

# The University of Tokyo Global Japan Studies Summer Program 2018 (Report)

## AN INQUIRY INTO JAPAN'S POSTWAR

July. 30-Aug. 10, 2018



### **Program Organizer:**

Global Japan Studies (GJS) Network

### **Program Host Institution:**

Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

**Global Japan Studies** at the University of Tokyo is an interdisciplinary and multilingual network of research and education on Japan. It seeks to bring together Japanese studies overseas and studies of Japan within Japan. This summer program is a short-term education project in pursuit of this goal.

## Introduction to the Global Japan Studies Summer Program 2018

Japan's postwar period is most often described in terms of four decades of high economic growth followed subsequently by the recent recession dubbed "the lost two decades" (1990-present). Japan's postwar, however, points to a far more complicated and ongoing process of social, cultural, and political changes, which this program set out to explore.

Participants were immersed in a ten-day intensive program of interdisciplinary academic lectures (in humanities, social sciences, and engineering) as well as carefully planned fieldtrips in the Tokyo metropolitan area. They also attended morning Japanese classes. Through a well-designed combination of on- and off-campus study, the program challenged participants to understand through actual experience and critically analyze important sociological and political issues, such as poverty, inequality, and aging. These issues are key for understanding not only Japan's postwar itself but also the larger world to which Japan is closely connected and of which Japan is intrinsically a part.

### Program requirements:

Participants were required to conduct group research projects and give presentations on the final day of the program. Participants also were asked to complete a program evaluation. While the program lecture and fieldtrip did not count toward course credits, participants received a University of Tokyo summer program certificate upon successfully completing the program.



Summer program participants making own noodle at the Nisshin Cup Noodle Museum

# Program Schedule 2018

	9:00-10:20	10:40-13:30 (10:40-12:10 Lecture; 12:10-13:30: Lunch and Discussion)	13:30-17:30 (approx.)	Lodge
7/30 (Mon)	Guidance, self-introduction, grouping, campus exploration / Main Conference Room (MCR), Institute For Advanced Studies on Asia / Attn: Profs. Sonoda, Zhong, & Stephanie		Short group presentations / Atten: Profs. Sonoda, Zhong, Stephanie	Hotel Graphy Nezu www.hotel-graphy.com (check-in: July 29, check-out: Aug 11)
7/31 (Tue)	Japanese /Japanese Language Class, School of Engineering (JLC-SE)	Lecture (1): Prof. SHIRAHASE Sawako "Social Inequalities in Postwar Japan" / Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (1) Visiting Sanya with NPO Moyai /Attn : Prof. Zhong, Stephanie	
8/1 (Wed)	Japanese /JLC-SE	Lecture (2): Prof. SONODA Shigeto "Foodscape in Postwar Japan: Its Development and Asian Connection" /Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (2) Nisshin Foods and Cup Noodle Museum /Attn: Prof, Sonda, Zhong, Stephanie	
8/2 (Thu)	Japanese /JLC-SE	Lecture (3): Prof. SATO Jin "Resource Thinking in Postwar Japan" /Lecture & discussion /MCR	Fieldtrip (3) Kajima Corporation / Attn: Prof. Zhong, Stephanie	
8/3 (Fri)	Japanese /JLC-SE	Lecture (4): Prof. MURAYAMA Akito "Urban Diversity and Transformation of Tokyo" /Lunch & discussion/ Main Conference Room	Fieldtrip (4) 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Sites at Tokyo Bay / Attn: Profs. Murayama, Zhong, Stephanie	
8/4 (Sat)	Free activity			
8/5 (Sun)	Free activity			
8/6 (Mon)	Japanese /JLC-SE	Lecture (5): Prof. Nicola LISCUTIN "Acts of Memory and Forgetting: Film in Postwar Japan" / Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (5) Okamoto Taro Memorial Museum & Shibuya Station / Attn: Profs Liscutin, Zhong, Stephanie	
8/7 (Tue)	Japanese /JLC-SE	Lecture (6): Prof. MATSUDA Yasuhiro "Japan's Postwar Foreign Policy" /Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (6) Yasukuni Shrine / Attn: Prof. Zhong, Stephanie	
8/8 (Wed)	Preparation for group presentation /MCR /Attn: Prof. Zhong, Stephanie			
8/9 (Thu)	Presentation for group presentation /MCR /Attn: Prof. Zhong, Stephanie			
8/10 (Fri)	Group presentation /MCR /Attn: Prof. Zhong, Dr. Watanabe, Stephanie, etc.		Farewell party /MCR /Attn: Prof. Zhong, Stephanie, etc.	

