

Library

The Nichibun Library collects a wide range of materials needed for research on Japan and makes these materials available to researchers. It also provides access to Japanese studies-related information of various kinds. The 620,000 titles in the library can be searched via the OPAC, CiNii and OCLC WorldCat (As of March 31, 2025). Researchers outside Nichibun may use the Inter-Library Loan (ILL) system to apply for document copying and loans of books and other materials. The collection prioritizes books about Japan written in other languages and translations of Japanese works originating in Japan and overseas. In addition to books and periodicals, the collection includes colored photographs from the late Edo and Meiji periods, old maps, and video, DVD, and CD audio and visual materials.

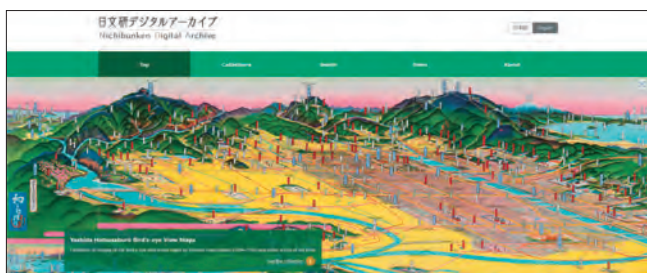
<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/library/>



Public Databases Access

Nichibun develops databases of the materials in its collection, the outcomes of research by its faculty, and Japan-related materials owned by other organizations. Currently 46 databases are available online (As of March 31, 2025).

<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/db/>



The Nichibun Digital Archive

Visiting Research Scholars and Fellows

As an international research center, Nichibun opens its doors to the world by inviting many scholars from foreign countries to carry out international and interdisciplinary research related to Japanese culture. The foreign scholars are classified either as “visiting research scholars,” who are accepted for periods from three months to one year and receive a salary from Nichibun, or as “visiting research fellows,” whose income is provided by public and other foundations.

In addition to carrying out their own research, foreign scholars at Nichibun take part in team research projects organized by Nichibun professors and deliver presentations at seminars, forums, and international meetings. They also have the opportunity to publish the results of their research in Nichibun publications.

We hope that the close collaboration between these foreign scholars and the faculty at Nichibun and members of their research teams will become the base for the further development of Japanese studies in the world.

Applications for Visiting Research Scholars and Fellows

<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/research/employment/#gaikengkobo>
<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/research/employment/acceptance/>



Nichibun House

Nichibun House consists of family- and single-occupancy units. Family-occupancy units are primarily for visiting research scholars who stay for a long term with their families. Single-occupancy units comprise two zones, one for long-term users and the other for guests such as team researchers for a short stay.

Qualification for use :

Short-term stays up to one month

- Visiting Faculty Members
- Team Researchers
- Participants in International Symposiums

Long-term stays

- Visiting Research Scholars
- JF Research Fellows
- JSPS Research Fellows
- Visiting Research Fellows



Nichibun is an international hub supporting research on Japanese culture.

National Institutes for the Humanities International Research Center for Japanese Studies

NICHIBUNKEN BROCHURE
2025



Faculty

(As of May 1, 2025)

Director-General

INOUE Shōichi History of manners and customs

Deputy Directors-General

Frederik CRYNS History of the Sengoku period, interaction between the Western world and Japan
MATSUDA Toshihiko History of Japanese and Korean relations

Professors

ENOMOTO Wataru Medieval history of international exchange
ISODA Michifumi Japanese history
ISOMAE Jun'ichi Religious studies; critical theory
ITO Takayuki History of Chinese thought; cultural interaction in East Asia; comparative culture
KUSUNOKI Ayako Japanese political and diplomatic history; security studies
LIU Jianhui History of cultural connections between Japan and China
Timon SCREECH Art history and history of the Edo period
SEKINO Tatsuki Informatics
TAKII Kazuhiro Constitutional history; comparative legal history
YAMADA Shōji Informatics; history of cultural exchange
YASUI Manami Cultural anthropology; Japanese folklore
ZHAN Xiaomei History of artistic connections between Japan and China in the modern age

Associate Professors

Edward BOYLE Border studies; heritage; islands
GOZA Yūichi Japanese medieval history
KATAOKA Mai Modern Japanese literature; comparative literature
NAKAMARU Takafumi Japanese classical literature
ŌTA Nanako Media history

Assistant Professors

MITSUHIRA Yūki History of music therapy
SUN Shiyu Family Sociology; gender studies

Specially Appointed Associate Professors

BABA Yukie*1 Digital archives; bibliography; history of science and technology
ZHOU Yufei History of economic thought; history of social thought

