

John D. Person

Department of East Asian Studies
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EDUCATION

- 2012 Ph.D., East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago
- Dissertation: “Philosophizing ‘Japan’: the Genri Nippon Society and the Question of Japaneseness” Advisors: James E. Ketelaar, Susan L. Burns, and Michael N. Forster
- 2002 B.A., Religion and International Management, Gustavus Adolphus College

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022 – present Associate Professor and Chair, Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany, State University of New York
- 2020 – present Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany, State University of New York
- 2014 – 2020 Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany, State University of New York
- 2013 – 2014 Visiting Assistant Professor in History and Postdoctoral Fellow in Asian Studies, Hamilton College
- 2012 – 2013 Postdoctoral Fellow, Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

HONORS AND AWARDS

Outstanding Service Award. Disability Resource Center, UAlbany. 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Arbiters of Patriotism: Right-wing Scholars in Imperial Japan. University of Hawai'i Press, 2020. 210 pages. (Paperback 2021)

Peer Reviewed Articles

“Palm Healing and the Japanese Right: *Tanasue no Michi* and the Body of the Imperial Japanese Subject,” *Japanese Religions* 44:1&2 (2021), pp. 89-110.

“The Showa Restoration Movement in Transwar Perspective: The Case of Kageyama Masaharu, 1910-1979,” *Japan Forum* (2020). doi: 10.1080/09555803.2020.1721552

“Japanese Rightwing Discourse in International Context: Minoda Muneki’s Interwar Writings on Class and Nation,” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 79:4 (2018), pp. 635-657.

“Between Patriotism and Terrorism: The Policing of Nationalist Movements in 1930s Japan,” *Journal of Japanese Studies* 43:2 (2017), pp. 289-318.

Invited Book Chapters and Articles

“Political Activism,” *The New Nanzan Guide to Japanese Religions*, pp. 415-428. University of Hawai’i Press, 2024.

Translations

Yoshimi Shunya, “Japan’s Decline: The Heisei Era in World History,” in *The New Cambridge History of Japan Volume 3: The Modern Japanese Nation and Empire*. Edited by Laura Hein. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023, pp. 261-290.

Azuma Hiroki. *The Philosophy of the Tourist*. London: Urbanomic, 2023. 238 pages.

Azuma Hiroki. *General Will 2.0: Rousseau, Freud, Google*. With Naoki Matsuyama. New York: Vertical Inc., 2014. 240 pages.

Tosaka Jun, “The Fate of Japanism: From Fascism to Emperorism” and “Liberalist Philosophy and Materialism: Against Two Types of Liberalist Philosophy” in *Tosaka Jun: A Critical Reader*. Edited by Ken C. Kawashima, Fabian Schäfer, and Robert Stolz. Ithaca: Cornell East Asia Series, 2013.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Washington Naval Treaty,” “London Naval Treaty,” “Peace Preservation Law,” in *Japan at War: An Encyclopedia*. Edited by Louis Perez. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2013.

Book Reviews

The Red Years: Theory, Politics, and Aesthetics in the Japanese '68, Edited by Gavin Walker. *Journal of Japanese Studies*. 48:2 (Summer 2022).

Faking Liberties: Religious Freedom in American-Occupied Japan, Jolyon Baraka Thomas. *Social Science Japan Journal*. 25:1 (Winter 2022).

Thought Crime: Ideology & State Power in Interwar Japan, Max M. Ward. *Journal of Asian Studies*. 78:4 (2019).

GRANT FUNDING

2018	Faculty Research Assistance Program B, UAlbany
2016	Individual Development Awards Program Grant, UAlbany
2015	Faculty Research Assistance Program B, UAlbany Individual Development Awards Program Grant, UAlbany
2011-12	Mrs. Giles Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Chicago
2010-11	Center for East Asian Studies Japanese Studies Dissertation Write-up Grant, University of Chicago
2009-10	Toyota Centennial Research Assistantship
2007-08	Fulbright Fellowship from the Institute of International Education Fulbright-Hays Dissertation Research Fellowship (Declined)
2005	Center for East Asian Studies Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, University of Chicago
2003-07	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations Full Tuition Fellowship, University of Chicago.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Saving the *Kokutai* from Patriotism: Containment Policies Against Rightwing Activism in Wartime Japan” March 2017. Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Toronto.

“Faith in the *Ethnos*: Shinran and Radical Nationalist Thought in Prewar Japan” July 2016. Asian Studies Conference in Japan, International Christian University, Tokyo.

“Policing the Right: The Japanese Wartime Government’s Problems with Patriotism” June 2015. Asian Studies Conference in Japan, Meiji Gakuin University, Tokyo.

“Democracy and the Rightwing: Freedom and Morality in Taisho Japanist Thought” March 2015. Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Chicago.

“Shinran and Faith in Wartime Japanist Thought” May 2014. Symposium on Approaches to Wartime Japan: Militarism, Fascism, and Religion. University of Southern California.

“A Crisis in the Humanities, Circa 1937: Intellectuals Respond to the War in China,” January 2014. Southeast Conference of Association of Asian Studies.

“A Japanist Democracy?: Liberty and Nation in Taisho Conservative Thought,” Southeast Conference of Association of Asian Studies 2012.

“The World in their Image: Utopian Theories of Leadership and Empire in Wartime Japan,” October 2011, 16th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, UCLA Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies.

“The Language of Japanism,” Oct. 3, 2010, Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs 2010, The Ohio State University.

“Nishida Kitarō and Soren Kierkegaard” April 2002, Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religions, Luther Seminary.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“In the Wake of a Failed Revolution: Showa Ishin After 1945” May 2023. Tohoku University.

