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Synopsis author's page
<https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/author/sunjing335/>

Current Position

Research fellow, Death & Life Studies and Practical Ethics (Research Center), The University of Tokyo, Japan 2021-present

Professional Experience

Membership, Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Modern Japanese History Association (MJHA), Japan Studies Association (JSA), History of Science Society (HSS) Present
Visiting Scholar, Faculty of Economics, Keio University, Japan 2020-21
Visiting Research Fellow, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, Faculty of Letters, The University of Tokyo, Japan 2019-20
Visiting Research Fellow, Graduate School of International Culture and Communication Studies, Waseda University, Japan 2017
Exchange, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University, Korea 2015

Education

Ph.D., History, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, USA) 2024.8
▪ Dissertation: "Eating by Numbers: Nutrition, Health, and the Political Economy of Food in Modern Japan, 1882-1952" (Advisor: Frederick R. Dickinson; Committee: Frederick R. Dickinson, Eiichiro Azuma, Sebastián Gil-Riaño)
▪ Research Interests: Nutrition, History of medicine, Food, Warfare, Empire. 2016.7
M.A., International Relations, Peking University (Beijing, China)
▪ Thesis: "Japanese Arms Embargo against China in 1918-1919: From the Perspective of Interactions between the Japanese Foreign Ministry and the Army" (Advisor: Hanmei Li)
M.P.P., Public Policy, The University of Tokyo (Tokyo, Japan) 2016.3
▪ Research Thesis: "Policy Choices of British Diplomats in Bakumatsu Japan: From the Perspective of Treaty Ratification 1859-1865" (Advisor: Kaoru Iokibe) 2013.9
B.A., International Liberal Studies, Waseda University (Tokyo, Japan)
B.A., International Relations, Peking University (Beijing, China) 2013.7

Publications

Book Chapters

(Peer reviewed) “Hungry Empire: Manchuria and the Failed Food Autarky in Imperial Japan, 1931-41,” in *The Provisions of War: Expanding the Boundaries of Food and Conflict, 1840-1990*, edited by Justin Nordstrom, 91-107. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2021.

<https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv1p2grb2.10>

Articles & Essays

- ***Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal***

“How to Feed the Sick: Hospital Meal and Patient Care in Modern Japan (Part II: from the 1950s onward),” September 10, 2024. <https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2024/09/10/how-to-feed-the-sick-hospital-meal-and-patient-care-in-modern-japan-part-ii-from-the-1950s-onward/>

“How to Feed the Sick: Hospital Meal and Patient Care in Modern Japan (Part I: till 1950s),” March 8, 2024. <https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2024/03/08/how-to-feed-the-sick-hospital-meal-and-patient-care-in-modern-japan-part-i-till-1990s/>

“Rationed Knowledge: Culture Films and Nutritional Propaganda in Wartime Japan,” November 25, 2023. <https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2023/11/25/rationed-knowledge-culture-films-and-nutritional-propaganda-in-wartime-japan/>

“Opening the Japanese Body,” August 19, 2023.

<https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2023/08/19/opening-the-japanese-body/>

“The Healthy Exotic Taste of the Empire: A Story of Restyling Manchurian Food in Modern Japan,” March 27, 2023. <https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/2023/03/26/the-healthy-exotic-taste-of-japanese-empire-a-short-story-of-restyling-manchurian-food/>

“Transformed Food and Dietary Style in Modern Japan (1870s),” February 13, 2023.

<https://doi.org/10.7916/2xh8-b870>

“Calories: The Measure of Nurture,” November 21, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.7916/gcaz-5836>

“Rice in Bowls,” October 24, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.7916/cd75-g684>

- ***Others***

“Saiki Tadasu and the Making of the Global Science of Nutrition, 1900-1927,” Rockefeller Archive Center Research Reports, December 2, 2020. <https://rockarch.issuelab.org/resource/saiki-tadasu-and-the-making-of-the-global-science-of-nutrition-1900-1927.html>

(Peer reviewed) Sino-Japanese Diffidation in 1958: from the perspective of domestic internationalism-nationalism confrontation. In Z. Bekirogullari, & M. Y. Minas (Eds.), *Political Science, International Relations and Sociology - ic-PSIRS 2015*, vol 3. European Proceedings of Social and Behavioural Sciences (pp. 15-24). Future Academy. <https://doi.org/10.15405/epsbs.2015.03.5>

Review articles

Review of “‘The Japanese Stand Today as Teachers of the Whole World’: American Food Reform and the Russo-Japanese War,” *The Journal of American-East Asian Relations* 28(2021): 193-217, by Christine M. E. Guth. H-Diplo/ISSF, March 7, 2023. <https://issforum.org/reviews/PDF/AR1167.pdf>

Review of *Nutritional Policies and International Diplomacy: The Impact of Tadasu Saiki and the Imperial State Institute of Nutrition (Tokyo: 1916-1945)*, by Josep L. Barona, *Medical History* vol. 65, no. 4 (October 2021): 426-7. <https://doi.org/10.1017/mdh.2021.35>

“Yi zhe qian yan” [Preface by Translator] in *Ri ben shi: Jianghu shidai* [日本史: 江戸时代], translation of George Sansom, *A History of Japan, 1615-1867*. Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press, 2021.

