

# Japan: Pre-Modern, Modern, Contemporary

*September 8-10, 2025*

*Bucharest University of Economic Studies  
Centre for Japanese Studies*

## Day 1

**September 8 (Monday)**

**13:00-13:15 Opening remarks**

Room A/Zoom Room A

**13:15-14:15 Keynote lecture**

Room A/Zoom Room A

Professor Dr. William Bradley HORTON  
(Akita University)

*War, Culture, and Malaria: Activities of Japanese Artists during the Japanese Occupation of Indonesia*

**14:30-16:00 Parallel sessions**

**Session 1**

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Philosophy*

Garcia CHAMBERS  
(Sophia University)

*'Getting Along Beautifully':  
Aidagara and the Aura of Felt Spaces*

Ferenc TAKÓ

(Eötvös Loránd University)

*Measuring the Difference: Methodological Considerations of  
Comparative Reception History on the Field of Intellectual  
History*

Roman PAȘCA

(Akita University)

*A Critical Inquiry into the Role of Technology  
within Environmental Problems*

**Session 2**

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Media Studies*

Jose Pedro Gonçalves SILVESTRE  
(Lisbon University)

*From Paradise Lost to the Throne of Creation: Reimagining  
the Journey to the Divine through a "Purely" Japanese Identity*

Caroline SAKAMOTO YONAMINE

(University of São Paulo)

*Performing Humanity: An Intertextual Analysis of  
Yorushika's Odorouze and Dazai Osamu's No Longer  
Human*

Ivo PIŠEK

(Uppsala University)

*Framing the General: Tojo Hideki on Japanese Screens  
and the Shifting Politics of Memory*

16:00~16:15 Break

**16:15~18:15 Parallel sessions**

***Session 3***

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Culture and Society*

Sofia ROSSATELLI  
(University of Milan)

*Cure or Stigma? Sociolinguistic Research Applied to the Art  
Therapies Field in Contemporary Japan: Initial Findings*

Lena KRALIKOVA HASHIMOTO

(Comenius University)

Hana BOGDANOVA

(Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra)

*Self-documentary: Linguistic and Conceptual Gaps*

Edoardo PIERONI

(Independent Researcher)

*Fukuzawa Yukichi and the Political Immunization of Modern  
Japanese Identity*

Costin Andrei ISTRATE

(Independent Researcher)

*Japan's Cultural Profit*

***Session 4***

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Anthropology*

Igor PRUSA

(University of Vienna & Metropolitan University Prague)

*Scandal in Japan: Transgression, Performance and Ritual*

Simone ZIROLIA

(European University Institute)

*The Culinary Other in Early Edo Japan*

Laura COCORA

(Independent Researcher)

*Fermentation as Metaphor and Method:  
Towards an Ethical Economy of Entanglement*

## Day 2

September 9 (Tuesday)

### 9:00-11:00 Parallel sessions

#### Session 5

Room A/Zoom Room A

#### Literature

Gennaro PEZZONE

(Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

*Generational Clash & Identity Negotiation:  
An Analysis of Ie and Wakai*

Yin YIQUIN

(Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

*A Puzzle in Narration: Possibilities to The Setting Sun*

Soumya Ranjan GAHIR

(Ravenshaw University)

*Aesthetic Silences: Literary Erasure of Empire in Postwar Japan*

Edoardo OCCHIONERO

(University of Turin)

*From Cosmopolitanism to Cultural Anthropophagy:  
Kazuko Shiraishi's Poetic Journey*

#### Session 6

Room B/ Zoom Room B

#### Language and Education

Iva LAKIC

(University of Zagreb)

*Applying the ARCS Model to Japanese Language Acquisition:  
The Possibilities of Classical Waka Poetry*

Hana BOGDANOVA

(Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra)

Lena KRALIKOVA HASHIMOTO

(Comenius University)

*Japanese Language Instruction in Non-Native Environments*

Tomoko YAMAKAWA

(Bunkyo University)

*Dialogue and Negative Capability in Elder Care:  
A Reconsideration from the Perspective of Plurilingualism and  
Pluriculturalism*

Sara LIBRENJAK

(Independent researcher)

*Computing Kanji Difficulty for Language Learners*

11:00~11:15 Break

### 11:15~12:45 Parallel sessions

#### Session 7

Room A/Zoom Room A

#### Literature

Loris ZEVRAIN

(University of Milan)

*The Weight of Time: Modern Identity and Existential  
Estrangement in Ao no Jidai*

Robert MORTON

(Chuo University)

*'The Home of My Heart [??]':*

*James Kirkup's Love/Hate Relationship with Japan, 1959-1988*

Xiao YAO

(Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

*The Blurring Boundary between Reality and Fiction in Haruki  
Murakami's "The Anteater in Musashi-Sakai: Kaho, Part II"*

#### Session 8

Room B/ Zoom Room B

#### Culture

Organized Panel:

