

Aoi Saito

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Education

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Ph.D. of History, Expected to Graduate in 2025
Fields: Japanese History, East Asian History, and Global History

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
Master of Applied Linguistics, May 2013

Kanagawa University, Kanagawa, Japan
Bachelor of Literature, April 2011
Major: Cross-Cultural Study

Yasaka Female School, Kyoto, Japan
Training in Japanese arts, April 2006
Focus: Dance, Japanese Banjo, Tea Ceremony, Japanese Flute, Singing, and Calligraphy

Professional Appointments

Yale University	
Senior Lector, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures	08/2016-07/2019
Lector, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures	07/2013-07/2016

Work in Progress

For my dissertation project, I am currently working on women, their network, and mobility in order to examine the development of national welfare systems. This project focuses on Japanese women who worked as prostitutes in the 20th century, and explores what kind of health and working problems they faced, how they attempted to address these problems with their mobility and personal connections in Imperial Japan, and how they participated in the formation of the post-war Japanese welfare system. It argues that investigating homosocial connections among prostitutes will help us better understand discussions of the relation of women to Japanese governmental welfare protections today.

Honors, Grants, and Scholarships

The Graduate Research Grant, Northwestern University, 2021.
The Asian Studies Graduate Cluster Summer Grant, Northwestern University, 2021.
Summer Language Grant, Northwestern University, 2020.
Instructional Innovation Grants, Yale University, 2015 and 2017.
Travel Grants, Yale University, 2016 and 2017.

High Pass on the comprehensive exam in the Applied Linguistics program, Texas Tech University, 2013.
Growing the Graduate Program Scholarship, Texas Tech University, 2011.
International Student Exchange Support System Scholarship, Japan Student Service Organization, 2009.
Kanagawa University Overseas Activities Support Scholarship, 2009.
Top-honored Student in Foreign Language Department, Kanagawa University, 2008.
Murahashi Frontier Scholarship, Kanagawa University, 2008.
Honor student, Yasaka Female School, 2006.

Presentations

Invited presentation. Saito, A., (2021, May). Linguistic Landscape as a Tool for Second Language Learning, Kanagawa University, Yokohama, Kanagawa (Japan).
Invited presentation. Saito, A., (2014-2019, February). Japanese Business Etiquette. Material presented in the International Experience course at the Yale University Business School, New Haven, CT (USA).
Invited presentation. Saito, A., (2018, November). Implementation of Canvas in the Japanese program. Material presented in Conference of Language Teaching and Technology, Yale University, New Haven, CT (USA).
Invited presentation. Saito, A., (2018, April). Pleasure Quarters. Material presented in the Japanese Premodern History course, Yale University, New Haven, CT (USA).
Poster presentation. Saito, A., (2018, May). Aizuchi and Communication. Material presented Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ (USA).
Oral presentation. Saito, A., (2017, August). Video Exchange Project for Cultural Competence. Material presented in the Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education, Calgary, AL (Canada).
Poster presentation. Saito, A., (2016, August). Mobile App and Vocabulary Acquisition. Material presented in the Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education, Toronto, ON (Canada).
Invited presentation. Miyuki, K. Saito, A., Yamada, S., (2012, September). Japanese History: The History of Kyoto. Material presented in American Public Policy course, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (USA).
Invited presentation. Saito, A (2012, August). Japanese Traditional Art Performers. Mori no Ike seminar, Concordia Language Village, Dent, MN (USA).
Invited presentation. Gorsuch, G., Laforet, J., Lee, E., Moreira, A., Saito, A. & Turner, T. (2011). Teaching English in International Contexts: Opportunities for a Place in the Global Community. Paper presented November 14 at the Student Global Connections International Conference, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (USA).
Invited presentation. Saito, A (2010, February). Japanese Traditional Art Performers. Material presented in Japanese Play Course, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (USA)

Certifications

ACTFL OPI Tester and Rater Certificates, 2016.
Graduate Certificate, Teaching English in International Contexts, Texas Tech University, 2013.
Certificate, ALLEX Japanese Teacher Training, Portland State University, 2011.
Certificate, Japanese Teacher Training Course, Kanagawa University, 2010.

Professional Activities

Workshop Leader, Graduate Student Teaching Conference Workshop, Northwestern University, 2020 and 2021.
The Eighth Graduate Summer School in Japanese Early Modern Paleography, University of Cambridge, 2021.
Workshop Leader, Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University, Spring 2021.

Courses in which I Taught and Served as a Teaching Assistant

Global History: Early Modern to Modern Transition by Professor Amy Stanley, Spring 2021 and Winter 2022
Global Environments and World History by Professor Helen Tilley, Winter 2021
Elementary Japanese Language Courses
Intermediate Japanese Language Courses
Advanced Japanese Language Courses

Teaching Experiences

Northwestern University Evanston, IL 09/2020-Present
Teaching Assistant
I lead discussion sections for three hours per week, proctored exams, assisted students to practice reading and writing academic essays during office hours, and graded their papers.

