

ERIN L. BRIGHTWELL

Department of Asian Languages & Cultures, University of Michigan, 202 S. Thayer St., Ste. 6III,
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CURRENT POSITION

from Sept 1, 2015

Assistant Professor of Pre-modern Japanese Literature
University of Michigan, Department of Asian Languages & Cultures

PREVIOUS POSITION

August 1, 2014 – July 31, 2015

Associate Professor (fixed term, special appointment) of Comparative Studies of Japanese Culture
Hiroshima University, Department of Integrated Humanities

EDUCATION

September 2007 – June 2014

Princeton University, East Asian Studies (Classical Japanese Literature)

PhD (Thomas Hare, advisor)

Doctoral Dissertation: *The Mirror of China: Language Selection, Images of China, and Narrating Japan in the Kamakura Period (1185-1333)*

General Examinations in Classical Japanese Literature (with Richard Okada), with Minor Fields in Comparative Literature (with Thomas Hare) and Tang and Six Dynasties Literature (with Ping Wang), completed May 2010.

September 2004 – June 2007

University of Washington–Seattle, Asian Languages & Literature (Chinese)

MA (Zev Handel, advisor)

MA thesis: *Confronting the Strange: Narrative and Exposition in Ren Fang's Notes Relating the Extraordinary*

September 2001 – May 2004

University of Washington–Seattle, Asian Languages & Literature (Japanese Linguistics)

BA magna cum laude

September 1991 – May 1995

Smith College, German Studies

BA cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

April 2012 – August 2013

Rikkyō University (立教大学), Tokyo, Japan,
Visiting Researcher (Komine Kazuaki, advisor)

September 2011 – March 2012

Leiden University (LIAS), Leiden, the Netherlands,
Visiting Scholar (Ivo Smits, advisor)

July & August 2010

Academia Sinica (中央研究院), Taipei, Taiwan,
Visiting Scholar (Liu Yuan-ju, advisor)

June 2008 – June 2009

Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC), Yokohama, Japan

June 2006 – August 2006

Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies (IUP), Beijing, PRC

June 2005 – August 2005

Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies (IUP), Beijing, PRC

September 1993 – August 1994

University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany,
Junior Year Abroad

PUBLICATIONS (* indicates peer reviewed)

Major Articles & Book Chapters

- 2017 Constructing the China Behind Chinese in Medieval Japan: *The China Mirror*. In *Nihon bungaku no tenbō o hiraku* 日本文学の展望を拓く, Komine Kazuaki, ed., 412-430. Tokyo: Kasama shoin.
- 2015 Refracted Axis: Kitayama Jun'yū and writing a German Japan. *Japan Forum* 27.4: 431-453.*
Awarded the Ian Nish Prize (2015)
- 2014 『唐物語』と『唐鏡』に於ける「唐」の様相: 中国故事の基礎知識 [‘China’ in ‘China Tales’ and ‘The Mirror of China’: The Basics of Ancient China]. In *Rikkyō Daigaku Nihon bungaku: Komine Kazuaki kyōju teinen ki’nen-gō*: 216-225.
- 2012 Discursive Flights: Structuring Stories in the *Shuyi ji*. *Early Medieval China* 18: 48 – 68.*
- 2005 Analyzing Gender: Wang Xi-feng and the Shrew. *Tamkang Review*. 36.1 – 2: 67 – 87.*

Smaller Publications

- 2018 [Response to “Romanization in the Middle of Nowhere”]. *Fragments: Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Ancient and Medieval Pasts* 7: (forthcoming).

