



Japan Studies Institute

Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum

**JUNE 2-15, 2025
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY**



Institute Staff

San Diego

Yoshiko Higurashi

Institute Director

Professor Emerita of Japanese

Advisor, Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

San Diego State University (SDSU)

Washington, D.C.

Amanda Taylor

Assistant Vice President

Civic & Global Engagement

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

Jody Dixon

Assistant Director, International Education

Academic Innovation and Transportation

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

Housing

Check-In: Monday, June 2, 2025

Check-Out: Sunday, June 15, 2025

Cuicacalli Suites

5150 East Campus Drive

San Diego, CA 92182-2622

Unless otherwise noted, all class activities are held in Room 2514
Student Services West (SSW) Building, San Diego State University

The Institute schedule is subject to change for reasons
beyond the control of AASCU or the Institute

Monday, June 2

12 p.m. **Arrival /Check in**

4:30 p.m. **Boxed Dinners**

Available at the Front Desk of Cuicacalli Housing Center

Tuesday, June 3

(Location: Park Boulevard., Student Union)

7:30-8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)

9-9:50 a.m. **Welcome/Fellows' Self Introduction/Introduction of Institute Staff and Curriculum Development**

Yoshiko Higurashi, Institute Director
Professor Emerita of Japanese
Advisor, Fulbright U.S. Student Program
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages SDSU

Kimberly Chinchilla, General Manager, Conference Services

Darlene Bych, Assistant to Higurashi (Photographer) /
Administrative Coordinator, Department of Linguistics and
Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

Hana Hernandezbrito, AASCU Student Assistant

Joel Nakama-Choi, SDSU Student Assistant

Carl Spenece, SDSU Student Assistant

Cam Urquhart, SDSU Student Assistant

Project
**"My Academic Discipline: How to Stimulate Interest in Japan
Among Students of my Field"**

Distribution of Course Packets

Special Guest from AASCU

Jody Dixon, Assistant Director, International Education,
Academic Innovation and Transformation, AASCU

10–10:50 a.m.

Dorm Tour

Housing Office representative, SDSU

11–12:15 p.m.

Provost Tong's Opening Ceremony

WELCOME SPEECH PRESENTERS:

From AASCU

Jody Dixon, Assistant Director, International Education, Academic Innovation and Transformation, AASCU

From SDSU

William Tong, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Representative from all SDSU alumni

Jeff Marston, former President, SDSU Alumni Association

Representative from all SDSU student body

Joel Nakama-Choi, event coordinator, Japanese Student Association

Representative from the Japanese Government

Kate Leonard, Honorary Consul of Japan in San Diego

Representatives from San Diego Business Community

Jay Scovie, Deputy General Manager, Corporate Communications and Education, Kyocera International, Inc.

ATTENDEES

From SDSU

Hala Madanat, Vice President for Research and Innovation

Kirk Campbell, Deputy Chief Information Officer, representing

James P. Frazee, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer

Jessica Rentto, Senior Associate Vice President, Administration, representing **Agnes Wong Nickerson**, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs and Chief Financial Officer

Cristina Alfaro, Associate Vice President of International Affairs

Noah Hansen, Senior Director, International Affairs

Representatives from all SDSU Colleges

Todd Butler, Dean, Arts and Letters

Michael Borgstrom, Associate Dean, Arts and Letters

Marlene Lopez, Program Coordinator, Wendy Gillespie Center for Advancing Global Business and SDSU Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), representing **Dan Moshavi**, Dean, Fowler College of Business

Y. Barry Chung, Dean, Education

Eugene A. Olevsky, Dean, Engineering

Giang Pham, Associate Dean for Research, representing

Amy Bonomi, Dean, Health and Human Services

Kurt Lindemann, Associate Dean, representing **Janis Mckay**, Dean, Professional Studies and Fine Arts

Jeffrey Roberts, Dean, Sciences

Tracy Love, Dean, Graduate Studies

Guillermina Gina Núñez, Dean, Imperial Valley Campus

Ian Gibson, Dean, SDSU Global Campus

More from SDSU

Robert Malouf, Chair, Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

Minjeong Kim, Director, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies

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|----------------|---|
| 1:45–3:30 p.m. | Campus Tour
AASCU Student Assistant and SDSU Interns |
| 5:30–6:30 p.m. | Dinner (The Garden - Reserved Room) |
| 7.–9:00 p.m. | Session (Location: Student Services West – 2514)
Japanese History and Society through Godzilla
William Tsutsui
Chancellor and Professor of History
Ottawa University |

