. Second, their reform plans should be understood in the broader context of macroeconomic policy in the late 1920s and the early 1930s. Directors of the society had strong ties with the Minseitō party and supported their macroeconomic policies such as austerity measures, the return to the gold standard, and the so-called industrial rationalization. For them, simplified writing systems would lead to the achievement of their policies by helping to reduce educational and administrative costs. Through the analysis of these aspects, this presentation proposes the possibility and importance of interpreting linguistic reforms through the lens of economic history and history of economic thought.

DEC 7

Loneliness at Older Ages in Japan: Variation in Lonely Life Expectancy and the Role of Social Isolation

SHIRO FURUYA | University of Wisconsin-Madison

Despite growing media, policy, and research attention to loneliness, it remains an understudied dimension of social inequality. Additionally, research on loneliness often fails to distinguish loneliness from social isolation. This is an important limitation given the positive correlation between measures of these two distinct concepts, a relationship that may be particularly salient in collectivistic societies, like Japan. Combining life tables from the Human Mortality Database with individual data from the National Survey of Japanese Elderly, we calculated isolation-adjusted lonely life expectancies (LLE) by sex and educational attainment. Results showed notable differences in LLE before and after adjusting for social isolation; however, accounting for social isolation did little to alter our general understanding of trends and differentials in LLE. We also found that LLE is short among older Japanese and has not increased over time. Additionally, we found no clear educational differences in isolation-adjusted LLE.

DEC 14

Risk Management of General Trading Company: Lessons from History

EIJI UNAKAMI | the University of Tokyo

General Trading Company (GTC) is a Japanese diversified business group evolving in Meiji Japan Economic growth and preserving significance in the Reiwa Japan Economic scene. The researcher's interest is to find indications for its future by researching its history. This case study compares the risk management of Mitsui Bussan, the first and biggest GTC before WWII, and Furukawa Shoji which was collapsed soon after its foundation. Value at Risk, a contemporary risk management tool is used for quantitative comparison in addition to a qualitative one. This research suggests that the superiority/inferiority of risk management shown in their value at risk draws the line between survivor and failure.

JAN 18

Preparation for Business Requirement on Prior User Rights in Patent Law

YE PENG | the University of Tokyo

As established by Article 79 of Patent Law, "A person who...has been working the invention or preparing for the working of the invention in Japan at the time of the filing of the patent application" could have prior user rights. Regarding this "preparation for business" requirement, Walking Beam Furnace, Supreme Court, Oct. 3, 1986, 40-6 Minshu 1068, held that, although it had not yet been worked at the stages of business; there had been the "intent to work the invention immediately," and such intent had been "indicated in a manner and to the extent that it could be objectively recognized." However, it is not an explicit rule to apply to lower instance courts. Addressing this problem, I would like to introduce some cases, especially Air-conditioned Clothes, IP High Court, Feb. 17, 2021, R2(NE)10038, and make an analysis thereof.

2021-22 EVENTS



FEB 8

The Incompatible Incentives of Opposition Coordination in Mixed-Member Majoritarian Systems: Evidence from Japan

HIKARU YAMAGISHI | Yale University

I will start with an overview of the literature on electoral systems, mobilization, and persuasion. The theories of turnout and preference have been developed in “pure” electoral system contexts (i.e. single-seat districts or proportional representation systems). Next, I will introduce my theory, which extends the theory to mixed-member electoral systems, and specifically mixed-member majoritarian. From there, I identify the testable implications of the theory, which is about heterogeneous effects of voter engagement with democratic elections. I introduce the research design for the survey conducted in Japan and show the results. Finally, I discuss and conclude.

FEB 22

Precarious Work, Gender, and Marriage in Contemporary Japan

SEE POK LOA | University of Oxford

Previous studies on global capitalism and gender argue that the expansion of labor precarity and underemployment have brought about a “crisis of masculinity”. Less attention is paid to how the construction of masculinity adapts to shifting economic contexts. Using data from interviews with young men working on non-regular jobs, this study looks into the experiences of precarious workers in Japan, a place where job stability, gender norms, and family formation are tightly coupled. Specifically, it shows how precarious work redefines the ways workers understand masculinity and the way they imagine marriage in the future when they have failed to achieve the dominant form of the breadwinner model and the economic foundations required by marriage, given the growing structural uncertainties in the economy.