TRANSLATIONS

- 202X Traditions of Japanese Leadership: The *Azuma kagami* as a Primer for Warrior Rule. Mikael S. Adolphson, project leader.
Digital partner and data host: Kyoto University. (In progress, projected 2025.)
- 2017 Ō Chōyū’s “The Torrent.” *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus* 16.1.3 (December 22, 2017): 1-25.
Permanent link: <http://apjif.org/2018/01/O.html>
Awarded the Kyoko Selden Memorial Translation Prize (2017)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2018-2019 Hakuho Foundation Research Fellowship (12 months, Kyoto University)
- 2018-2019 Japan Foundation Research Fellowship (10 months, declined)
- 2017 Kyoko Selden Memorial Translation Prize (unpublished translator category)
Ō Chōyū's *Honryū* 奔流 (The Torrent)
- 2015 Ian Nish Prize for "Refracted axis: Kitayama Jun'yū and writing a German Japan"
- 2011-12 Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship (6 months, Rikkyō University)
- 2011-12 Short-Term Social Science Research Council /Japan Society for Promotion of Science (SSRC-JSPS) Doctoral Fellowship (6 months, declined)
- 2010 David and Mary Hyde Summer Research Fellowship (Academia Sinica, Taiwan)
- 2008-09 College Women's Association of Japan Scholarship to the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC)
- 2007 Turrell V. Wylie Memorial Scholarship (Japanese)
- 2006 Summer FLAS fellowship for Chinese Language Studies (IUP)
- 2005 Summer FLAS fellowship for Chinese Language Studies (IUP)
- 2004-06 Two-year recruitment fellowship to University of Washington, including 2004-05 Top Scholar Award
- 2003 Henry S. Tatsumi Scholarship (Japanese)
- 1995-96 Austrian-American Educational Commission/Fulbright Commission Teaching Assistantship to Austria
- 1995 Anita Luria Ascher Prize in German

INVITED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 "Wellspring and Warning: Essential Chinas in Medieval Japan."
CEAS Japan Colloquium Series. Yale University, February 12.
- 2016 "Tailoring the Continent: Chinas to Suit Medieval Needs" (guest speaker)
Japan: Pre-modern, Modern and Contemporary.
"Dimitrie Cantemir" Christian University, Bucharest, September 1 – 3.
- 2016 "Downward Spin on the 'Rising Sun': Processing the Past in the Wake of the Genpei War"
Loose Canons: Value and Valuation in Japanese Engagements with Chinese Writing II
University of Southern California, April 29.

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Papers Presented

- 2019 "A-/Un-/Re-dressing the Third Princess: the *Kakaishō*, *Yūsenkutsu* and the *Genji*."
Modern Language Association Convention (MLA). Chicago, Jan. 3-6. (*panel accepted*)

- 2017 “The Past in *Mirrors*: Crafting Continuity in Transitional Times”
European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS). Lisbon, Aug. 30-Sep. 2.
- 2016 “Reflecting Authority: Mobilizing Traditions in Medieval Discourse on the Past”
Asian Studies Conference Japan (ASCJ). Tokyo, July 2-3.
- 2016 “The Cosmos or the Continent? Claims to Knowledge in Medieval Japan”
Kyoto Asian Studies Group. Kyoto, June 13.
- 2016 “Deviant by Design: the Power & Politics of Multilingual Writing in Medieval Japan”
Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries.
International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden, March 14-16.
- 2014 “Triangulating Traditions: Cultural Synthesis in Japan’s Medieval *Mirrors*.”
Japan: Pre-modern, Modern and Contemporary. A Return Trip from the East to the West.
“Dimitrie Cantemir” Christian University, Bucharest, September 1 – 3.
- 2014 “Speak Knowledgeably and Carry a Big Sword”
Association for Asian Studies (AAS). Philadelphia, March 27 – 30.
- 2013 “Classical China to Go”
Eighth International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS). Macau, June 24 – 27.
- 2012 “Translated Visions of a Japanese Reich”
British Association for Japanese Studies (BAJS). University of East Anglia, Norwich,
September
6 – 7.
- 2012 “Creating a German Japan: the Wartime Writings of Kitayama Jun’yū”
Modern Japan History Workshop. Waseda University, Tokyo, August 3.
- 2012 “A Multi-faceted Mirror: *Kara kagami* and Creating Hi/stories”
Asian Studies Conference Japan (ASCJ). Tokyo, June 30 – July 1.
- 2011 “Aberrant Eating”
Legacies of Taste: An International Conference on Food Narratives in China.
University of Hong Kong, December 15 – 17.
- 2011 “Captured Again: Wang Zhaojun in Barbarian Drama”
Japan: Pre-modern, Modern and Contemporary. A Return Trip from the East to the West—
Learning in, about and from Japan.
“Dimitrie Cantemir” Christian University, Bucharest, August 30 – 31.
- 2010 “The Divergent China(s) of *Kara monogatari* and *Kara kagami*”
Japanese Appropriations of Classical Chinese—*Washū kanbun* Symposium, Princeton, May
16.
- 2009 “Discursive Flights: Structuring Stories in Ren Fang’s ‘Notes Relating the Extraordinary’”
American Oriental Society (AOS), Western Branch conference, Los Angeles, October 16 – 17.
- 2009 “The Phantasm China of ‘Kara monogatari’”
Asian Studies Conference Japan (ASCJ). Tokyo, June 20 – 21.