Wednesday, June 4

- 7:30–8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50–9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9:10–9:45 a.m. **Library Tour**
Jenny Wong-Welch
Head, Research, Instruction, and Outreach
SDSU
- 10–11:30 a.m. **Christianity in Japan**
Kirk Sandvig
Department of Study or Religion, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies
SDSU
- 1–3:00 p.m. **Anime and Pop Culture in Japan**
Kirk Kanesaka
Department of World Languages and Literatures
California State University, San Bernardino
- 3:15–5:15 p.m. **Japanese Traditional Theatre**
Kirk Kanesaka
Department of World Languages and Literatures
California State University, San Bernardino
- 5:30–6:30 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)

Thursday, June 5

- 7:30–8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50–9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9–9:50 a.m. **Japanese Language**
Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages
SDSU

Keiko Ito
Assistant to Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
- 10–12:00 p.m. **How to Create a Japanese Film Course**
Akiko Hirota
Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures
California State University, Northridge
- 1–3:15 p.m. **Introduction to Japanese Literature**
Akiko Hirota
Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures
California State University, Northridge
- 3:30–4:00 p.m. **Japan Exchange & Teaching (JET) Program**
Jody Dixon
Assistant Director, International Education,
Academic Innovation and Transformation
AASCU
- 5:30–6:30 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)
- 7–9:00 p.m. **Religion of Modern Japan**
Takashi Miura
Department of East Asian Studies
University of Arizona

Friday, June 6

- 7:30–8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50–9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9–9:50 a.m. **Japanese Language**
Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages
SDSU

Keiko Ito
Assistant to Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
- 10–12:00 p.m. **Modernity and Becoming Modern**
Stefan Tanaka
Department of Humanities
University of California, San Diego (UCSD)
- 1:15–2:45p.m. **Sumié Brush Painting**
Tatsuko Sandin
Ryushu (artist's name)
San Diego Community College
Vice President, Washu Kai
Assistants: Louise Rendich and Luz Shepart
- 3–5:00 p.m. **Art of Japan**
Juliann K. Wolfgram
Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences
California Institute of Technology
- 5:30–6:30 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)
- 7–9:00 p.m. **Movie Night** (Optional)
Our Lost Years

Saturday, June 7

- 7:30–8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50–9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9–11:00 a.m. **Japanese Aesthetics**
Kotaro Nakamura
Department of Design
Iowa State University
(School of Art and Design, SDSU)
- 11:20 a.m. **Field Trip to Balboa Park**
Departure for Nijiya by chartered bus
Pick up your favorite Japanese food at Nijiya for lunch
(lunch provided by AASCU)
- 12:15–1:15 p.m. **Lunch at the Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park**
- 1:30–2:30 p.m. **Japanese Traditional Architecture**
(Location: Japanese Friendship Garden)
Kotaro Nakamura
Department of Design
Iowa State University
(School of Art and Design, SDSU)
- 2:45–3:45 p.m. **Japanese Art** (Location: San Diego Museum of Art)
Lucas Perez
Manager of Art & Empathy Projects, and Innovation
Community Engagement, San Diego Museum of Art
- 4:00 p.m. **Departure for SDSU**
- 4:30 p.m. **Return to SDSU**
- 4:30 p.m. **Boxed Dinners**
Available at the Front Desk of Cuicacalli Housing Center

Sunday, June 8

7-8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)

5:30-6:30 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room not available)

Monday, June 9

7:30-8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)

8:50-9:00 a.m. **Announcements**

9-9:50 a.m. **Japanese Language**

Rina Otsuka Pasamonik

Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages
SDSU

Keiko Ito

Assistant to Rina Otsuka Pasamonik

10-12:00 p.m. **Issues in Japanese Economics and Society**

Robert Uriu

Department of Political Science
University of California, Irvine

1:15-3:15 p.m. **Japan, Trump, and Asia:
Japanese Foreign Policy in a (New) Era of Uncertainty**

Robert Uriu

Department of Political Science
University of California, Irvine

3:30-5:00 p.m. **Ikebana Flower Arranging:
Beauty and Philosophy** (Location: Scripps Cottage)

Sachiko Kohatsu

San Diego Ikenobo Ikebana Chapter Association

6-7:00 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)

Tuesday, June 10

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 9:00 a.m. **Departure for Buddhist Temple of San Diego by chartered bus**
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Buddhist Temple of San Diego and Meditation Experience**
Mr. Bill Teague
- 10:45-12:00 p.m. **Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma**
- 12:15-2:00 p.m. **Dan McLeod Lunch**

Tom Ham's Lighthouse Restaurant
Harbor Island
- 2:30 p.m. **Back to SDSU**
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. **Geography of Japan**
Atsushi Nara
Department of Geography
SDSU
- 6-7:00 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden – Reserved Room)

