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Asian Studies

School for International and Public Affairs (SIPA) | College of Arts and Sciences

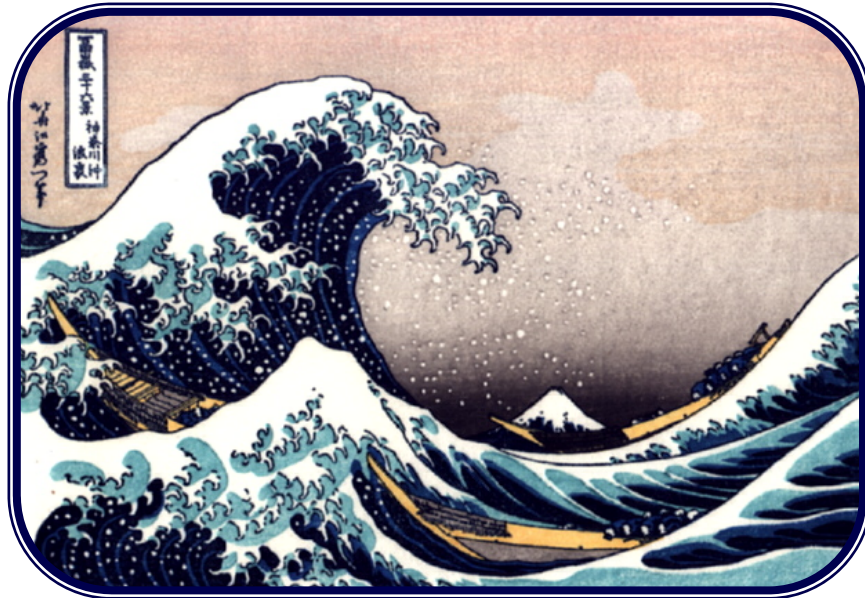
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SJS The Southern Japan Seminar
米南日本研究セミナー



Midwest Japan Seminar



Saturday, February 18, 2012

Florida International University

Room - MARC Pavilion



SOUTHERN JAPAN SEMINAR



Saturday, February 18th

- ◆ 9:00 AM Arrival
- ◆ 9:15 - 9:30 Welcoming Remarks
 - ◇ Steven Heine, Director of Asian Studies, FIU
- ◆ 9:30 - 12:30 Morning Session (SJS)
 - ◇ Takehiko Kojima, FIU
 - “Misreading Yanagita Kunio: A Hidden Intellectual Lin-
eage between Japanese Folklore and the Enlightenment
Thought”
 - Respondent:** Steven Heine, FIU
 - ◇ John Allen Tucker, East Carolina University
 - “Matsunaga Sekigo’s *Irinsho*: An Early Tokugawa Work
that Interprets Confucianism in Terms of Buddhism
and Daoism”
 - Respondent:** Matthew Marr, FIU
 - ◇ Kinko Ito, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
 - “A Sociological Analysis of Ainu Culture”
 - Respondent:** Masako Kutoba, FIU
 - ◇ FIU Asian Studies Grad Student Respondents
- ◆ 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch (*Invited Guests Only*)
- ◆ 1:30 - 5:00 Afternoon Session (MJS)
 - ◇ Susan Orpett Long, John Carroll University
 - “Revisiting Siblings and Grandchildren: The Meaning of
the Japanese Family Relationship in the Old Age
Society”
 - 15 minute break*
 - ◇ Sumiko Otsubo, Metropolitan State University
 - “Fighting on Two Fronts: Japan’s Involvement in the
Siberian Intervention and the Spanish Influenza Pan-
demic of 1918”
- ◆ 5:00 Dinner (*SJS & MJS Participants*)



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9:15 AM Welcoming Remarks

- **Steven Heine**, Director of Asian Studies and Associate Director of the School of International and Public Affairs

Steven Heine specializes in East Asian and comparative religions as well as Japanese Buddhism and intellectual history. He also teaches a variety of courses including Japanese culture and religion, history, and the modernization of Asia. He is a recipient of the Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Award for a lifetime of achievement in service to the exchanges between Japan and the United States. In 2007, Dr. Heine received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette from the government of Japan. He has published two dozen books and several dozens of articles in refereed journals and collections.

9:30 AM Morning Panel : Southern Japan Seminar

This panel explores different components of Japanese culture. These include the connection between folklore and enlightenment in Japan, the use of Buddhism and Daoism to define Confucianism, and Japan's imminent societal problems regarding the indigenous Ainu.

- **Takehiko Kojima**, Florida International University
“Misreading Yanaka Kunio: A Neglected Intellectual Lineage between Enlightenment Thought and Japanese Folklore”

Takehiko Kojima is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations. He received his M.A. in Area Studies from the University of Tsukuba in 1997 and his Ph.D. in Political Science in 2011 from FIU. His dissertation traced the evolution of Yanagita's conception of space and time in his critical engagement with modern methods of politics and knowledge production. His main research interest is international political thought, specifically concerning cultural diversity.

