

JAWS Japan Anthropology Workshop

31st JAWS Conference
Research on Japan in the (post-)COVID-19 Era
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, July 6-9, 2022

Wednesday, July 6
Online Panel Sessions

09:30 – 11:00 PhD Research Workshop: *Panel Session A* (online)

TEAMS: [link](#)

Chair: Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni
(Tel Aviv University)

Yuan Mingyang (Ritsumeikan University) *Buddhist temples in Japan in the era of COVID-19: The case of Chionji*

Yosri Razgui (Kobe University) *Football and pandemics: Doing ethnography in Japanese stadiums during Covid-19*

Wafaa Abdo (Osaka University) *Nutrition education activities in Japanese schools during Covid-19: "The fun a bit has gone"*

11:00 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 13:00 PhD Research Workshop: *Panel Session B* (online)

TEAMS: [link](#)

Chair: Anemone Platz
(Aarhus University)

Anna Lughezzani (University of Padova, Venice, and Verona) *Am I a real anthropologist? The pros and cons of getting a PhD amid a pandemic*

Rituparna Roy (University of Hyderabad) *Japanese porcelains in Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad: Reviewing the research methodology during the Covid-19 pandemic*

Jaime González-Bolado (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) *The value of the Jesuit sources to the studies of Early Modern Japan: The case of the Imjin war (1592-1598) and its research in the era of Covid-19*

Casa Convalescència (Barcelona)

14:30 – 16:00 Reception desk open

16:00 – 16:30 Welcoming Remarks

Room: Magna (Casa Convalescència)

Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni (Tel Aviv University), Secretary General of the JAWS

Blai Guarné (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Organiser of the JAWS Conference, Barcelona 2022

16:30 – 18:30 Keynote Address

Roger Goodman (University of Oxford) *Towards an anthropology of resilience: The role of family businesses in combatting demographic decline in Japan*

18:30 – 20:00 Opening reception at Casa Covalescència

Thursday, July 7

Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (FTI, UAB Bellaterra Campus)

8:30 – 17:30 Reception desk open

9:00 – 11:00 Panel Session 1

Room: 004 (FTI)

Researching on Japan in (post)COVID Times: Difficulties, Opportunities, Challenges

Chair: Blai Guarné
(Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, UAB)

Klemen Senica (Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, Croatia) *Plights of ethnography 2.0: Fieldwork experience during the Covid-19 pandemic in Japan*

Megha Wadhwa (Free University of Berlin) & Ruth Achenbach (Goethe University Frankfurt / IZO) *Research interrupted: Conducting ethnographic migration research during a pandemic*

Luca Proietti (SOAS, University of London) *Chasing subreddits to research on pandemic social actions in Japanese music*

Marco Di Francesco (University of Oxford) *Non-essential activities, elderly youtubers, and online self-censorship: The world of rakugo storytelling in the time of Covid-19*

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

Room: 102 (FTI)

11:30 – 13:00 Panel Session 2
Japanese Civil Society: Social Activism, Digital Networks, and Disaster Recovery Processes
Room: 101 (FTI)

11:30 – 13:00 Panel Session 3
Media Imaginaries: Simulacra, Images, and Words
Room: 103 (FTI)

Convenor: Mario Malo-Sanz (UAB, UNIZAR, UOC)
Chair: Mitchell W. Sedgwick (London School of Economics)

Chair: Griseldis Kirsch (SOAS, University of London)

Mitchell W. Sedgwick (London School of Economics) *Aftermaths: 3.11 not as end point, but process*

Declan Prout (SOAS, University of London) *“Being alone is best”: Visions of ushinawareta jūnen in NHK ni Yōkoso (2006)*

Mario Malo-Sanz (UAB, UNIZAR, UOC) *Digital ethnography and civil society in Japan: litatemura and Fukushima Saisei no Kai through social networks*

Julia Rigual-Mur (University of Zaragoza) *The impact of manga on Spanish comic authors*

Kyoko Ito-Morales (University of Granada) *Youth online social movement: A case study of change.org in Japan*

Naoko Hosokawa (University of Tokyo) *Media language and the Covid-19 crisis: Resurgence of debates over loanwords in Japan*