MAR 8

Democratizing AI for End Users: Designing Machine Learning Models Using Interactive Applications

WATARU KAWABE | the University of Tokyo

Recent advances in machine learning (ML), especially deep neural networks, have greatly expanded the opportunities for various real-world applications in our daily lives. However, while ML has great potential, it is still difficult for novice users to design a model for their own purpose since building an ML model requires programming skills and mathematical knowledge. Interactive machine learning (IML) aims at providing a method for them to interact with ML algorithms and prototype their own models. There have been many research attempts to create interactive image/sound/text recognition systems, and this time I show you some examples I found worth checking. I also introduce my own work attempting to provide a generic image recognition model with text as output, and how novice users responded to the prototype system and solved various image recognition tasks with it.

MAR 15

Disseminating Western Thought and Reexamining Japan: The Role of Chinese Students Who Studied in Modern Japan

TOSHIHIDE TAKAYANAGI | the University of Tokyo

From the late 19th century to the early 20th century, Asian nations that wished to adopt Western thought and technology, including Japan, sent many students to Europe and the United States. Japan was so successful in this endeavor that, after the Russo-Japanese War, many Asian nations that admired its rapid modernization sent students to Japan. Of these, China was the nation that sent the largest number of students (thought to total tens of thousands by 1945). What did Chinese students learn in Japan, and what impact did they have on their home country? This presentation will examine the role played by these students once they returned to China, focusing on their legacy that remains today. Specifically, it will focus on how Western thought such as communism was brought back to China via Japan, creating the new academic field of Japan Studies along the way.

2021-22 EVENTS



GENDER IN JAPAN SERIES

May 11

Why Gender Inequality in Japan is Alive and Well

MARY C. BRINTON | Harvard University

Japan ranks very low on every measure of gender equality used by the OECD and other international organizations, including the yearly “gender gap index” published by the World Economic Forum. In 2006, the first year the index was published, Japan ranked 79 out of 115 countries in gender equality. Fifteen years later, Japan’s relative position had declined to 120 out of 156. Standardized across years, the country’s ranking declined from 69 out of 100 in 2006 to 77 in 2021. This latest ranking puts Japan’s level of gender equality below that of many less-wealthy countries in Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Why has Japan’s high level of gender inequality shown such stubborn persistence over time? In this talk I examine the misguided policy attempts to “make women shine” and argue for the importance of a paradigm shift in the analysis of Japanese gender inequality.

May 26

Japan’s Work-Life Balance Reconsidered

MACHIKO OSAWA | Japan Women's University

The Covid-19 pandemic is accentuating the gender gap and existing divides between regular and non-regular workers, large and small firms and various sectors of the economy. In my talk, I would like to discuss the impact of the pandemic on gender differences in Japan, and various factors that are amplifying these differences. Japanese society is still organized around the breadwinner system of full-time male workers providing for their families while their wives focus on caring for the family. This gender division of labor and patriarchal ideology is embodied in the employment system of regular and non-regular workers in which women are disproportionately represented in the latter category, entailing disadvantages in pay, security and training. The assumption that women are supplemental earners confronts the reality where most households are dependent on both incomes and there is an increasing number of single parent households due to rising divorce rates. Moreover, the never married population is increasing. The Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the persistent gender division of labor as hundreds of thousands of working mothers gave up their jobs to cope with school lockdown measures and found it hard to return to work in the midst of a recession. In addition, women have lost jobs because they tend to be employed in sectors that have been hard hit by the outbreak. Teleworking offers the possibility of juggling work and home responsibilities, but this has been largely unrealized because many firms bar teleworking for non-regular workers and women are often in jobs that require a physical presence. Teleworking may not be a panacea but is likely to expand, raising questions about how this flexibility can benefit households and women’s career prospects.

JUL 7

“Women’s Empowerment” Policy Trends & Remaining Issues: Lessons from the Little Women Project

ATSUKO MURAKI | Tsuda University

Amidst falling birth rates, an aging population, and an accompanying deterioration in public finances, the Japanese government is placing greater importance on policies that empower women as “labour force,” and support children/childcare (nurturing the labour force of the future). These policies require transformations in how men work and participate in the household, as well as in how firms manage their workers. This talk will review these latest trends in policy, and introduce the oft-overlooked challenges faced by girls and young women who have yet to reach the “start line” envisioned by women’s empowerment. In particular, I will draw on the issues revealed by the work of the Little Women Project – an organization which supports struggling girls and young women.