Abstract: Yanagita Kunio (1875-1962), an influential intellectual known as the founder of Japanese folklore, is considered to be a chief proponent of Japanese uniqueness – genuine or false – by both his followers and critics. However, a close reading of his texts reveals consequential and long-lasting influences from



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Enlightenment thinkers such as Montesquieu, Rousseau, Adam Smith, J. S. Mill, and Marx on his thought. In light of this intellectual lineage, a very different interpretation of his intellectual project is possible. The fact that both his followers and critics almost completely miss this possibility is illustrative of a problem Yanagita himself tackled - i.e., the modern/traditional dichotomy.

◇ Respondent: **Matthew Marr**, Florida International University

- **John Allen Tucker**, East Carolina University
“Matsunaga Sekigo’s *Irinsho*: An Early Tokugawa Work that Interprets Confucianism in terms of Buddhism and Daoism”

John Tucker is a Professor of History whose focus is on Sino-Japanese Neo-Confucianism under the direction of Wm. Theodore de Bary. Between 1990 and 2000, Dr. Tucker taught at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. He is the author of two translation studies, *Ito Jinsai’s Gomo Jigi and the Philosophical Definition of Early Modern Japan* and *Ogyu Sorai’s Philosophical Masterworks: The Bendo and Benmei*.

Abstract: This paper suggests that the Confucian revival in the Tokugawa period was another dimension of early-modern Japan’s suppression of Christianity. While this suppression occasioned brutal warfare with the Shimabara Uprising of 1637, that same year Matsunaga Sekigo authored his *Ethics (Irinsho 彙倫抄)*, defining Confucian terms and syncretically matching them with Buddhist, Daoism, and Shinto notions. However, the main purpose of Sekigo’s work was not semantics; he was rectifying terms in order to define the philosophical foundations of the new polity. Sekigo’s definitions, moreover, created a kind of philosophical united front, united in opposition to the dangerous heterodoxy, Christianity.

◇ Respondent: **Steven Heine**, Florida International University

- **Kinko Ito**, University of Arkansas in Little Rock
“Social Analysis of Ainu Culture”

Kinko Ito is a Professor of Sociology who has published in *Teaching Sociology*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *International Journal of Comic Art*, *Japan Studies Review*, *Journal of Popular Culture*, *Gurobaru Kyoiku* (Global Education), *Asian Popular Culture*, *Japanese Visual Culture*, etc. She started her research on the Ainu after her most recent book, *A Sociology of Japanese Ladies’ Comics: Images of the Life, Loves, and Sexual Fantasies of Adult Japanese Women* was published during her sabbatical in 2011.

Abstract: The Ainu are an indigenous minority people who reside mainly in northern island of Hokkaido in Japan. They are considered an ethnic group, but a full-blooded Ainu has particular racial traits such as fair skin, a long nose, and



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round eyes. The history of the Ainu is the history of ethnic cleansing and social injustice, and they still suffer from prejudice and discrimination in various social situations. This paper attempts to describe and explore how the Ainu are different from the Japanese as well as the particular social issues and problems that the Ainu are facing today.

◇ Respondent: **Masako Kubota**, Florida International University

FIU Asian Studies Grad Student Respondents:

◇ **Alexis Moore** ◇ **Sharon Thieman**
◇ **Gabriela Romeu** ◇ **Umer Rahman**
◇ **Holly Rodriguez** ◇ **Adam Johnson**

12 :30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch, *Invited Guests Only*

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM Afternoon Session: **Midwest Japan Seminar**

This session presents various issues affecting modern Japanese society. One discusses the elderly population and its effect on the family system, and the second focusses on influenza epidemic that affected the Japanese troops during the First World War.

- **Susan Orpett Long**, John Carol University
“Revisiting Siblings and Grandchildren: The Meaning of Japanese Family Relationships in the Old Age Society”

Susan Orpett Long is Professor of Anthropology and founding director of its East Asian Studies program at John Carroll University. She has conducted research in Japan and the United States on families, gender, medical systems, elder care, and end-of-life decision-making, authoring *Final Days: Japanese Culture and Choice at the End of Life* and editing *Caring for the Elderly in Japan and the U.S.: Practices and Policies* and *Lives in Motion: Composing Circles of Self and Community in Japan*.

Abstract: The last half of the 20th century saw demographic and cultural shifts that have dramatically altered the pre-World War II Japanese family system. Anthropologists have studied elements of this transition but little attention has been paid to what family means for the increasing proportion of Japan’s elderly population. This paper reflects on the meanings of extended family relationships with siblings and grandchildren for the oldest, pointing to ways they experience this new life stage as well as to the ways old models continue to shape relationships at this intersection of history and life course.

15 Minute Break



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- **Sumiko Otsubo**, Metropolitan State University
“Fighting on Two Fronts: Japan's Involvement in the Siberian Intervention and the Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918”

Sumiko Otsubo currently teaches Asian and world history courses. Her research focuses on the body, gender, and medicine in Japanese history and her publications include “Engendering Eugenics: Feminists and Marriage Restriction Legislation in the 1920s” from *Gendering Modern Japanese History*.