Harvard University Boston, MA Summer 2020
Summer Instructor
I taught beginner-level Japanese language online for 10 hours per week. The tasks included developing materials, offering counseling for students, and supervising students' projects.

Yale University New Haven, CT 07/2013-07/2019
Senior Lecturer
I supervised elementary Japanese courses and taught from beginner to advanced-level Japanese language Monday through Friday, 10 hours per week. The tasks included giving final grades, creating tests, homework, syllabus and course schedules, rubrics for tests and quizzes, and developing materials. I offered counseling for students, supervised

students' projects, wrote recommendation letters, and supervised teaching assistants and teaching fellows. Also, I worked for the Light Fellowship Office.

Kyoto Consortium of Japanese Studies Kyoto, Japan Summer 2018 and 2019
Summer Instructor

I taught intermediate-and advanced-level Japanese language for 12 hours per week. The tasks included giving final grades, creating tests, developing materials, offering counseling for students, and supervising students' projects. I also wrote recommendation letters.

Hokkaido International Foundation Hakodate, Japan Summer 2016 and 2017
Summer Instructor

I taught beginner and intermediate-levels Japanese language Monday through Friday, 15 hours per week. The tasks included giving final grades, creating tests, homework, syllabus and course schedules, rubrics for tests and quizzes, and developing materials. I offered counseling for students, supervised students' projects, and wrote recommendation letters.

Dartmouth Summer Language Program Chiba, Japan Summer 2015
Summer Instructor

I taught intermediate-level Japanese language Monday through Friday, 15 hours per week. The tasks included creating tests and homework, developing materials, offering counseling for students, and supervising students' projects.

Sophia University Summer Language Program Tokyo, Japan Summer 2014
Summer Instructor

I taught intermediate-level Japanese language Monday through Friday, 15 hours per week. The tasks included creating quizzes and homework, developing materials, offering counseling for students, and supervising students' projects.

Texas Tech University Lubbock, TX 08/2011-05/2013
Graduate Instructor

I taught from beginner to advanced Japanese language courses and culture Monday through Friday, five hours a week in the first year and three days, six hours per week in the second year. The tasks included giving final grades, creating tests, homework, course schedules, rubrics for tests and quizzes, and developing materials. I offered counseling for students, supervised students' projects, and wrote recommendation letters, and organized Japanese clubs and events for students in the course.

Concordia Language Village Dent, MN Summer 2012 and 2013
Teacher

I taught intermediate and advanced-level Japanese language and culture to teenagers aged 15 to 18 years old, 15 hours per week. I gave final grades, planned a course schedule, developed materials, offered counseling for students, and wrote students' progress letters for their parents. The tasks included organizing events for villagers, supervising villagers' daily activities, and supporting the daily activities of villagers aged from 9 to 19 years old.

Professional Activities

Workshop Leader, Graduate Student Teaching Conference Workshop, Northwestern University, 2020 and 2021.

Participant, The Eighth Graduate Summer School in Japanese Early Modern Paleography, University of Cambridge, 2021.

Workshop Leader, Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University, Spring 2021.

Certifications

ACTFL OPI Tester and Rater Certificates, 2016.

Graduate Certificate, Teaching English in International Contexts, Texas Tech University, 2013.

Certificate, ALLEX Japanese Teacher Training, Portland State University, 2011.

Certificate, Japanese Teacher Training Course, Kanagawa University, 2010.

Other Work Experiences

Dojyoji Tokyo, Japan 12/2011-06/2012
Waiter
I served food and drinks and assisted geisha and hangyoku (geisha apprentices).

Konpira Kabuki Theatre Kagawa, Japan 04/2009
Seasonal Seat Guide
I tracked guest entrance, set up seats, cleaned up the theatre, sold food, drinks, and souvenirs, and assisted with lighting in the theatre during plays.

Nakagishi Kyoto, Japan 03/2003-04/2006
Maiko, Assistant of Geisha
I learned and performed various Japanese arts, entertained customers with my performance and talking, participated in annual dance festivals, acquired Japanese manners, and studied Kabuki.

Languages

Japanese: native

Chinese: can read with dictionary

Membership

Association for Asian Studies, July 2021.

Personal Activities

I am currently a member of Fujima school, Traditional Japanese dance. In the past, I volunteered for Japanese earthquake relief at Texas Tech University and the Koganecho (a former red-light district) Renovation Project when I was an undergraduate student. I served as an executive committee member of Another Hakone Marathon Project, in which we cleared roads every year after marathon events.