Library

The Nichibunken 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 520,000 titles in the library can be searched via the online public access catalog (OPAC) and researchers outside Nichibunken may use the inter-library loan 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.

http://library.nichibun.ac.jp/en/

Visiting Research Scholars and Fellows

As an international research center, Nichibunken 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 Nichibunken, 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 Nichibunken take part in team research projects organized by Nichibunken professors and deliver presentations at seminars, forums, and international meetings. They also have the opportunity to publish the results of their research in Nichibunken publications. We hope that the close collaboration between these foreign scholars and the professors at Nichibunken 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

Nichibunken House

Nichibunken 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 here 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
  - JRF Research Fellows
  - JSPS Research Fellows
  - Visiting Research Fellows

http://db.nichibun.ac.jp/en/
Faculty

Director-General
KOMATSU Kazuhiro
Cultural anthropology; folklore; oral tradition

Deputy Directors-General
INAGA Shigemi
Comparative literature and culture; history of cultural exchange
LIU Jianhui
History of cultural connections between Japan and China

Professors
ARAKI Hiroshi
Japanese literature
JOHN BRENN
Modern Japanese history
PATICIA FISTER
Japanese art history
HOSONAKA Shuhei
Musicalology; Japanese-Brazilian cultural history
INOUE Shoichi
History of manners and customs
JUN’IICHI ISOMAE
Religious studies; critical theory
ITO Takayuki
History of Chinese thought; cultural interaction in East Asia; comparative culture
KURAMOTO Kazuhiko
History of ancient Japan
MATSUDA Toshikiko
History of Japanese and Korean relations

Associate Professors
FREDERIK CRYNS
Other worlds; modern non-Western culture;

ENOMOTO Wataru
Medieval history of international exchange

GUO Nanyan
Modern Japanese literature; cultural exchange between East and West

ISODA Michifumi
Japanese history

KUSUOKI Akako
Japanese political and diplomatic history; security studies

SANO Mayuko
History of diplomacy and cultural exchange; cultural policy

Assistant Professors
GOZI Yuki
Japanese medieval history

ISHIKURA Hajime
Modern Japanese literary studies

KITAMURA Hirohiko
Film studies

Specially appointed Assistant Professor
ISHIGAMI Aki
Early modern cultural history

FURUKAWA Ayako
History of Japanese performing arts

MAEKAWA Shiomi
Modern Japanese art history; modern Japanese design history; visual culture studies

Honorary Advisor
UMEHARA Takeki

Team Research Projects 2017

- Projecting Classicalism: Visuality, Popularity, and Modernity
  
  - A Cultural History of Sound and Hearing
    
    HOSOKAWA Shuhei
  
  - Studies in “in-betweenness” in Cross-cultural Communication
    
    INAGA Shigemi
  
  - A Historical Study of Manners and Customs in Modern East Asia
    
    INOUE Shoichi
  
  - Reconsidering the History of Japanese Religions from the Perspective of Discrimination: The Logic of the Sacred and Impure in Shinto and Temples and Kingship
    
    ISOMAE Jun’ichi
  
  - East Asian Kingship and Social Order in a Comparative Context: Courts, Empires and States; Thought, Religion and Rites
    
    ITO Takayuki
  
  - Between Narrative Literature and Historical Sources
    
    KURAMOTO Kazuhiko
  
  - The Culture Sphere of the Former Japanese Empire: A Reexamination through Graphic Media
    
    LIU Jianhui

- Knowledge and Power in the Japanese Colonial Empire

- Popular Culture as Social Movements

- Tōzai bunmeiRon: Theories of Japanese Uniqueness and the Idea of Japan as the Only Bridge between East and West

- Expos and Human History

- Approaching Meiji Japan from the Perspective of a Comparative History of Civilizations: Rethinking Its Legacy

- Rethinking Postwar Japanese Culture

- War and Repose for the Souls of the War Dead

- Examining Cultural Discourses in Post-3.11 Japan

PhD Program

The Department of Japanese Studies of the School of Cultural and Social Studies of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sokendai) is located at Nichibunken. The department promotes interdisciplinary and comprehensive Japanese studies education and research from an international perspective. Students from abroad as well as from Japan enroll in the department's doctoral program.

Under the special inter-university researchers system, the department also accepts and trains graduate students recommended by other universities.

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.

About Nichibunken

The International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken) was founded 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.

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