



Yoh
YAMAUCHI

山内 洋
ヤマウチ ヨウ

My opinion on “learning” is that it must incorporate something that you find a little bit difficult for it to be put in motion. You should refrain from tailoring learning to your “caliber” or “capacity.” Moreover, things that you think you have figured out immediately on the spot generally tend to not benefit you that much. The things that are truly important are those that you understand over time as they gradually sink into you. After all, “understanding” by definition is something that takes time.

Specialization

Modern Japanese literature

Brief explanation regarding specialization

My research themes largely consist of Atsushi Nakajima, literary criticism, autobiographical stories, non-fiction, third-generation writers, and Mizuko Masuda.



Ayumi
UMEZAWA

梅澤 亜由美
ウメザワ アユミ

Reading a book is like engaging in a dialogue with somebody. It enables you to interact with people who have lived in a completely different era or region. What could be more wonderful than that? While chatting with your friends is important too, I hope that you will aggressively enjoy interacting with people across space and time.

Specialization

Modern Japanese literature

Brief explanation regarding specialization

I research literature on discussion of the self, or literally, literature in which someone writes about themselves. In particular, I specialize in research that covers “autobiographical stories,” a form of novel unique to modern Japan in which the writer documents things about themselves. My interests derived from that area include novels in general in which the writer themselves appears as well as cultural phenomena.



**Mariko
WATANABE**

渡辺 麻里子
ワタナベ マリコ

Classical literature studies is a global discipline that transcends space and time. While it is impossible to directly meet certain people, they have left behind much for us in the form of their writings. Join our discussions of such people from the past as we analyze those writings. Deliberately deciphering what people from the past wrote to find out what made them happy and what made them sad is a fun endeavor indeed. How could classical literature be anything less than fun? I am eager for you to join me enjoyably learning about this truly fascinating discipline.

Specialization

Japanese classical literature (medieval literature/narrative literature/Buddhist literature), historical document studies

Brief explanation regarding specialization

I research what people who lived in medieval times were thinking and how they lived. In particular, I cover the content and methods through which practitioners of Buddhism (as in, priests), study scripture and doctrine. There is no shortage of written works that Buddhist priests have left behind. In this class, we will analyze those works and get to the bottom of how medieval people lived and thought. Japanese classical literature studies is a discipline for pondering what made people who lived in a society and espoused values different than our today laugh or cry. While Japanese classical literature tends to be associated with high school courses, classical literature in universities involves approaching the world of that literature on a more realistic level. It is research in which you will examine how people of yesteryear lived while applying information from all kinds of fields, including history, the arts, Buddhism and schools of thought.



**Tomoyoshi
KOJIMA**

小嶋 知善
コジマ トモヨシ

The things and emotions that capture you when you are young last a long time. Plant your antenna to pick up a broad range of things that interest and concern you and deepen your observations. Treasure the friends, emotions and experiences from your student years. They will form your future.

Specialization

Modern Japanese literature

Brief explanation regarding specialization

My research mainly covers individuals said to be members of the first postwar wave of writers who appeared in Japan's literary world in the aftermath of World War II. In class, I discuss modern Japanese literature overall and creative writing theory.



Masayuki
FURUTA

古田 正幸
フルタ マサユキ

Classical literature contains many mysteries. For example, why does a certain character in a work act a certain way? Why are certain situations depicted using certain language? Moreover, such mysteries are not always fully or even sufficiently explained. I seek to have students cultivate a familiarity with classical literature as well as a variety of skills such as the ability to research, think, explain things through writing, exchange opinions with other students, and objectively accept cultures different from that of modern Japan. I invite you to try engaging the mysteries of classical literature alongside me.

Specialization

Heian period literature

Brief explanation regarding specialization

I conduct research on the language in literary works written in hiragana characters from the Heian period, such as "The Tale of Genji." In materials from that period, it is not uncommon for "words" belonging to that era to be unaccompanied by explanations of what they mean. For that reason, it is necessary to infer and verify those meanings based on examples of how those "words" and language are used and the context of that usage. I seek to update interpretations of literary works through such research on language.



Yuji
NAKAGAWA

中川 祐治
ナカガワ ユウジ

I believe that by viewing the Japanese language from the dual perspectives of uchi (inside) and soto (outside) and going back and forth between theory and practice will foster meta-thinking and critical thinking ability and an attitude that enables the acceptance of diversity. As you transition between textbooks and the field and between academics and society, I hope that each of you will proceed to deepen your individual learning. Let us do so together here at Taisho University.

Specialization

Japanese language studies, Japanese language education

Brief explanation regarding specialization

I engage in research of the Japanese language from a historical standpoint with a particular focus on adverbial vocabulary. I pursue my research while maintaining an interest not only in terms from older eras, but also in youth-speak and changes in the meaning of new terms. Additionally, in the area of Japanese language education, I conduct practical research on educational support for non-Japanese residents who live in local areas and for children with connections to foreign countries while actually participating in the field.



**Hitoshi
TANAKA**

田中 仁
タナカ ヒトシ

There are a number of things that you can do—including things that you can only do—while you are still a student. Use that time to steadily deepen your learning over a broad scope. Additionally, make considerable use of student privileges and incentives to travel with your friends, see plays, and otherwise spend your time in meaningful ways. The memories you create in your student years are something that you surely treasure for the rest of your life.

Specialization

Edo-period Japanese literature

Brief explanation regarding specialization

I research literature from Japan's Edo period, particularly covering tanka poetry and poets from the mid-Edo period up through the late Edo period and Meiji period. Literature from the Edo period formed itself by alternately inheriting the knowledge and culture cultivated over time under preexisting culture and breaking down that knowledge and culture. The same goes for Edo-period tanka poetry, which developed in various forms while either inheriting or breaking down tradition. My interests include tackling the questions of how tanka poetry from the Edo period was positioned given that poetry's long history and what kind of attitudes poets from the late Edo period and Meiji period had in composing their poems.



**Junko
ŌNO**

大野 純子
オオノ ジュンコ

Recently, I have taken an interest in the linguistic policies of indigenous peoples and foreign government advisors during the early Meiji period.

Specialization

Japanese language studies, Japanese language education studies

Brief explanation regarding specialization

My specialty is grammar in the modern Japanese language.