

OTILIA CLARA MILUTIN

Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies

Middlebury College

Japanese Studies

FIC Freeman LF01B

Middlebury, VT 05753

omilutin@middlebury.edu

otiliamilutin@gmail.com

<https://omilutin.middcreate.net/>



Middlebury

EDUCATION

- PhD, Asian Studies, 2015. University of British Columbia, Canada.
Dissertation: “Sweat, Tears and Nightmares: Textual Representations of Sexual Violence in Heian and Kamakura *Monogatari*” (Supervisor Prof. Joshua S. Mostow)
Comprehensive examinations: *Monogatari* Genre and Literary Criticism (with Prof. J. S. Mostow), Pre-Modern Japanese Literature (with Dr. Stefania Burk), Theories of Gender and the Body (with Prof. Sharalyn Orbaugh)
- MA, Japanese literature, 2008. University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA.
Thesis: “Panic Attacks: Violent Female Displacement in *The Tale of Genji*” (Supervisor Prof. Doris G. Bargen)
- BA, Japanese – French, 2003. University of Bucharest, Romania.

EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies, Middlebury College, 2018 – present
JAPN 221 – Sex and death in Classical Japanese Culture (Fall 2021)
 - This course examines the topics of sex and death in classical Japanese literature and culture, starting with the earliest creation myths of the 8th century, continuing with the masterpieces of the Heian period (794-1185) and culminating with the vibrant culture of the Edo period (1600-1868).
- JAPN 301, 302 – Intermediate Japanese (Fall 2021 & Spring 2022)
- JAPN 290 – *The Tale of Genji* in English (Spring 2021)
 - This course examines the 1008 court tale *The Tale of Genji* by Murasaki Shikibu and its long reception history.
- JAPN 301, 302 – Intermediate Japanese (Fall 202 & Spring 2021)
- JAPN 215 – Modern Japanese Fiction (Fall 2020)
 - This is an introductory course to modern and post-war Japanese literature in English translation. No prior knowledge of Japan or Japanese is necessary to

enroll. Our focus will be on the emergence of the modern self, both public and private, in a wide variety of fictional works from the late nineteenth century (the late-Meiji period) to the end of World War II.

JAPN 214 – Modern Japanese Women Writers (Spring 2020)

- This course explores these feminine figures of resistance, authors like Higuchi Ichiyō, Enchi Fumiko, Sata Ineko, Hayashi Fumiko, Ōba Minako, Yoshimoto Banana and Ogawa Yōko, and their multilayered and complex works, in relation with the changing social and political conditions that shaped women's positions in Japanese society.

JAPN 102, 103 – First-year Japanese (Winter 2020, Spring 2020)

FYSE 1549 – Monsters in Japanese Culture (Fall 2019)

- This course examines a series of Japanese monsters, highlighting how the fear of the Other – the stranger, the outsider, the rebel – leads to marginalization and demonization and how monsters are created to contain these undesirable elements.

JAPN 301 – Intermediate Japanese (Fall 2019)

JAPN 215 – Modern Japanese Fiction (Spring 2019)

JAPN 101, 103 – Beginner's Japanese (Fall 2018, Spring 2019)

JAPN 250/GSFS 250 – Gender in Japan (Fall 2018)

- This course explores the topics of gender and sexuality in Japanese literature and film, from the earliest myths of the 8th century to 20th-century movies by famous directors. Students examine a variety of genres, including poetry, courtier and warrior tales, noh and jōruri drama, short-stories and novellas, focusing on sub-topics such as traditional and transgressive gender roles, representations of the body, cross-dressing, homosexuality, prostitution and sexual violence.

- Visiting Assistant Professor in Asian Studies, Knox College, 2016 – 2018

ASIA 295 – Pink is the Hottest Color: Bodies, Sex and Censorship in Japanese Cinema

- A course which focuses on issues related to sex, gender and sexuality, and in particular on the way bodies are represented across various genres in Japanese cinema (from period pieces to "pink" films). We will tackle questions related to nudity, pornography and censorship, while developing our own critical apparatus for basic film appreciation.