SEP 30

Female Managers and the Gender Wage Gap: Workgroup Gender Composition Matters

YOUNG-MI KIM | Yonsei University

Women’s representation in managerial positions is a common metric for gender equity in organizations. Whether female managers improve gender equity among their subordinates is, however, less clear. Drawing on rich longitudinal personnel data from a large Korean food company, we provide new insight into this question by focusing attention on key micro-contexts for interaction and relational politics within organizations: workgroups. Building on social-psychological theories about in-group preference and value threats, we theorize that workgroup gender composition conditions the relationship between supervisor gender and gender earnings differentials with them. Results from regression models with workgroup fixed effects confirm this insight. Female supervisors are associated with smaller gender earnings gaps when workgroups are male-dominated, but gender wage gaps widen under female supervision as teams become more female-dominated.

2021-22 EVENTS



DEC 17

Gender, Partnership and Preferences for Work-Family Reconciliation Policies

MARGARITA ESTEVEZ-ABE | Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse University

There is a growing interest in the politics of work-family reconciliation policies. The new scholarly consensus views female voters, who are increasingly better educated and integrated into the labor market, as the main driver of recent policy developments in advanced welfare states. We argue that the transformation of women has also changed men and their family policy preferences. Our paper examines: (i) how education and careers change women's policy preferences; and (ii) how men's preferences might change depending on the characteristics of female partners they live with. Our findings highlight intricate ways in which economic interests and gender dynamics intersect to shape the policy preferences of men and women. We find that men in dual-earner households and men partnered with highly educated women are more likely to support family policies but that they support different types of policies. We conduct regression analysis of nineteen OECD countries using the International Social Survey Program data (Family and Changing Gender Roles IV) to substantiate our argument.

JAN 27

Diversity Management as Business Strategy

YUKAKO UCHINAGA | Japan Women's Innovative Network (J-WIN)

なぜダイバーシティが必要なのか。テクノロジーの進化は距離の壁、時間の壁から私たちを解放し、世界で起きた変化が一瞬にしてビジネスの在り方にも影響を及ぼしています。企業の生き残りに必要なのは新たなビジネスモデルの創出です。過去の成功体験に固執するのではなく、多様なバックグラウンドや異なった価値観を持つ人材の有効活用により、組織を活性化し、ビジネスでのイノベーションを生み出すことがより大切となります。日本においてダイバーシティの第一歩となる女性活躍。経営戦略の要と言われるダイバーシティ・マネジメントの必要性についてお話いたします。

FEB 17

Challenges and Hardships as a Young Female Mayor

SAWAKO NAITO | Mayor of Tokushima City

日本の女性首長は3%と女性国会議員の割合より少ないというのが現状です。年齢も若く、政治家に縁のない家庭で育った私が首長になってからのやりがいや苦労について、皆さんにシェアできれば、と思い、今回の講演をお受けしました。首長として何を大事にしているか、首長になってから何が大変だったのか、そして子育てなどにどのように向き合っているのか、地方で初めての女性首長となることでの変化、など、ざっくばらんに話できれば、と思います。

2021-22 EVENTS



CONFERENCES

AUG 17

Collaboration with the Humanities Center

Anti-Emperor Organ Theory Movement in Colonial Taiwan
CHUNGYEN CHI | the University of Tokyo

1935 年 2 月から日本内地において天皇機関説排撃運動が起こっていた。この運動は外地台湾においてどのように展開されていたのか、また当時内地日本と外地台湾の諸国体論者の関係と連動性はどのようなものであったのかについて本稿は解明したい。

AUG 27

Collaboration with the Humanities Center

Facing the Shadow of Death – Management and Literature in Modern Japan
TAKASHI SHIMIZU | the University of Tokyo

In the process of modernization, many people were separated from their families or rural communities they belonged to and became independent and autonomous individuals. At the same time, because of the rapid expansion of industrialization, they had to live a life within an organization – such as the government, companies or the military.

On the one hand, this brought a new problem of how they could find their organizations. On the other hand, conflicts between individuals and their organizations also took place. Especially, in a society under the shadow of death – that is, a society where people are exposed to the risk of death caused by, for example, the Spanish flu, tuberculosis or other kinds of infectious diseases – those problems of whether people can be affiliated and how they can live a good life in an organization were much important.