Specially Appointed Assistant Professors

KOMAI Sachi*2 Cultural studies; modern and contemporary Japanese literature
Zahra MOHARRAMIPOUR Comparative literature and culture
Oliver WHITE Japanese early modern popular literature



<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/research/researcher/>

*1 Project Associate Professor (Center for Innovative Research, The National Institutes for the Humanities) and concurrently Specially Appointed Associate Professor (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

*2 Project Assistant Professor (Center for Innovative Research, The National Institutes for the Humanities) and concurrently Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)



Japan Review

Japan Review is published annually. It is a refereed interdisciplinary journal that carries manuscripts, research notes, review essays, as well as annotated translations of important texts relating to Japan. Submission to *Japan Review* is open to all those engaged in the study of Japanese culture past and present.

Team Research Projects 2025

Title of Project	Project Leader(s)
Mouths and Noses: A Cultural History of the Junctures between the Human Body and the Outside World in Japan	Professor ISODA Michifumi
City and Monument: Urban Planning and Memory in Japan, from the Perspective of Visual Culture	Professor Timon SCREECH
From Womb to Tomb: Exploring Life and Death in Contemporary Japan	Professor YASUI Manami
Island Japan: Fluid Bodies, Senses, Imaginaries	Associate Professor Edward BOYLE Visiting Professor MORIYA Tomoe
Shinto and Buddhism in Modern Japan: From Separation to Reconnection	Professor TAKII Kazuhiro
Studying Nichibunken's Collection of Inoue Tetsujirō's Correspondence: The Rise and Fall of the Nation-State	Professor ISOMAE Jun'ichi Team Researcher KARITA Shinji
Reconsidering the Early-Modern in the History of East Asia: In Search of a New Global History	Professor ITŌ Takayuki
The Formation and Development of Western Perceptions of Japan	Professor Frederik CRYNS
Beyond the Postwar and Modernity: Japan in the 1970s	Professor KUSUNOKI Ayako
The Formation and Transformation of the Cultural Commons	Professor YAMADA Shōji
Anthologizing "Chi (Knowledge)" for the Future: An Interdisciplinary Perspective	Associate Professor KATAOKA Mai
Knowledge in State Formation: Japan in Comparative Constitutional History	Professor TAKII Kazuhiro
Thirteenth Century Japan and Eastern Eurasia: Rulership, Capitals, Detached Palaces, and Gardens	Visiting Professor TOYODA Hiroaki Professor ITŌ Takayuki
Reconstructing Modern East Asian Cultural History II : Focusing on the 20th Century	Professor LIU Jianhui
Comparative History of Cultural Mediators	Professor ENOMOTO Wataru
The Transformation of "Bunjin Culture" in Modern Japan	Professor ZHAN Xiaomei
International Exchange in Modern Japan across Political and Cultural Boundaries: The Diplomat Yanagisawa Ken	Visiting Associate Professor YUASA Takuya Professor KUSUNOKI Ayako

About Nichibunken

The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) was founded in 1987 to pursue international, interdisciplinary, and comprehensive research on Japanese culture and to provide research cooperation and support for Japanese studies scholars around the world.

In addition to research on the distinctiveness of Japanese culture, Nichibunken emphasizes the perspectives of comparative studies and cultural exchange. Its professors lead diverse interdisciplinary team research projects on Japanese culture that bring together specialists from a wide range of fields from within and outside Japan. Nichibunken engages in international research collaboration of various kinds such as sharing research information with scholars and research institutions around the world, and sponsoring the participation of its faculty at scholarly meetings held overseas.

PhD Program at Nichibunken

Nichibunken is the institutional home of the Japanese Studies Program, Graduate Institute for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI. The Program promotes interdisciplinary and comprehensive Japanese studies education and research from an international perspective. Students from abroad as well as from Japan enroll in the doctoral program. Under the special inter-university researchers system, the Program also accepts and trains graduate students recommended by other universities.



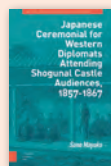
International Research Center for Japanese Studies
3-2 Goryo Oeyama-cho, Nishikyō-ku, Kyoto 610-1192 Japan
<https://www.nichibun.ac.jp/en/>



Nichibunken Open Access

PDF files of publications of Nichibunken are available on the Nichibunken website.

<https://nichibun.repo.nii.ac.jp/lang/en>



Nichibunken Monograph Series

This series comprises scholarly books in English representing the high quality of research carried out at Nichibunken. Several volumes have been co-published with publishing houses in the U.S. and Europe. The authors are primarily faculty members at Nichibunken.