## Program Lecturers 2018

### **Nicola LISCUTIN**

Professor of Japanese Studies and GLP-GEFIL Program Director at the Center for the Development of Global Leadership Education, the University of Tokyo

### **MATSUDA Yasuhiro**

Professor of International Politics, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

### **MURAYAMA Akito**

Associate Professor of Urban Planning, Department of Urban Engineering, School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo

### **SATO Jin**

Professor of Resource Politics, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

### **SHIRAHASE Sawako**

Professor of Sociology, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, the University of Tokyo

### **SONODA Shigeto**

Professor of Sociology and Asian Studies, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo



Practicing tea ceremony during Japanese language class  
at the Japanese Language Class of the School of Engineering



Prof. Shirahase Sawako lecturing on "Social Inequalities in Postwar Japan"



Chairperson of NPO Moyai, Mr. Ohnishi Ren, introducing "Poverty' in Wealthy Japan"



Prof. Sato Jin lecturing on "Resource Thinking in Postwar Japan"



Engineer Hara Toshiaki explaining Universal Design at the Kajima Construction Company headquarters



Prof. Murayama Akito lecturing on "Urban Diversity and the Transformation of Tokyo"



Having lunch-time discussion with Prof. Nicola Liscutin on "Acts of Memory and Forgetting: Film in postwar Japan"



Prof. Sonoda Shigeto lecturing on "Foodscape in Postwar Japan"



Prof. Matsuda Yasuhiro lecturing on "Japan's Postwar Foreign Policy"



**Total Number of Participants:** 20 (University of Tokyo students: 1)

**Places of Origin:**

Cambridge University, Chinese University of Hong Kong Shenzhen, Gengdan Institute of Beijing University of Technology, National Tsing Hua University, New York University Shanghai, Sciences Po Paris (Institut d'Etudes Politiques), Shanghai International Studies University, Taiyuan Normal University, University of Alberta, University of Amsterdam, University of Arizona, University of Hong Kong, University of Nottingham, University of St. Andrews, University of Toronto, University of Tsukuba, Vassar College, University of Tokyo

**Final-day Group Presentation Topics:**

- Hidden in Plain Sight: Sex and Porn Industry in Japan
- Hierarchical Structure of Contemporary Japan
- Japan's Foreign Policy in Response to the Shift of Power in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Japan: the Aging Society
- Regional Inequality in Japan



Fieldtrip to the Panasonic Center at Tokyo bay

## Participants' Feedback:

- I believe this is one of the most well-scheduled and well-arranged summer programs I have participated.
- I think the most inspiring part of this program is that it showed me that Japan is not a wonderland or fantastic world that outsiders usually imagined. Japan is a country which has encountered tangible or invisible social problems like basically all other developed countries. ...By looking at social problems in Japan, we also need to take the initiative to consider those being marginalized in our own society, such as the invisible homeless people, the poor elderly in the rural areas and the disabled.
- The field trips ... are the most interesting and inspiring part of this program. We ... were able to visit many sites where tourists usually could not get in, such as the Kajima construction company and meeting with one of the leaders from the Nissin cup noodle company. The field trip definitely made this program unforgettable!
- The schedule was not too crowded and overwhelming, giving enough time to enjoy Tokyo in the evening while still providing a lot of interesting content through the lectures and field trips.
- I feel that we learned a lot in the program, and that it is knowledge that can be easily integrated into future learning, be it directly or tangentially related to what we have learned. The reading materials were also a good addition to our knowledge, which could be used for future research as starting points or references.
- The Japanese classes were really prepared by excellent teachers. The lessons are well combined with our fieldtrips and lecture, which offered us important information before we explore.
- The environment, meals and facilities in Hotel Graphy were wonderful and it would not take our much time to walk from our hotel to the Hongo campus.
- The atmosphere in Hotel Graphy Nezu were friendly, young and vibrant - I made many friends with the staff there.

Final-day group presentations





**Thank all the summer program participants of 2018!  
It is YOU who made the program a success.**

**Latest information of the 2019 summer program will be available  
soon at [gjs.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp](http://gjs.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp)**

**We look forward to your application and participation in 2019!**

**Program Committee:**

Prof. SONODA Shigeto, TAKAMIZAWA Osamu, AOYAMA  
Waka, NAKAJIMA Takahiro

**Contact:** Prof. ZHONG Yijiang

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