Translations

Ri ben shi: Jianghu shidai [日本史: 江戸时代], translation of George Sansom, *A History of Japan, 1615-1867*. Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press, 2021.

Teaching Experiences & Qualifications

Qualification

Certificate in World History (Department of History) 2019
Certificate in College and University Teaching (Center for Teaching and Learning)

Courses taught

- CIEE, Japanese Studies Summer Program (July-August) 2023-24
 - Adjunct professor, HIST 3001 Modernizing Ancient Japan. Received 100% “would recommend this instructor” evaluation from students.
- University of Pennsylvania, Department of History 2018-19
 - Teaching Assistant, History of Modern China, Modern American Culture
 - Grader, Comparative Capitalist Systems, American Diplomatic History since 1776 2017-18

Fellowships & Scholarships (*Those marked with * are non-competitive*)

Penfield Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania 2020-21
Japanese Studies Fellowship, Japan Foundation 2019-20
*Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania 2016-23
Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship 2015
Campus Asia Double-degree Program Scholarship, The University of Tokyo 2014-15
First Class Graduate Student Scholarship, Peking University
Second Class Graduate Student Scholarship, Peking University 2013-14
Peking University-Waseda University Double-degree Program Scholarship 2011-12
*Dongshi Dongfang Scholarship, School of International Studies, Peking University 2010-11
*Guangzhou Scholarship, School of International Studies, Peking University 2009-10

Awards & Grants

Awards

The 2020 Northeast Asia Council Graduate Student Paper Prize: “Broken Promise: Rice, Manchuria and the Failure of Food Autarky of Imperial Japan, 1919-1941,” Association for Asian Studies 2020
Graduate Thesis Award Second Prize: “Japanese Arms Embargo against China in 1918-1919: From the Perspective of Interactions between the Japanese Foreign Ministry and the Army,” School of International Studies, Peking University 2016
Excellent Student Award, Peking University 2013-14

Research Grants

Research Stipend, Rockefeller Archive Center 2019-20
Annenberg Dissertation Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania 2018

Beijing University Japanese Research Fund (BUJRF) Individual Research Grant: “From Tokugawa to Meiji Government: Influence of British Diplomats on British policy towards Japan,” Peking University 2013-14

Conference/Travel Grants

GAPSA Research Student Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania 2024
 NSF Travel Grant (for History of Science Society meeting 2023) 2023
 Center for East Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania
 The 12th International Convention of Asia Scholars Grant 2021
 Center for East Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania 2019
 The D. Kim Foundation for the History of Science and Technology in East Asia Summer Workshop Travel Grant
 GAPSA Research Student Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania
 The 11th International Convention of Asia Scholars Grant
 GAPSA Research Student Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania 2018
 International Academic Conference Participation Grant, Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Tokyo 2015

Conferences

Panels Organized

“The Multifaceted Institutionalization: Rethinking Science-State Dynamics and the Making of Biomedical Sciences in East Asia,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference. Columbus, USA (March) 2025
 “Food Circuits and the Making of Economies in Modern East Asia,” 2023 AAS-in-Asia Conference. Daegu, Korea (June) 2023
 “Behind the Scenes: Rethinking the Second Sino-Japanese War from A Civilian Perspective,” the 12th International Convention of Asia Scholars (virtual, August) 2021
 “Knowledge in Transit: Modern Japan in the Global History of Medicine,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference (virtual, March).
 “Unintended Manchuria: Re-evaluating ‘Efficiency’ in Twentieth-century Japanese Empire,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference. Boston, USA (Cancelled). 2020

Chair/Discussant

Discussant, in “Dietetics and Novel Materia Medica” in Global Lives of Medicines: Materials, Markets, and Healing Practices across Asia. Philadelphia, USA (virtual, July) 2022
 Chair, in panel “Vietnamese History Beyond Borders,” the 12th International Convention of Asia Scholars (virtual, August) 2021
 Chair, in panel “Creating Healthy Public? Pursuing Healthy Behavior in Asia, 1911-1941,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference. Denver, USA (March). 2019

Papers Presented

“The Tale of Korean Sardines: Nutrition, Colonial Fishery, and Scientific Knowledge of Fishery Resources in Japan, 1920s-1940s,” in panel “Industrial Creatures and Sceneries: The Environmental Governmentality in the Making of the Japanese 2025