- 2004 “Indexing roles through speech level shift in Japanese” (Poster)
American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference. Portland, April 30 – May 4.

Discussant

- 2017 Panel discussant for “Flesh and Stone.”
Non/Human Materials Before Modernity. University of Michigan, October 2 – 3.
- 2016 Discussant for paper “Romanization in the Middle of Nowhere.”
Fragments Workshop. University of Michigan, October 20.
- 2016 Panel discussant for “Cross-Cultural Engagement: Appropriation of Chinese Literature in Early Modern Japan and Korea.”
Association for Asian Studies (AAS). Seattle, March 31 – April 3.

TEACHING & RESEARCH INTERESTS

Medieval Japanese Thought, Classical Japanese Prose, Colonial Japanese Fiction, Medieval Chinese prose, Comparative Literature, Critical Theory, Japanese History, Socio-linguistics

TEACHING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

September 2015 –

Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, Department of Asian Languages & Cultures:
Courses taught to date: *Seeds of Conflict in Japanese Literature*; *Strange Ways: Literature of the Supernatural in Pre-modern Japan & China*; *Senior/Junior Colloquium in Asian Studies*; *Introduction to Japanese Civilization*; *Introduction to Classical Japanese Grammar*

August 2014 – July 2015

Associate Professor (fixed term), Hiroshima University, Department of Integrated Humanities
Courses taught: *Classical Japanese Literature and its Afterlives* (in Japanese); *Literature of Empire: Japan, the Colonies, and Germany 1895-1945* (in Japanese); *Introductory Lecture in the Humanities: Cultural Encounters* (in Japanese); *Medieval Japan Writes Asia* (in Japanese); *Japan in the World* (in English).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2015 “Squaring the Circle: ‘Teach Anything you Want. Except Your Specialty.’”
Japan in the World and the World in Japan: A Methodological Approach (*Co-organizer*)
Okayama University, June 27.
- 2011 Second *Kuzushi-ji* Workshop
Catholic University of Leuven. Leuven, Belgium, October 25 – 27.
- 2011 Between Experiment, Form and Culturalism: Butoh in History and Contemporary Practice
University of California, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, May 20 – 22.
- 2011 “Translation: Theory, Practice, History” Conference
Folger Institute. Washington, DC, March 4 – 5.
- 2010 Fifth Annual Kangaku Workshop
Princeton University. Princeton, May 13 – May 18.

- 2009 University of Southern California Kanbun Workshop “*Chūyūki* Translation Workshop”
University of Southern California. Los Angeles, July 20 – August 7.
- 2008 Waka Workshop III: Gatherings Beneath the *Dai*: Seasonal Topics in *Hyakushu* and
Utaawase Columbia University. New York City, March 28 – 29.
- 2007 University of Southern California Kanbun Workshop “Reading Heian Regency Materials”
University of Southern California. Los Angeles, July 9 – August 10.

THESIS COMMITTEES

Susan Dine (PhD, projected 2019)

Esther Ladkau (PhD)

Yutang Sheng (MA, 2016)

LANGUAGES

Modern Japanese (fluent), Classical Japanese (fluent reading), German (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (advanced), Classical Chinese (highly proficient), Modern & 17th-century Dutch (reading), Spanish (reading), French (reading)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Asian Studies

European Association for Japanese Studies

Modern Language Association