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch	
14:00 – 16:00 Panel Session 4 <i>Multicultural Communities: Residents, Migrants, and Tourists</i> Room: 101 (FTI)	14:00 – 15:00 Panel Session 5 <i>Institutional Discourses: Organisations, Models, and Practices</i> Room: 103 (FTI)
<p>Chair: Joseph Hankins (University of California, San Diego)</p> <p>Joseph Hankins (University of California, San Diego) <i>Still life with scarecrows – The work of living together</i></p> <p>Jason Danely (Oxford Brookes University) <i>Living together in uncertain times: Politics of sympathy in tōjisha groups</i></p> <p>Nataša Visočnik Gerželj (University of Ljubljana) <i>Anthropology from home: Researching the attitude towards the foreigners in Japan during Covid-19</i></p> <p>Hibiki Takeda (Kyoto University) <i>Network of Kinship across Japan, Republic of Korea and Democratic People's Republic of Korea: Difficulties and conflicts under the Covid situation</i></p>	<p>Chair: Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni (Tel Aviv University)</p> <p>Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni (Tel Aviv University) <i>Covid-19, flexible working and ideal worker culture in Japan: Discourse and practice</i></p> <p>Stephen Christopher Johnson (University of Copenhagen) <i>The Japanization of a global 'spiritual business': The Modern Mystery School</i></p>
	15:00 – 16:00 Panel Session 6 <i>An Anthropological Lifetime in Japan: Ethnographic Film</i> Room: Film Theater (Cívica Square, UAB)
	<p>Chair: Fabio Gygi (SOAS, University of London)</p> <p><i>Understanding Japanese culture - 45 years researching a village in rural Japan</i> (James Hendry, 2020, 44min) with Joy Hendry</p>
16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break Room: 102 (FTI)	
16:30 – 18:00 Panel Session 7 <i>Critical Orders: Normativity, Performance, and Transgression</i> Room: 101 (FTI)	16:30 – 18:00 Panel Session 8 <i>Capture the Fleeting Affect: Enskilment Processes as a Strategies to 'Feel with the World'</i> Room: 103 (FTI)
<p>Chair: Dolores P. Martinez (University of Oxford & SOAS, University of London)</p> <p>Stefan Heeb (Kanagawa University) <i>Stratified relational normativity: Legitimizing social order</i></p> <p>Igor Pruša (Ambis University Prague) <i>Anthropology of scandal: Approaching Japanese scandals as performance and ritual</i></p> <p>Kiyomi Misaki (The University of Melbourne) <i>Realising small-scale democracy: a case of Niseko, Japan</i></p>	<p>Convenor & Chair: Andrea De Antoni (Kyoto University)</p> <p>Xinzhe Huang (Ritsumeikan University) <i>Feeling natural immunity: A kikō practitioner's response to Covid-19 in Japan</i></p> <p>Takumi Fukaya (Kyoto University) <i>Shared and learned metaphors of the senses: A case study of sommeliers in contemporary Japan</i></p> <p>Andrea De Antoni (Kyoto University) <i>Where is my mind? Learning to listen to the voice of spirits among spiritual healers in Naha as a practice of feeling with the world</i></p>
18:00 – 19:00 One-to-one tutoring sessions Room: 104 & 113 (FTI)	

Friday, July 8

Faculty of Translation and Interpreting (UAB Bellaterra campus)

8:30 – 17:30 Reception desk open

<p>9:00 – 10:30 Panel Session 9a <i>Placing Japan: Sites, Identities, and Connections in the Face of COVID-19</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 101 (FTI)</p>	<p>9:00 – 10:30 Panel Session 10a <i>Historical Anthropology: Family Life, Relatedness and Emotions in Japanese History</i> Session 1: <i>Family structures and family life in the Heian period</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 103 (FTI)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Convenor & Chair: Blai Guarné (UAB) & Paul Hansen (Hokkaido University)</p> <p>Paul Hansen (Hokkaido University) <i>Waiting out Covid in Hokkaido's ski Shangri-La</i></p> <p>Hanno Jentsch & Sebastian Polak-Rottmann (University of Vienna) <i>Rural spaces, digital methods: A remote perspective on social welfare provision in Aso</i></p> <p>Susanne Klien (Hokkaido University) <i>Doing fieldwork in Japan during the Covid-19 pandemic: Between virtual viscerality and face-to-face anxieties</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Convenor & Chair: Brigitte Steger (University of Cambridge)</p> <p>Kristina Buhrman (Florida State University) <i>Relating through avoiding danger: Family membership and divination in Heian society</i></p> <p>Brigitte Steger (University of Cambridge) <i>'Who sleeps by whom?' How sleep arrangements constituted family life in the Heian period</i></p>

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

Room: 102 (FTI)