In this seminar, we will talk about how people dealt with such problems in areas of management and literature – which are often regarded as far distant areas – by using the example of modern Japan. We will also discuss how we can connect management and literature.

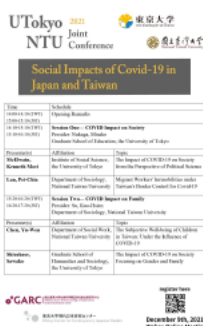


SEP 19

Symposium

Collaboration with the Science Council of Japan
Symposium on "Dividing society under the COVID-19 pandemic: Focusing on the gender gap"

<https://www.scj.go.jp/ja/event/2021/314-s-0919.html>



DEC 9

Joint Conference

Joint Session with the Global Asia Research Center (GARC), National Taiwan University (NTU)
"Social Impacts of COVID-19 in Japan and Taiwan"

<http://oiage.ntu.edu.tw/utokyo-ntu2021/social-impacts-of-covid-19-in-japan-and-taiwan/>

MAR 3

Collaboration with the Humanities Center

On Dogen's Philosophy
MITSUKO YORIZUMI | the University of Tokyo

『日本思想史上、最高の哲学者』とも言われる道元 (1200 ~ 1253) の主著『正法眼蔵』は、難解をもって知られている。その難解さは、道元が表現しようとする世界のありようが、われわれが経験する日常的なそれを超えている、ということに淵源する。道元は、日常的な世界、つまり、自明なものとして出来上がってしまい、われわれの思考や表現の無意識の前提となっている世界に対する理解を、根本的に覆し否定することを通じて「さとり」の世界を指し示そうとしている。講義では、このような「さとり」の世界について、また、「さとり」を成り立たせる自己や世界の構造について、『正法眼蔵』を手がかりとしながら解明を試みたい。

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Global Japan Studies



University-wide Education Program "Global Japan Studies Program" (Undergraduate Level)

The Global Japan Studies program is designed to instill the knowledge necessary to understand the politics, economics, culture and society of Japan by taking lectures given by prominent faculty members from a variety of specialized fields. The program offers the students an insight into Japanese Studies that ranges from the fundamentals to specialized knowledge of Japan Studies. This course is provided in English, thus giving an opportunity to students whose level of proficiency in Japanese would normally prevent them from taking the normal lectures given in Japanese, to participate and learn topics relating to Japanese society. 21 subjects were taught this year from 5 different disciplines.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Akane Bessho | the University of Tokyo

Has a forthcoming paper "Bessho, A., Sakamoto, K., Takahiro, Y. & Yokohari, M. Differences in the valuation of ability and aptitude in the employment of persons with disability amongst organizations managing agricultural activities from the perspective of realizing an inclusive society. Journal of the City Planning Institute of Japan (April 2022)".

Roger Goodman | University of Oxford

Published 日本の私立大学はなぜ生き残るのか—人口減少社会と同族経営 : 1992-2030, Chuo Koron Sensho, (2021).

Kenneth Mori McElwain | the University of Tokyo

Published a number of papers relating to COVID-19, in partnership with the Institute of Social Science's "Methodology of Social Sciences" research team. These include "The Bright and Dark Sides of Social Media Usage during the COVID-19 Pandemic" (IJDRR), "Social Media Infodemics and Social Distancing Under the COVID-19 Pandemic" (Global Health Action), "Variations in Early-Stage Responses to Pandemics" (Economics of Disasters and Climate Change), "Prosociality and the Uptake of COVID-19 Contact Tracing Apps" (JMIR Mhealth Uhealth), and "Vaccination and Altruism Under the COVID-19 Pandemic" (PUHIP).

Kiho Muroga | Kyushu University

Published a paper "Crabtree C, Muroga K. Measuring Gender Role Attitudes in Japan. Socius. January 2021. doi:10.1177/23780231211057719."

