

Yunchen Tian

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EMPLOYMENT

2024 – Japan Foundation – Nichibunken Fellow, International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken), Kyoto, Japan
2022- 2024 Assistant Professor of Political Science, Saint Martin’s University, Lacey, WA
2020-2021 Dean’s Teaching Fellow, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
2019-2020 Visiting Researcher, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo, Japan

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, August 26th, 2022
Dissertation title: “National Regime or Local Implementations? The Technical Intern Training Program and the Multilevel Governance of Labor Migration in Japan”
Advisor: Erin Aeran Chung
B.A. with Distinction, Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, May 2015

TEACHING

Instructor of Record, Asia and the World, Global Issues, Exploring Japanese-ness – the Politics of Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Sexuality in Japan, Research Methods, Senior Research Seminar and Comparative Labour Migration Policy, *Saint Martin’s University*
Dean’s Teaching Fellow (Independent Course Instruction), Comparative Labour Migration Policy, Spring 2021, *Johns Hopkins University*
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Japanese Politics, and Policy Failure 2017-2019, *Johns Hopkins University*

PUBLICATIONS

Single-authored Refereed Publications

Tian, Yunchen. 2022. “Workers, Neighbours, or Something Else? Local Policies and Policy Narratives of Technical Intern Training Program Participants.” *Social Science Japan Journal*, December.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/ssjj/jyac023>

Article awarded 2023 ISS/Oxford Prize for Modern Japanese Studies

Tian, Yunchen. 2018. “Workers by Any Other Name: Comparing Co-Ethnics and ‘Interns’ as Labour Migrants to Japan.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, April, 1–19.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2018.1466696>.

Co-authored Refereed Publications

Chung, Erin Aeran, Darcie Draudt, and **Yunchen Tian**. 2023. “The Developmental Migration State.” *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, December.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1369183X.2023.2269781>

Chung, Erin, James F Hollifield, and **Yunchen Tian**. 2023. “Migration Governance in East and Southeast Asia.” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, September, 1cad010.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/irap/1cad010>.

Chung, Erin Aeran, Darcie Draudt, and **Yunchen Tian**. 2020. “Regulating Membership and Movement at the Meso-Level: Citizen-Making and the Household Registration System in East Asia.” *Citizenship Studies* 24 (1): 76–92.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13621025.2019.1700914>.

Contributions to Edited Volumes

- Tian, Yunchen. 2023. "Local-Level Governance and Contestation of Temporary Labor Migration." In *An Island is Not an Island: Perspectives on Immigration to Japan*, edited by Michael Strausz. Forthcoming, University of Hawaii Press.
- Tian, Yunchen. 2023. "Will Guestworkers Save Japan? Findings from a Nationwide Municipal Survey." In *Sustainability, Diversity, and Equality: Key Challenges for Japan*, edited by Kimiko Tanaka and Helaine Selin, 13:109–24. Science Across Cultures: The History of Non-Western Science. Cham: Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-36331-3_8.

Book Reviews (invited)

- Tian, Yunchen. 2021. "Book Review: Immigrant Japan: Mobility and Belonging in an Ethno-Nationalist Society." *International Migration Review*, February, 0197918321993093. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0197918321993093>.

PRESENTATIONS

- "Maintaining Sovereignty at the Margins: Migration in Japan's Remote Islands Strategy", Insular Imaginaries Workshop, Ishigaki, Okinawa, Japan, October 10, 2024.
- "Trans-local Policy Assemblages' in the Governance of Guestworker Migration", American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA, September 5, 2024.
- "New Connections: 'Trans-local Policy Assemblages' in the Governance of Guestworker Migration in Japan", International Session, Annual Conference of the Japanese Association of Migration Policy Studies, Tokyo, Japan, May 26, 2024.
- "New Connections: 'Trans-local Policy Assemblages' in the Governance of Guestworker Migration in Japan", Borders in Globalization, University of Victoria, Canada, March 11, 2024.
- "New Connections: 'Trans-local Policy Assemblages' in the Governance of Labor Migration to Japan", 21st Century Borders in Japan Early Career Researchers' Workshop, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. February 15, 2024.
- "Migration Interdependence in East Asia" with Erin Chung and James Hollifield, International Studies Association, Montreal, QC, Canada, March 17, 2023.
- "Shifting Strategies and Public-NGO Partnerships in Migrant Rights Activism in Japan 1990–2021", CUNY Graduate Center Comparative Politics Workshop, Online, April 2022
- "Foreign Trainees as Foreign Talent: Local and National Policies Towards Migrant Labour in Japan", Japanese Association for Migration Policy Studies, Online, May 2020
- "On the Durability of the Technical Industrial Training Program in Japan: Observing Diversity in the Policies and Attitudes of Local Governments", Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Jan 2020.
- "The Developmental Migration State in East Asia" with Erin Chung and Darcie Draudt, American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, Sept 2018
- "Workers by any other name: comparing co-ethnics and 'interns' as labour migrants to Japan", Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2017
- "Workers by any other name: comparing co-ethnics and 'interns' as labour migrants to Japan", Johns Hopkins University Program in East Asian Studies Student Symposium, Baltimore, MD, April 2017

HONORS AND GRANTS

- Cohort 7, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation US-Japan Network for the Future
Early Career Researcher Writing Workshop International Travel Grant, Nichibunken, Kyoto, Japan and University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, February 2024
ISS/Oxford Prize for Modern Japanese Studies, *Social Science Japan Journal*, Dec 2023

Faculty Development Grant, Saint Martin's University, March 2023
Research Travel Grant, Program in East Asian Studies, Fall-Winter 2021-22
Johns Hopkins University Dean's Teaching Fellowship, AY 2020-2021
Japan Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship in Japanese Studies, AY 2019-2020
Departmental Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, May 2018
Japan Foundation Fellowship in Japanese Studies, AY2016-2017
Research Travel Grant, Program in East Asian Studies, Summer 2016
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship, 2016 *declined*

SERVICE

Board Member, Olympia World Affairs Council, 2023 – 2024
Library Faculty Committee Service, 2023 – 2024
Faculty-in-Residence, Saint Martin's University, 2022 - 2024
Campus Advisor and Selection Reviewer, Critical Language Scholarship 2022 - 2024
Discussant for Antje Ellermann, Departmental Seminar, March 2018.
Program Assistant, JHU Program in East Asian Studies, 2015-2019
Reviewer, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *International Migration Review*,
International Migration, *Citizenship Studies*, *Contemporary Japan*, *Japan Forum*, *East Asia Forum*, *F1000Research*

SOFTWARE COMPETENCIES

Microsoft (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Outlook) Google (Docs, Sheets, Drive, Forms)
R, GIS, Python, ATLAS.ti, Tableau

EDITORIAL PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Yunchen Tian: "Refugee rights in Japan are fading fast", *East Asia Forum*, September 2023
Yunchen Tian: "Kishida reopens the door to Japan", *East Asia Forum*, October 4 2022
Guest appearance as expert commentator on radio episode titled *Japan, an immigration nation?*
on *Counterpoint with Amanda Vanstone*, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Broadcast
September 2, 2018
Yunchen Tian and Erin Chung: "Is Japan Becoming a Country of Immigration?" *Foreign Affairs*, August 3, 2018.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques, Budapest, August 2017
Automated Collection of Web and Social Data
Big Data Analysis in the Social Sciences
Critical Language Scholarship, United States Department of State at the University of Shiga
Prefecture, Hikone, Japan, June to August 2016

LANGUAGES

English – native, Chinese – native, Japanese – fluent, Spanish - intermediate