<p>11:00 – 13:00 Panel Session 9b <i>Placing Japan: Sites, Identities, and Connections in the Face of COVID-19</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 101 (FTI)</p>	<p>11:00 – 13:00 Panel Session 10b <i>Historical Anthropology: Family Life, Relatedness and Emotions in Japanese History</i> Session 2: <i>Children, dolls and emotions</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 103 (FTI)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Convenor & Chair: Blai Guarné (UAB) & Paul Hansen (Hokkaido University)</p> <p>Florian Purkarthofer (University of Vienna) <i>Post-Human anthropology of the senses: An attempt to disentangle Tokyo's localities from jumbled line(s), split screens, and (dis-)connections</i></p> <p>William Kelly (University of Oxford) <i>Singing alone together: researching hito kara and changing manifestations of sociality in post-Covid Japan</i></p> <p>Jelena Košinaga (University of Szeged) <i>Desires interrupted: Escaping Japan in the time of the pandemic</i></p> <p>Genaro Castro-Vazquez (Kansai Gaidai University) <i>Physical exercise, bodyweight control and gender among Japanese men</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Convenor & Chair: Brigitte Steger (University of Cambridge)</p> <p>Pia Jolliffe (Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford) <i>'High-born and low-born love their children the same way': Emotions and children's politically motivated deaths according to Japanese and Jesuit chroniclers</i></p> <p>Sabine Frühstück (University of California, Santa Barbara) <i>The business(es) of immortality</i></p> <p>Fabio Gygi (SOAS, University of London) <i>Dolls in Taishō Japan: Between nostalgia, creative play, and Emperor worship</i></p>

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch	
14:00 – 16:00 Panel Session 11 <i>Blurred Boundaries: Genes, Animals, and Technologies</i> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 101 (FTI)</p>	14:00 – 16:00 Panel Session 12a <i>Representing the Ainu in Contemporary Japanese Media: Identity, Gender, and Cultural Heritage</i> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 103 (FTI) & Film Theater (Cívica Square, UAB)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Chair: Giulia De Togni (University of Edinburgh)</p> <p>Giulia De Togni (University of Edinburgh) <i>Are care robots really a solution?</i></p> <p>Silvia Croydon (Osaka University) <i>Still a bit-player?: Japan and human embryonic stem cell research</i></p> <p>Barbara Holthus (German Institute for Japanese Studies Tokyo) <i>Pets in pandemic Japan</i></p> <p>Alba Torrents (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) <i>Animals, beasts, robots and aliens: Japan media ecology and the Anthropocene</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Convenor & Chair: Marcos Centeno (University of Valencia & Birkbeck, University of London)</p> <p>Marcos Centeno (University of Valencia, Birkbeck, University of London) <i>Representing contemporary conflicts within the Ainu cultural heritage through Takeshi Fukunaga's Ainu Mosir (2020)</i> [Room 103]</p> <p>Syada Dastagir (Birkbeck, University of London) <i>The representation of Ainu women in Dagger of Kamui (Rintaro, 1985)</i> [Room 103]</p> <p><i>Ainu hunter, Mon-chan (2020, 25min) & Autumn salmon (2017-2019, 18min) with their director, Eiko Soga</i> [Film screening at the Film Theater]</p>
16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break	
Room: 102 (FTI)	
16:30 – 18:30 Panel Session 13 <i>Thinking Through Relational Creativities: An Ethnographic Lab</i> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: 101 (FTI)</p>	16:30 – 18:30 Panel Session 12b <i>Ethnographic Film Screening</i> <p style="text-align: right;">Room: Film Theater (Cívica Square, UAB)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Convenor & Chair: Jamie Coates & Jennifer Coates (University of Sheffield)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Convenor & Chair: Marcos Centeno (University of Valencia & Birkbeck, University of London)</p> <p><i>Finding their niche: Unheard stories of migrant women (2022, 60min)</i> with its director Megha Wadhwa, in conversation with Syada Dastagir</p> <p><i>Ainu Neno. An Ainu (2021, 73min)</i> with its director, Laura Liverani, in conversation with Marcos Centeno</p>
18:30 Musical performance by Daniel da Silva, guitarist	
FTI gardens	
19:00 Conference group photo	
FTI gardens	
21:00 Conference dinner in Barcelona	

Saturday, July 9
Casa Convalescència (Barcelona)

10:00 – 12:00 Panel Session 14

Researching Rural Japan in (post)COVID Times

Room: 13 (Casa Convalescència)

Convenor & Chair: Chris McMorran
(National University of Singapore)

Sarah Bijlsma (Freie Universität Berlin) *Digital ethnographies of care: Studying Miyakojima in-migration in a more-than-real world*

Cecilia Luzi (Freie Universität Berlin) *Online migrants' lives in rural Japan: How digital methods create new possibilities for life history*

Cornelia Reiher (Freie Universität Berlin) *Space and time in a pandemic world: Researching rural Japan online*

Chris McMorran (National University of Singapore) *Rural (dis)connections and Covid-19*

12:00 – 12:30 Coffee break

12:30 – 14:00 Conference closing remarks & JAWS business meeting

Room: 13 (Casa Convalescència)