- Imperial Economy,” Asian Association of Environmental History, Takamatsu, Japan (September)
- “From Racial Improvement to Nutritional Efficiency: The Debates of Dietary Standards and the Divergence between Nutrition Science and State Eugenics in Japan, 1880s-1920s,” in panel “The Multifaceted Institutionalization: Rethinking Science-State Dynamics and the Making of Biomedical Sciences in East Asia,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference. Columbus, USA (March)
- “Eat by Numbers: The Science and Political Economy of Nutrition in Rationed Japan, 1940-1951,” 2024 Asian Studies Conference Japan, Tokyo (July) 2024
- “Calculated Meals: Quantitative Dietary Standard and the Rise of Nutritional Awareness at Japanese Home Kitchens, 1910s-1930s,” in panel “Biochemical Frontiers in East Asia: Crisis, Governance, and Social Transformation,” 2023 History of Science Society Conference. Portland, Oregon (November) 2023
- “Efficient Nurture: Dietary Standard and Food Economy in Interwar Japan,” in panel “Food Circuits and the Making of Economies in Modern East Asia,” 2023 AAS-in-Asia Conference. Daegu, Korea (June)
- “The Seas of Protein: Nutrition Science and Fishery in Colonial Korea, 1900-45,” Asian Studies Conference Japan (virtual, July) 2022
- “Hungry Empire: Manchuria and the Failed Food Autarky in Imperial Japan, 1931-41,” in roundtable session of The Provisions of War: Expanding the Boundaries of Food and Conflict, 1840-1990, The Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor (CHAA) (virtual invited talk, February)
- “Measured Food: The Emergence of Dietary Standard in Modern Japan, 1882-1914” Tuesday Colloquium of History and Sociology of Technology and Science (火曜日ゼミ), Graduate School of Social and Human Sciences, Tokyo Institute of Technology (virtual invited talk, October) 2021
- “From Exotic to Local: The Transformation of Manchurian Food in Mainland Japan, 1931–1945,” in panel “Behind the Scenes: Rethinking the Second Sino-Japanese War from A Civilian Perspective,” the 12th International Convention of Asia Scholars (virtual, August).
- “Feces in the Labs, Rice in the Bowls: Experiments and the Emergence of Nutrition Science in Modern Japan, 1884-1904,” in panel “Knowledge in Transit: Modern Japan in the Global History of Medicine,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference (virtual, March).
- “Books from the Occupiers: The Reconstruction of the Scientific Community in Postwar Japan, 1945-52,” Asian Studies Conference Japan. Tokyo, Japan (Cancelled due to COVID). 2020
- “Broken Promise: Rice, Manchuria and the Failure of Food Autarky of Imperial Japan, 1919-1941,” in panel “Unintended Manchuria: Re-evaluating ‘Efficiency’ in Twentieth-century Japanese Empire,” Association for Asian Studies annual conference. Boston, USA (Cancelled due to COVID).
- “Manchurian Diet and the Food Politics at Japan’s Mainland and Colonial Homefront, 1937-1945,” Japan Studies Association annual conference. Honolulu, USA (January).
- “‘Of Great Benefit to the Human Race:’ Saiki Tadasu and Japan in the Making of the Global Science of Nutrition, 1919-1939,” in panel “Health in historical perspective,” 11th International Convention of Asia Scholars. Leiden, Netherlands (July). 2019
- “Soldiers’ Recipes: Army, Food, and the National Dream of a Robust Japan, 1890-1920,” in panel “Food and war,” 86th Society for Military History annual conference. Columbus, USA (May).

- “Giving Up the Gun: The Imperial Japanese Army and the Food Moment after WWI,” in panel “Living the good life: social, political and economic change in interwar East Asia,” Mid-Atlantic Region of the Association of Asian Studies 47th Annual Conference. Elizabethtown, USA (November). 2018
- “Unexpected Internationalists in East Asia: The Imperial Japanese Army Officers in China, 1919-1925,” in panel “Japan in and of the world,” Japan Studies Association annual conference. Honolulu, USA (January).
- “Policy Choices of British Diplomats in Bakumatsu Japan: From the Perspective of Treaty Ratification 1859-1865,” British Association of Japanese Studies annual conference. London, UK (September). 2015
- “Sino-Japanese Diffidation in 1958: from the perspective of domestic internationalism-nationalism confrontation,” International Forum on Asian History and Asian Studies, 13th Annual International Conference on History and Archaeology: From Ancient to Modern. Athens, Greece (June).

Workshop Participant

- Collaborative Pedagogies in the Global History of Science Workshop. Philadelphia, USA (October). 2019
- D. Kim Foundation for the History of Science and Technology in East Asia summer workshop. Seoul, Korea (June).

Other Professional Activities

- Leader, China-Japan Youth Exchange Center (current Asian Youth Center), Peking University 2013-14
- Assistant, the UN Delegation, Beijing Forum 2013
- Participant, Delegation of Chinese university students to Moscow State University
- Assistant, Office of International Relations, Peking University 2012-14

Languages

- Chinese (native)
- English (advanced teaching and research proficiency, Level Two Chinese-English Translation Accreditation China, 2015)
- Japanese (advanced teaching and research proficiency, JLPT N1 in 2012)
- Korean (beginner level)