



JAPANESE STUDIES in the Philippines

The 6th Japanese Studies Research
Development Competition

UNDERGRADUATE CATEGORY

9 MARCH 2024, 9 AM - 12 NN

Seminar Room, GT-Toyota Asian Cultural Center,
University of the Philippines Diliman

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PROGRAM



- 9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies
- Philippine and Japanese National Anthems
 - Welcome Remarks
 - Antoinette R. Raquiza, Ph.D.**
 - Professor and Assistant to the Dean for Public Affairs,
UP Asian Center
 - Recap of the Previous JSRC
 - Competition, Guidelines, and Mechanics
 - Introduction of the Judges

Undergraduate Presentations

- 9:15 AM **Effects of Japan's Doubling of Defense Spending on Economic Output**
Axl Fitzgerald L. Bulawan, University of the Philippines
Tacloban
- 9:30 AM **The Distant Heart's Gaze: Queer Representation in Riho Kudo's *Let Me Hear It Barefoot* (2021)**
Shedorlaomar C. Corales, University of the Philippines
Open University
- 9:45 AM Open Forum
- 10:15 AM **The Japanese War Atrocities in the Province of Leyte, 1942 - 1945**
Moirra Pauline M. Iradel, University of Santo Tomas
- 10:30 AM **A Morphosemantic Analysis of *Oshikatsugo* (The Language Used for *Oshikatsu*) on Twitter**
Ma. Julia Zidenka D. Nievera, University of the Philippines
Diliman



PROGRAM

- 10:45 AM Open Forum
- 11:15 AM Coffee Break
- 11:30 AM Awarding of Certificates and Announcement of Winners
- 11:45 AM Closing Remarks
Tanaka Yojiro
Deputy Director, The Japan Foundation, Manila
- 12:00 NN End of Competition: Undergraduate Category

Karl Ian Cheng Chua, Ph.D.
Master of Ceremonies

THE JUDGES



Tanaka Yojiro

Deputy Director, Japan Foundation, Manila

Mr. Tanaka is the current deputy director of The Japan Foundation, Manila.



Tsuchiya Kisho, Ph.D.

Instructor, Ateneo de Davao University

Assistant Professor, CSEAS, Kyoto University

Dr. Tsuchiya Kisho is currently an Assistant Professor at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) at Kyoto University. He is also serving as an International Exchange Professor (instructor) at the Ateneo de Davao University. His areas of expertise are on Southeast Asian area studies, modern history, postcolonialism, Cold War, and borderland studies. Currently, his research delves into studies of inter-Asian connections, gender, migration, infrastructure, and technology. His research interests include Timor-Leste, Indonesia, the Philippines, Cold War, postcolonialism, decolonization, and borderland. He took his MA and Ph.D. degrees from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

References:

<https://kyoto.cseas.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/staff/tsuchiya/>

<https://kdb.iimc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/profile/en.38ca87b3a6d9ebb1.html>



Cynthia Neri Zayas, Ph.D.

Professorial Lecturer, Center for International Studies, University of the Philippines Diliman

Cynthia Neri Zayas is an anthropologist currently focused on Japan and the Philippines. She has been acknowledged as the Philippines' leading maritime anthropologist and foremost Japanologist by the Japanese Government given her knowledge and contribution to the field. In 2023, she was awarded the The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette for her contributions to promoting Japanese Culture. She acquired her doctoral degree from the University of Tsukuba in Japan which may have influenced her interest and field of expertise. Her past engagements include being granted a visiting professorship at Kagoshima University, and the University of Malaya, and even served as a visiting researcher at Kobe Gakuen University, The International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, and Academia Sinica in Taiwan. Her specializations are mainly in cultural anthropology, maritime anthropological studies of Asia, and cultures of disaster.

References:

<https://www.pssc.org.ph/chairpersons/cynthia-n-zayas/>;

<https://upd.edu.ph/zayas-honored-by-japanese-govt/>

THE FINALISTS



Undergraduate Category



Axl Fitzgerald I. Bulawan

Bachelor of Arts in Economics
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ABSTRACTS

Undergraduate Category

Japanese Studies in the Philippines

The 6th Nationwide Japanese Studies Research Development Competition
9 March 2024 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Seminar Room, UP Asian Center