*Symbolic Catch:*

*Japanese Whaling, Heritagization, and Narrative  
Reinvention*

Jay ALABASTER

(Arizona State University)

*Traditionality and Whaling in Japan*

Kristina IWATA-WEICKGENNANT

(Nagoya University)

*Feeding the Nightmare: Whale Appetite, Species Panic, and the  
Emotional Conditioning of Children*

Nathan HOPSON

(University of Bergen)

*"Demand for Demand": We have whale meat, now what?*

12:45~14:00 Lunch break

**14:00~15:00 Keynote lecture**

Room A/Zoom Room A

Professor Dr. Rina KIKUCHI  
(Shiga University / University of Canberra)

*Poetry Translation is No Mere Replica:  
Changes and Developments in Modern and Contemporary Japanese Poetry in Translation  
and Its Contributions*

**15:15-16:45 Parallel sessions**

**Session 9**

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Literature*

Organized Panel:

*Bodies and Borders:*

*Illness, Art, and Literature in the Japanese Empire*

Irina HOLCA

(Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

*Empire of Flies (and Not Only):*

*The Critters' March and the Russo-Japanese War*

Joshua Lee SOLOMON

(Hirosaki University)

*Siberian Marmots, Plague, and Minor Literature  
in Japanese-occupied Manchuria*

Kathryn M. TANAKA

(University of Hyōgo)

*Writing from the Margins:*

*Poetry, Disease, and Myth of Inclusion in Imperial Japan*

**Session 10**

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Visual Studies*

Dario VUGER

(University of Osijek)

*From Ultraman to Ship's Cat:*

*Consumer Aesthetics and Contemporary Art in Japan*

Galia PETKOVA

(Eikei University of Hiroshima)

*Nenbutsu Geinō in Kyoto: Preservation, Gender, Empowerment*

Oana NĂVODARU

(Babeş-Bolyai University))

*Landmarks in Japanese Avant-Garde Photography:*

*Experiment and Provocation*

16:45~17:00 Break

**17:00~18:00 Parallel sessions**

**Session 11**

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Literature and Religion*

Vladlena FEDIANINA

(Moscow City University)

*Shōtoku and Tendai Buddhism in Jien's Writings*

Vesna KURAIKA

(Belgrade University)

*Buddhism, Folklore and Japanese Society  
in the Prose Works of Miyazawa Kenji*

**Session 12**

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Translation Studies*

Hiroko NISHIGUCHI

(Waseda University)

*Militarism, Education and Folktales in Japan around 1900*

Svetlana MUTYGULLINA

(Aoyama Gakuin University)

*"All Different and All Fine": A Critical Question on the  
Translatability of Kaneko Misuzu's Poetry*

## Day 3

September 10 (Wednesday)

### 9:30-11:00 Parallel sessions

#### Session 13

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Visual and Literary Studies*

Chisato YAMADA

(Nagoya Aoi University)

*A Comparative Study on the Representation of Housewives  
in Translated Books in Early Meiji*

Ria TAKETOMI

(Kindai University)

*Transition of Women's Representation  
in the Showa-Era Films (1963-1988)*

Lyudmila GEORGIEVA

(Tokyo University of the Arts)

*The Notion of Failure as a Subversive Strategy  
in Tabe Mitsuko's Artificial Placenta*

#### Session 14

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Language and Education*

Carla MELO

(Autonomous University of Lisbon)

*The Politics of Memory, Trauma, and Identity in Northeast  
Asia: WWII Memorial Sites as Foreign Policy Tools*

Yue CUI

(University of Leeds)

*Double-Edged Affect and Embodiment: Taiwanese Migrants,  
Layered Selves, and Colonial Biopolitics in Manchuria*

Hirohito TSUJI

(University of East Anglia)

*The 'Female Miyake' and the Imperial Family of Japan  
in the Early Modern, Modern and Contemporary Periods:  
A Case Study of Princess Sumiko of Katsura 1829-1881*

11:00~11:15 Break

### 11:15~12:15 Parallel sessions

#### Session 15

Room A/Zoom Room A

*Linguistics*

Chiara MANNO

(Jean Moulin Lyon 3 University)

*A Contrastive Analysis of Backchannels in Japanese and French*

Raluca Maria CIOLCĂ

(Osaka University)

*Negotiating Beauty through Discourse in Japanese:  
A Comparative Analysis*

#### Session 16

Room B/ Zoom Room B

*Performing Arts*

Saida KHALMIRZAEVA

(Jean Moulin Lyon 3 University)

*The Biwa Hōshi Tradition: Storytelling, Ritual, and the  
Legacy of Heike-related Tales in Kyushu*

Ivan CRASCENKO

(University of Naples L'Orientale)

*Why Don't They Laugh?  
The Decline of "Provincial Kyōgen" in Yamagata Prefecture*

### 12:15-12:30 Closing ceremony

Room A/Zoom Room A

12:30~13:30 Lunch break

### 13:30~14:30 Roundtable

Future Directions for Japanese Studies in Romania  
(in Romanian)