“Arbiters of Patriotism: Right-wing Scholars in Imperial Japan” February 2021. University of Southern California, East Asian Studies Center New Books Series.

“Arbiters of Patriotism: Right-wing Scholars in Imperial Japan” February 2020. UCLA.

“Arbiters of Patriotism: Right-wing Scholars in Imperial Japan” December 2019. Vassar College.

“Arbiters of Patriotism: Right-wing Scholars in Imperial Japan” May 2019. Tohoku University.

“Gusties and the Study of Religion” May 2019. Annual George Hall Lecture. Gustavus Adolphus College.

“Ethno-nationalism and the Rightwing in Imperial Japan” April 2019. Bard College.

Roundtable Panelist. “Is There Anything Special About the University of Chicago?” Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago. 2016.

“The Rightwing in Imperial Japan” June 2016. Modern Japanese Studies Program Lecture Series, Hokkaido University, Sapporo.

“Alternationalism and Buddhist Faith in Wartime Japan” April 2014. Asia Forum: New Research and Perspectives in Asian Studies, Hamilton College.

“On Ideology and Ideologues: The Issue of ‘Japanism’ in the Study of Wartime Japan,” October 2012. Postdoctoral Colloquium at University of California Los Angeles.

Discussant. Panel on “Transmission and Authenticity,” October 2012. 17th Annual Graduate Student Symposium, UCLA Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies.

“The Intellectual as Metaphor: Theories of Leadership and Empire in Wartime Japan,” May 2011, Arts & Politics of East Asia Workshop, University of Chicago.

“From Writing the Self to Reading the Nation,” June 2010, East Asia: Transregional Histories Workshop, University of Chicago.

“‘Nihon’ no tetsugakuka: Minoda Muneki to Genri Nippon-sha” (in Japanese) [“Philosophizing ‘Japan’: Minoda Muneki and the Genri Nippon Society,”] March 2008, for the Lifetime Learning Studies, Department of Education, Kyoto University.

“Amerika no nihongaku to Minoda Muneki” (in Japanese) [“Japan Studies in the United States and Minoda Muneki,”] Dec. 2007, for the Study Group on Historical Sociology of University Critique, Kyoto University.

TEACHING

Courses Taught

University at Albany (Instructor)

UFSP 100/UFSP 102 The World of East Asian Studies First Year Seminar Program

EAJ 170 Japan: Its Culture and Heritage.

EAJ/HIS 278 Japanese Pop Culture from Edo to the Present.

EAJ/HIS 384 History of Premodern Japan.

EAJ/HIS 385 History of Modern Japan.

* EAJ/HIS 436 Fascism: Japan and Beyond.

* EAJ/HIS 437 History of Japanese Thought.

EAS 490: East Asian Studies Capstone.

*denotes new courses developed and added to UAlbany course catalogue.

Hamilton College (Instructor)

Exploring the Pacific: Missionaries, Pirates, and Traders in the Asian Seas. Spring, 2014.

History of Modern Japan: From Samurai to Salarymen. Spring, 2014.

Comparative Fascism: Japan and Beyond. Fall, 2013.

University of California, Los Angeles (Instructor)

Introduction to Japanese Thought. Spring, 2013.

Individual Studies in Japanese: Reading Japanese Critical Texts. Winter, 2013.

University of Chicago (Teaching Assistant)

Introduction to East Asian Civilizations: Japan. Spring, 2012; Winter, 2007.

Introduction to East Asian Civilizations: Vietnam. Winter, 2009.

Ph.D Students Supervised

Daniel McHale, Department of History, University at Albany. (Dissertation Committee member).

Undergraduate Theses Supervised

Haylee Shephard, Department of History, University at Albany. Winner of Presidential Award, 2017.

SERVICE

Department Service

Member. Ad-hoc committee for curricular reform. Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany. Spring 2019.

Co-Preparer. Departmental Self Study. Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany. Fall 2020.

Member. Undergraduate Education Committee. Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany. 2015 – 2022.

Member. Search committee for assistant professor of Korean Studies. Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany. 2017 – 2018 academic year.

Member. Search committee for assistant professor of Japanese Religions. Department of East Asian Studies, University at Albany. 2014 – 2015 academic year.

Member. Search committee for postdoctoral fellow for the study of Japan and the Environment. Committee on Asian Studies, Hamilton College, 2013 – 2014 academic year.

College Service

Member. Search Committee for Administrative Staff. College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany. Spring 2024.

Member. Academic Programs Committee. Faculty Council, College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany. Fall 2019-Spring 2020.

Member. Academic Support Committee. Faculty Council, College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany. Spring 2018-Spring 2019.

Representative for the School of Humanities to the Graduate Council, Student Government at the University of Chicago, 2011-2012.

University Service

Member. Search Committee for Three Lecturers. Honors College, University at Albany. Spring 2024.

Faculty Advisor. World of East Asian Studies Living-Learning Community. University at Albany. Fall 2022 – present.

Professional Service

External Reviewer. *American Historical Review*, *ASIANetwork Exchange*, Bloomsbury, *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, *Japan Forum*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, SUNY Press, Westview Press.

Symposium Organizer. “Approaches to Wartime Japan: Militarism, Fascism, and Religion.” University of Southern California, May 3, 2014.

Program Chair, “East Asia in Performance,” Graduate Student Conference on East Asian Studies, April 2012, University of Chicago. Initiated, planned and gathered funding.

Community Service

Member. Collections Committee. Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield MA. 2018-2022.
Member. Collections Assessment Committee. Berkshire Museum. 2020-2022.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association
Association of Asian Studies
Modern Japan History Association