EFFECTS OF JAPAN'S DOUBLING OF DEFENSE SPENDING ON ECONOMIC OUTPUT

Axl Fitzgerald Bulawan

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Worried about the increasingly aggressive China, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced the country's plan to double its defense spending from one percent of its economic output to two percent over the next five years (Dooley and Ueno, 2022). Defense spending, as a component of government expenditure, will affect the country's economic output, potentially inducing economic growth or undermining it. Several studies have noted a positive relationship between defense spending, while other countries have experienced the opposite effect. Using regression analysis on data from 1960 to 2022, this study examines the relationship between Japan's defense spending and its economic output and found that Japanese military expenditure has a negative effect on GDP. It found that a dollar increase in defense spending results in a 0.6891 USD decrease in economic output. This study also found that from 1962 to 2017, Japan had substantial arms imports relative to exports, which explains the negative impact on domestic output. Finally, this paper recommends that Japanese military spending trends and its effects on their output be followed and studied more closely as it expects to double defense spending by 2027.

Keywords: Japanese defense spending, economic output, Benoit hypothesis, regression

THE DISTANT HEART'S GAZE: QUEER REPRESENTATION IN RIHO KUDO'S *LET ME HEAR IT BAREFOOT* (2021)

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This study argues that the 2021 film *Let Me Hear It Barefoot* by Riho Kudo showcases queer sensibility but elicits both heteronormativity and homonormativity among its audience. As such, the analysis suggests that contemporary Japanese films have the capacity to reinforce both heteronormative and homonormative narratives, which could be enforced in translating queer intersectional struggles on screen. The protagonists' struggles in the film mirror the social realities of queer individuals in Japan who struggle to liberate their identities but fall back to normative identities due to sociocultural conditions. Using multimodal critical discourse analysis accompanied by the theoretical groundwork of queer theory and intersectionality theory, the study denotes that the film's stereotypical portrayal of the protagonists' relationship recognizes the notions of toxic masculinity and the strange, repressed nature of queer struggles in mainstream media.

THE JAPANESE WAR ATROCITIES IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, 1942-1945

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At the height of the Pacific War caused by the Second World War, the province of Leyte was deliberately affected by the war atrocities and economic turmoil brought about by the Japanese Occupation. Only a few studies depicted the lesser-known narratives of war survivors; most scholars concentrated on the return of General Douglas MacArthur and the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944. Historical works often neglect the upheaval in Leyte's garrisoned towns, toppled by *Kempetai* mopping operations and casualties. Using the historical method, wherein the descriptive, narrative, and analytic techniques of research writing are employed, the study would reveal the severity of the imposition of the "Greater East Co-Prosperity Sphere" in Leyte. Incorporating Arnold Toynbee's Challenge and Response in micro-human activity shows the consequence of more drastic issues such as provincial collaborations, feuds in guerilla warfare, starvation and poverty, food procurement crisis, and peso devaluation. Eyewitness accounts substantiate the Leyteños' war tragedy of heinous crimes such as torture, gender violence, bombardments, and destruction of property; their survival and coping mechanisms until the Palo landing. This study enriches Leyte's historiography on local war history to the Philippine liberation, such as the restoration of the Commonwealth Government in Tacloban, post-war recovery, and the normalcy of livelihood and education.

Keywords: Leyte, Guerilla Resistance, Japanese Occupation, War Atrocities, Leyteños, Douglas MacArthur

A MORPHOSEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF OSHIKATSUGO (THE LANGUAGE USED FOR OSHIKATSU) ON TWITTER

Ma. Julia Zidenka D. Nievera
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Oshikatsu is a relatively new phenomenon that is prevalent in social networking sites such as Twitter, Ameblo (Ameba blog), Instagram, and others. It is defined as any and all activities encompassing the act of supporting one's *oshi* (Saitou 2020). There are special and unique lexical items employed by the sociolinguistic community involved in the act of practicing *oshikatsu*, which this paper refers to as *Oshikatsugo*. The rise of this sociolinguistic phenomenon was heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic, which forced most activities to shift online. Communities of fans flocked over the internet to share their insights, emotions, and calls of support for their *oshi*. Hence, a background in Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC) is also explicated in the paper, with Cutler and Royneland (2018) asserting that multilingual youths often develop their own language use strategies over the internet. This is especially true if they identify as a member of a specific community with similar interests, which is also a strategy used in *oshikatsugo* in online spaces. This language is considered a subcategory of *wakamono kotoba*, under the category of *zokugo* or slangs; all of which are making their way to national television, mass media, and everyday speech, consequently having a wide range of influence in the Japanese language and society. According to Li (2021), formation of words and phrases that do not follow a particular set of rules but are mutually understood by the youth are such characteristics of Youth Language (*wakamono kotoba*). Kayamoto and Machi (2001) claim that *zokugo* or slang is spread more easily by mass media, especially on social media, which classifies *oshikatsugo* in both categories. As the