Wednesday, June 11

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50-9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9-9:50 a.m. **Japanese Language**
Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages
SDSU

Keiko Ito
Assistant to Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
- 10-11:00 a.m. **Education System in Japan and the Issues of Japanese Students in the U.S.**
Akiko Mikamo
US-Japan Psychological Services

- 11:10-12:10 p.m. **Hiroshima - Rising from the Ashes: Under and Beyond the Mushroom Cloud**
Akiko Mikamo
US-Japan Psychological Services
- 1:15-2:15 p.m. **Kyocera's Corporate Culture: For People and For Profit**
Jay Scovie
Deputy General Director, Corporate Communications and Education
Kyocera International, Inc.
- 2:25-3:15 p.m. **Origami**
Mami Yamashita
Global Village Language and Cultural Solutions
Alliance for African Assistance
- 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Japanese Classical Music and Aesthetics: Lecture and Performance**
Kozue Matsumoto
Semi-Master, Ikuta-ryu, Miyagi-kai
Performer-Composer MFA, California Institute of the Arts
- 6-7:00 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)

Thursday, June 12

All Day Conference: Student Services West - 1500

- 9-9:45 a.m. **Developing Academic Partnerships and Other Exchange Opportunities in Japan**
- 9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.*
SDSU's Exchange Programs
Yoshiko Higurashi and representative(s) from Global Education Office, SDSU
- 9:25 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.*
Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI) Program
Jackline Bevering, Program Assistant, Laurasian Institution

- 10-11:50 a.m. **Japanese Government Organizations Session**
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.*
- Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)**
Christopher Baker, Public Relations Director
- 10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.*
- The Japan Foundation New York**
"Grants and Support Programs Offered by The Japan Foundation"
Hiroyuki Kojima, Director General
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.*
- The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles**
Honorable Kenko Sone, Consul General
- 11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.*
- Japan House Los Angeles**
Yuko Kaifu, President
- 12-1:45 p.m. **SDSU President Adela de la Torre's Luncheon Reception
in Honor of 2025 JSI Fellows** (Location: Faculty Staff Club)
- 2-3:30 p.m.  **Fowler College of Business
Center for Advancing
Global Business**
- SDSU Center for Advancing Global Business Keynote Address**
AI and University Education in Japan
Yasushi Kodama
Director of the Data Science Center and Professor of Management
Hosei University (Tokyo)
- 3:45-4:45 p.m. **Fulbright Scholar in Japan: 2018 JSI Fellow's Success Story**
Olivier Chamel
School of Architecture & Engineering Technology
Florida A&M University

- 6-7:00 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)
- 7:15-9:15 p.m. **Film Screening and Discussion:**
Only the Brave
Lane Nishikawa, Director and Actor
West River Productions
(Director of *Our Lost Years*: Optional Movie Night, June 6)

Friday, June 13

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50-9:00 a.m. **Announcements** (Location: Scripps Cottage)
- 9-11:00 a.m. **Taiko Drum Workshop** (Location: Scripps Cottage)
Asayake Taiko
University of California, San Diego
Matthew Alegrodo, External Director
- 11:10-12:00 p.m. **Japanese Language**
Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages
SDSU
Keiko Ito
Assistant to Rina Otsuka Pasamonik
- 1:15-2:45 p.m. **Tea Ceremony Workshop** (Location: Scripps Cottage)
Lisa Baird
Urasenke San Diego Association
- 3-4:00 p.m. **My Experience in Japan**
Joel Nakama-Choi (Hosei University)
Catherine Loiselle (Sophia University)
Hana Hernandezbrito (Sophia University)
- 6-7:00 p.m. **Dinner** (The Garden - Reserved Room)

Saturday, June 14

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)
- 8:50-9:00 a.m. **Announcements**
- 9-11:00 a.m. **Project Presentations**
 JSI Fellows and **Yoshiko Higurashi**
- 11-12:00 p.m. **Optional Shipping Time**
- 1:30-4:00 p.m. **Project Presentations**
 JSI Fellows and **Yoshiko Higurashi**
- 5:00 p.m. **Departure for Hinotez Japanese Restaurant by chartered bus**
- 5:30-8:00 p.m. **JSI Final Banquet**
 Hinotez Japanese Restaurant
- 8:30 p.m. **Return to SDSU**

Sunday, June 15

- 7:30-8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (The Garden)

Check out by 11:00 a.m.



1717 Rhode Island Avenue NW • Suite 700 • Washington, DC 20036
ph 202.293.7070 • fax 202.296.5819 • aascu.org