Tetsuji Okazaki | the University of Tokyo

In 2021, Tetsuji Okazaki has published papers, "Product Innovation, Product Diversification, and Firm Growth: Evidence from Japan's Early Industrialization," American Economic Review 111(12): 3795-3826 (with Serguey Braguinsky, Atsushi Ohyama, and Chad Syverson), and "Disentangling the Effects of Technological and Organizational Changes During the Rise of the Factory: The Case of the Japanese Weaving Industry, 1905-1914," Economic History Review 74(4): 976-1005. Also, the following three papers have been accepted: "Excess Capacity and Effectiveness of Policy Interventions: Evidence from the Cement Industry," forthcoming in International Economic Review (with Ken Onishi and Naoki Wakamori), "The Effects of Lender of Last Resort on Financial Intermediation during the Great Depression in Japan", forthcoming in European Review of Economic History (with Masami Imai and Michiru Sawada), and "Industrial Cluster Policy and Transaction Networks: Evidence from Firm-level Data in Japan," forthcoming in Canadian Journal of Economics (with Toshihiro Okubo and Eichi Tomiura).

Mengfei Pan | Aoyama Gakuin University

Has launched her research on the relationship between art network and place with the Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research ("KAKENHI", The Ministry of Education, Culuture, Sports, Science and Technology, FY2021-2024).

Jonas Ruegg | Harvard University

Published a research article "Currents and Oceanic Geographies of Japan's Unending Frontier" featured in The Journal of Pacific History (September 2021).

Yukiko Sato | the University of Tokyo

Published a paper "江戸文学にみる自然" ("Nature in Edo Literature"). In 和書ルネサンス(RENAISSANCE OF JAPANESE CLASSICS), 6-15(2-13). Tokyo: Printing Museum, Toppan Printing Co., Ltd. 2021."

Travis Seifman | the University of Tokyo

Published a book chapter, "Nihonmachi in Southeast Asia in the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries" in a book entitled Tokugawa World (ed. Gary Leupp + Tao De-min, pub. Routledge).

Sawako Shirahase | the University of Tokyo

Has published papers, "Redistribution and Inclusive Growth in a Super-Aged Society," (The Economic Analysis 203: 252-281) (in Japanese), and "Social Stratification Theory and Population Aging Reconsidered," (Social Science Japan Journal 24(2): 277-288). Shirahase completed three volumes of book series, The Structure of Stratification in the Aged Society with Low Fertility, (the University of Tokyo Press) in Japanese, on the basis of the 2015 SSM project in which she served as principal investigator.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fumiya Uchikoshi | Princeton University

Published the following books and articles:

Uchikoshi, Fumiya and James M. Raymo. 2021. *Insights Into Social Change and Stratification*. Springer;
Leggat-Barr, Katherine, Fumiya Uchikoshi, Noreen Goldman. 2021. "COVID-19 Risk Factors and Mortality among Native Americans" *Demographic Research* 45(39): 1185-1218;

Uchikoshi, Fumiya and Dalton Conley. 2021. "Gene-environment Interaction for School Tracking in Secondary Education: Evidence from the U.S." *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*;

Hymans, Jacques E. C. and Fumiya Uchikoshi. 2021. "To Drill or Not to Drill: Determinants of Geothermal Energy Project Siting in Japan" *Environmental Politics*.

Tim Riffe, Enrique Acosta, ... Fumiya Uchikoshi, ... 2021. "Data Resource Profile: COVerAGE DB: a Global Demographic Database of COVID-19 Cases and Deaths." *International Journal of Epidemiology*.

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.

打越文弥, 麦山亮太, 小松恭子, 2021, 「職域分離とスキルからみる労働市場のジェンダー格差 : 日本版O-NET とのマッチングデータから得られる示唆」『理論と方法』36(1): 65-81.

三輪哲, 下瀬川陽, 打越文弥, 工藤沙季, 2021, 「再現性ポリシーの意義・現状・課題」『社会と調査』27: 14-22.

打越文弥, ジェームズ・レイモ, 由里詩奈, 2021, 「コロナ禍で女性の主観的ウェルビーイングが男性よりも低下している理由」樋口美雄・労働政策研究・研修機構編「コロナ禍における個人と企業の変容 : 働き方・生活・格差と支援策」慶應義塾出版会;

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Email: contact@tcjs.u-tokyo.ac.jp

English

<https://tcjs.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>

Japanese

<https://tcjs.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ja/>

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<https://utf.u-tokyo.ac.jp/project/pjt127/English>



Japanese

<https://utf.u-tokyo.ac.jp/project/pjt127>



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Primus design