language further seeps into the sociolinguistic scene of Japan, this may pose a problem for Japanese language learners and non-practitioners of *oshikatsu*. This paper attempts to solve this problem by collecting data in the form of tweets or posts from the social networking site, Twitter (now X) that feature selected lexical items pertinent to *oshikatsugo*, in order to analyze the morphosemantic components of these selected forms as utilized in this social activity. The paper also aims to categorize the data collected by their use and function in the act of *oshikatsu*, and provide close English approximations of the forms when available. The analysis of the data is based on Tsujimura (2014)'s Word Formation Theory and the descriptive qualitative-textual analysis employed by Rahman, et al. (2022) to illustrate processes of semantic shifts in the data. The results showed that the morphological components in *oshikatsugo* undergo the processes of affixation, compounding, reduplication, clipping, and borrowing to form new lexical items relevant to *oshikatsu*, with clipping and compounding being the most prominent processes. Significant changes in semantic components of the forms were noted under the morphological process of borrowing, deviating from their denotations in either standard Japanese or English, and their respective connotations in *oshikatsugo*.

Keywords: Japanese, CMC, social media, SNS, Twitter, wakamono kotoba (youth language), zokugo (slang), oshikatsu, oshi

JAPAN FOUNDATION, MANILA



The Japan Foundation is the only institution dedicated to carrying out Japan's comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world.

With the objective of cultivating friendship and ties between Japan and the world, through culture, language, and dialogue, the Japan Foundation creates global opportunities to foster friendship, trust and mutual understanding.

The Japan Foundation was established in October 1972 as a special legal entity supervised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In October 2003, it was reorganized as an independent administrative institution. As the 18th overseas office, the Japan Foundation, Manila (JFM), which was founded in 1996, is active in three areas: Arts and Cultural Exchange, Japanese-Language Education, and Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange.

The Japan Foundation has a global network consisting of its Tokyo headquarters, the Kyoto office, two Japanese-language institutes (the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa; and the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai) and 24 overseas offices in 23 countries, including two Asia Center liaison offices.



ASIAN CENTER

Who we are:

The Asian Center is the University of the Philippines' only unit with a regional area of specialization and one of the colleges in the university's Diliman campus. Established in 1955 as the Institute of Asian Studies, the Asian Center offers graduate-level multidisciplinary academic programs on Asian Studies and Philippine Studies. Its mandate—the study of Asia—is underpinned by law, Republic Act 5334, which took effect in June 1968. The Asian Center is based at the GT-Toyota Asian Cultural Center.

It is a member of the Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies in Asia, the Kyoto International Consortium for Asian Studies (KICAS), and Network of ASEAN-China Academic Institutes (NACAI).

Mission:

“To develop a closer and broader contact with our Asian neighbors in the field of learning and scholarship to attain knowledge of our national identity in relation to other Asian nations through profound studies on Asian cultures, histories, social forces, and aspirations,” Republic Act 5334.

Vision:

To serve as a research hub for Asian Studies and Philippine Studies in the Philippines and help create a society aware of and appreciative of its Asian and Filipino heritage in ways that promote Filipino identity and its relations with its Asian neighbors.

ASIAN STUDIES



Call for Papers

Asian Studies: Journal of Critical Perspectives on Asia is an open-access, peer-reviewed academic journal published since 1963 by the Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman. Promoting original and penetrating research, it offers novel and alternative interpretations of Asian experiences, helps deepen the understanding of the region, and enlivens debates on issues affecting Asian peoples and societies.

One of the pioneering journals of its kind in Asia, *Asian Studies* offers a critical, multidisciplinary platform where scholars, practitioners, and activists can publish research that draws on the theories and perspectives from the social sciences, humanities, or cultural studies.

Published twice a year, the journal welcomes:

- Commentaries and documents
- Reviews (films, books, novels, exhibits, plays, websites, etc.)
- Poetry and short fiction; and
- Travel narratives.

View content and submission guidelines: www.asj.upd.edu.ph.
Submissions are welcome year-round.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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The Organizing Committee would like to thank

Undergraduate Category Judges

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