



**Taichi  
SHIRAKI**

白木 太一  
シラキ タイチ

I studied abroad in Warsaw, Poland for three years at the close of the 1980s, right in the midst of the Revolutions of 1989. That connection led me to aspire to the research of Polish history following my return to Japan. Currently, my interest in Polish history particularly extends to the transition of Republicanism in the country, its national system of central and regional government, and the relationship that musicians have with society. In the course of my research, I have been especially mindful to view the country of Poland through comparisons with the history of various regions. Those of you who aspire to learn about the history of Japan or the Orient will need to maintain a broad point of view that enables you to perceive Western history as an object of comparison. I hope to do whatever is in my power to aid you in that endeavor.

#### **Specialization**

Polish history

#### **Brief explanation regarding specialization**

I conduct historical research on national systems, society and culture in early-modern Poland. My specialties are Polish and Western history.



**Michiro  
SASAKI**

佐々木 倫朗  
ササキ ミチロウ

Research and studies are a repetitious cycle of uninteresting endeavors. For example, I imagine that you as students will initially find the task of reading specialized books and theses a pain, or the task of reading historical materials uninteresting. The fact of the matter is that getting through that process is invariably necessary in order to research things that you do take an interest in and discovering answers that you find convincing. I'm sure that each of you will find the interesting things and outcomes that you individually seek on the other side of those uninteresting, painful tasks.

The same can be said of your situation when you graduate and become a working member of society as well. You first need to make the rounds greeting people and having various relationships for work, uninteresting as doing so may be, before you can carry out the kind of work that you should be doing.

#### **Specialization**

Medieval/early-modern Japanese history

#### **Brief explanation regarding specialization**

I research the power of the samurai class from Japan's medieval period up through its early-modern period.



**Junichi  
ENOMOTO**

榎本 淳一  
エノモト ジュンイチ

Since times of old, history is said to be a “mirror”—one that reflects not only our own form, but the times as well. What do you say to studying history while pondering the questions of what kind of existence you are and what the state of our times is?

### Specialization

Ancient Japanese history

### Brief explanation regarding specialization

The themes of my research mainly consist of: (1) Comparative research on the ritsuryo (code) centralized government systems of Japan and China, (2) Research on foreign relations, including Japanese missions to Sui China and Tan China, (3) Research on catalogs of books from Japan and China, (4) Research on “Heian nationalism” during the Heian period, and (5) Research on the ancient “mean people” servility system.



**Tatsuaki  
MIURA**

三浦 龍昭  
ミウラ タツアキ

One cannot gain the true enjoyment of learning just by vaguely listening to lectures. A willful posture of taking an interest in various issues and attempting to research them as well as a corresponding degree of “effort” are necessary. That road may be a steady and occasionally tedious one. However, the sense of enjoyment and fulfillment that you will successfully gain along the way are on another level. I am eager for students to savor that for themselves.

### Specialization

Medieval Japanese history

### Brief explanation regarding specialization

My specialty is political history during Japan’s medieval period, particularly that surrounding the Northern and Southern Courts and the Muromachi period. More specifically, I research areas such as the Imperial Court for the Northern Court and Southern Court, the individuals who played significant roles in those courts and the relationship between the Imperial Court and the Muromachi shogunate with the use of historical materials, mostly historical records and archives.



**Atsushi  
FUKUI**

福井 淳  
フクイ アツシ

Take pride in the fact that Taisho University is one of Japan's leading traditional schools, and use the university as a starting point for broadening your future dreams.

#### Specialization

Modern Japanese history

#### Brief explanation regarding specialization

I research political history in the modern era with a particular emphasis on the following three aspects: (1) Shigenobu Ōkuma-faction bureaucrats in the Meiji government, which attempted to incorporate constitutional government modeled after the West, and the movement for democratic rights by Ōkuma's Constitutional Progressive Party faction; (2) Political trends of religious figures and intellectuals in the Ashio mining pollution incident; and (3) Political movements of the Meiji Emperor/Imperial Family and the Imperial Household Agency.



**Hiroyuki  
MATSUMOTO**

松本 洋幸  
マツモト ヒロユキ

The true pleasure of historical studies can be found in "analogies." Drawing analogies is the act of identifying elements such as ways of thinking about things and modes of behavior that exude similarities between certain past events and the situation in the present and reaffirming the situation that one is in. Many hints for understanding modern-day society are scattered across modern Japanese history. I hope our students will maintain a rich sense of history through coming into contact with a wealth of historical materials, particularly regional materials on modern history.

#### Specialization

Modern Japanese history

#### Brief explanation regarding specialization

I predominantly study political and urban history during the era between the 1920s and 1930s known as the "interwar period," which could also be termed the roots of modern-day society. In recent years, I have been working on compiling research that examines the nature of government in modern Japan from the early Meiji period to the mid-1950s/1960s through the process behind the introduction and popularization of modern waterworks in Japan based on the theme "political history of modern waterworks."



**Jinki**  
**NAKAGAWA**

中川 仁喜  
ナカガワ ジンキ

A good portion of historical studies is made up of deciphering historical materials written in characters. While getting used to that process may be a difficult road, you will gain visibility on the genuine truth at the road's end. Also, see to it that you go beyond your desk to make your way to actual sites and come into contact with actual things to experience history in the flesh. The experiences you have are what will form your true knowledge and wisdom.

#### Specialization

Early-modern Buddhist history

#### Brief explanation regarding specialization

I specialize in Buddhist history in the Edo period. While I mainly focus on the history of Tendai sect of Buddhism, I take a comprehensive approach in my research that goes beyond sects to cover individual aspects such as the relationship between politics and religion, folk religion, customs, the management of temples, and the manner in which monks at the time conducted ascetic training and pursued their studies.



**Masaki**  
**KINOSHITA**

木下 昌規  
キノシタ マサキ

As a discipline, historical studies are not solely about learning about the past. That act helps us to learn about ourselves in the modern era. History contains a number of lessons that are relevant to modern times. Discovering those lessons and endeavoring to apply them to yourself and society today are what make up historical studies. Try delving into your future selves as you study history at this university.

#### Specialization

Medieval Japanese history

#### Brief explanation regarding specialization

My research concerns the Muromachi shogunate and the power of the shogun following the Onin War as well as the associated relationship between Imperial Court and the shogunate. I tackle the question of just what the Muromachi shogunate was in Japanese history by examining the actual state of shogun families who stayed in power for over 100 continuous years after the Onin War in the midst of the Sengoku period, when the atmosphere of the days was one of retainers supplanting their lords.



Ryodo  
KUSHIDA

櫛田 良道  
クシダ リョウドウ

One cannot say for sure how your study of history will influence you in the future. However, one thing that can be said for sure is that what you learn here will by no means go to waste. I hope you take an interest in a variety of things in addition to history. It doesn't matter what they are. New questions raised by that interest will provide hints for your studies. Try researching a variety of things. Whether or not doing so produces results is irrelevant. What's important is the experience you had in attempting to examine something and tackling the challenge of figuring that something out. Furthermore, if you can transform that experience into knowledge that can be applied to historical research, all the better. The experience you have looking at things from a broad perspective will forge your radiant future going forward.

### Specialization

Early-modern history, Buddhist history

### Brief explanation regarding specialization

I specialize in early-modern Buddhist history and the history of the Shingon sect of Buddhism. More specifically, I research the relationship between the Tokugawa shogunate and Buddhist temples of prayer during and after the Genroku period using historical materials in the form of historical records and archives. I also deal broadly with areas of Edo period history such as the politics, public morals and beliefs of the time.