Abstract: In the spring of 1918, towards the end of the Great War, there was an outbreak of the Spanish Influenza. By spring 1920, it had killed around one hundred thousand people, which was several times more than the war did itself. It was also in August of 1918 that Japan sent over seventy thousand troops. Examining a geographically transnational document – a medical history of the Siberian Intervention compiled by the Japanese army – this paper explores the pandemic transmission in northeastern Asia when national boundaries were unstable and systematic national and local statistics and records were scarcely taken.

5:00 PM

Post-Seminar Dinner (*SJS & MJS Participants*)

	<p style="text-align: center;">Japan Studies Review</p> <p>The <i>Japan Studies Review</i> is a refereed journal published annually by the Southern Japan Seminar and Asian Studies at FIU. As a publication that addresses a variety of cross-disciplinary issues in Japanese studies, <i>Japan Studies Review</i> includes contributions that deal with practical and theoretical topics in the areas of business and economic issues, politics, education and curriculum development, philosophy and aesthetics, gender issues, popular culture, and immigration issues.</p> <p>This year's journal features a special section titled “Language and Linguistics,” which includes three articles: “Strengthening Academic Curricula and Students' Future Careers by Enhancing Japanese Language and Cultural Understanding in International Cooperative Education” by Noriko Fujioka-Ito, “Lexical Borrowing: A Case Study of the Language Contact Phenomenon in Japan and China” by Xuexin Liu, and “Minority Language Education in Japan” by Rong Zhang.</p> <p>Three other articles are included in this issue: “Japanese Professors Resist University Reforms During the U.S. Occupation” by Ruriko Kumano, “From Samurai to <i>Manga</i>: The Function of <i>Manga</i> to Shape and Reflect Japanese Identity” by Maria Rankin-Brown, and “School Rules and National Development in Postwar Japan” by Yuichi Tamura. There is one essay in this issue: “Tsugaru Gaku: The Contributions of <i>Chihōgaku</i> to Japanese Studies” by Anthony S. Rausch.</p> <p>Four book reviews are also included: Susan Lee reviews <i>Kingdom of Beauty: Mingei and the Politics of Folk Art in Imperial Japan</i> by Kim Brandt. There are two reviews by Daniel A. Métraux on <i>Making Waves: Politics, Propaganda, and the Emergence of the Japanese Navy 1868–1922</i> by J. Charles Schnecking and <i>Japan's Holy War: The Ideology of Radical Shinto Ultrationalism</i> by Walter A. Skya. Yuki Watanabe reviews <i>Otaku: Japan's Database Animals</i> by Hiroki Azuma.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For more information please visit: http://asian.fiu.edu/jsr</p>
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Master of Arts in Asian Studies

The **Master of Arts in Asian Studies (MAAS)** is a growing interdisciplinary program drawing on excellent faculty resources in various departments in the School of International and Public Affairs, including Global and Sociocultural Studies, Politics and International Relations, Religious Studies, and more. This program is designed for students who wish to pursue advanced studies of the traditional cultures and modern socio-economic trends of Asia, with an emphasis on China and Japan.

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Special thanks to...

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School of International and Public Affairs
The Consulate General of Japan in Miami

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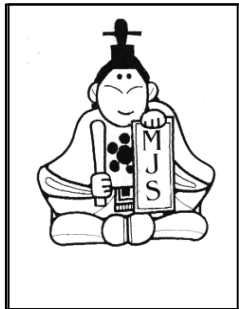


SJS The Southern Japan Seminar 米南日本研究セミナー

The Southern Japan Seminar (SJS) promotes the research and educational activities of Japan-related scholars in the Southeastern United States. Drawing upon the strengths and needs of regional Japan studies, SJS fosters critical inquiry, multi-disciplinary discussion, and the dissemination of knowledge, concerning all Japan-related topics, both theoretical and practical. The membership is composed primarily of university faculty, with a few journalists, businesspersons, and other professionals with strong Japan-related interests. Members represent the fields of Japanese art, business management, education, history, language, literature, philosophy, politics, religion, sociology, and other disciplines. SJS is housed by Asian Studies at Florida International University.

The Seminar sponsors conferences, at which members and guests invited from Japan and other regions of North America present and discuss their current research on Japan, and conduct workshops on Japan-related issues. In addition, SJS helps support the *Japan Studies Review*, a peer-reviewed journal of scholarly research. It welcomes collaborations with other organizations and institutions that seek to promote studies of Japan.

For more information please visit:
<http://asian.fiu.edu/>



Midwest Japan Seminar

The Midwest Japan Seminar (MJS) is an association of scholars who devote a significant portion of their effort to Japan Studies. These efforts reflect a wide range of Japan-related topics in art, history, business, sociology, religion, and other disciplines. The Midwest Japan Seminar is held five times a year at various host institutions throughout the Midwest and South, and once in conjunction with the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA).

This Seminar coordinates on a Saturday afternoon for four hours with a dinner following the event. Two scholars are invited to present the results of their current research with research papers that are sent out prior to the seminar, providing the opportunity for in-depth discussion and feedback. MJS is housed by the Mitsukoshi Japan Center at Western Michigan University.

For more information please visit: <http://international.wmich.edu/>