ASIA 273/373 – A World of Their Own: Modern and Contemporary Japanese Women Writers

- A course which explores authors like Higuchi Ichiyō, Enchi Fumiko, Sata Ineko, Hayashi Fumiko, Ōba Minako, Setouchi Harumi, Tsushima Yūko or Kanehara

Hitomi, and their multilayered and complex works, in relation with the changing social and political conditions which shaped women's positions in Japanese society

ASIA 263/ 363, JAPN 263 – Sex, Gender and Sexuality in Classical Japanese Literature and Culture

- A course which explores the topics of gender and sexuality in Japanese literature and culture, from the earliest myths of the 8th century to late 18th century theatre and art, focusing on sub-topics such as traditional and transgressive gender roles, representations of the body, cross-dressing, homosexuality, prostitution and sexual violence

JAPN 201, 202, 203 – Intermediate Japanese

- A course directed at students who want to continue learning Japanese, beyond elementary proficiency, designed to help them develop skills to sustain a reasonably fluent conversation on a variety of subjects, mostly focusing on ensuring that they acquire the ability to function, socially and linguistically, in Japanese society

JAPN 101, 102, 103 – Elementary Japanese

- A course designed to help students develop basic communicative competence in speaking, listening, reading and writing in modern Japanese, as well as to offer background information on various aspects of Japanese culture, such as social customs and interactions, travel, food, education and everyday life

- Lecturer, University of British Columbia, 2015-2016

ASIA 254 – Gender and Sexuality in Japanese Literature and Film

- A course on gender and sexuality in Japanese literature and film which focuses on themes such as traditional and transgressive gender roles, representations of the body, cross-dressing, homosexuality, prostitution and sexual violence

JAPN 311 – Classical Japanese

- An introductory course to the grammar and style of Literary Japanese (*bungo*) through lectures, exercises, and reading of original sources

JAPN 100 – Beginning Japanese I

- An introduction to modern spoken and written Japanese with emphasis on both form (grammar and syntax) and functions

- Lecturer, University of British Columbia, 2013- 2014

JAPN 100, Beginning Japanese I

JAPN 408 – Readings in Modern Japanese Literature

- Advanced fourth-year level course in the reading, translation and analysis of literary texts in modern Japanese
- Topic: Femmes Fatales in Japanese Literature

ASIA 344 – Topics in Japanese Cultural History: Aristocrats and Warriors

- Third year-level course focusing on various aspects of courtly or warrior cultures of Japan

ASIA 360 – Premodern Japanese Literature in Translation

- Third year-level course introducing students to a specific literary work in English translation

PUBLICATIONS

- “*Shojo* Murasaki, *Seinen* Genji: Sexual Violence and Textual Violence in Yamato Waki’s *Fleeting Dreams* and Egawa Tatsuya’s *Tale of Genji Manga*.” *Japanese Language and Literature* 55:1 (2021): 275-305.
- Forthcoming (TBD): “Classical Waka in Contemporary Manga and Anime.” Submitted to eds. Christina Laffin, Gustav Heldt, and Gian Piero Persiani for the *Exploring Waka Culture Across Genres, Media, and Periods* edited volume.
- Forthcoming (Summer 2022): “Unruly Ladies, Shy Gentlemen: Classical Precedents for Contemporary Queer Characters in Anime and Manga” paper abstract submitted to eds. Nathen Clerici and Kazumi Nagaike for *Sharalyn Orbaugh Festschrift*.
- “Sweat, Tears and Nightmares: Textual Representations of Sexual Violence in Heian and Kamakura *Monogatari*,” Ph.D. dissertation, September 2015, available online at <https://circle.ubc.ca>
- (Trans.) Kimura Saeko. “Hiruko: The Leech Child and Its Un-Gendered Body,” in *Theorizing Japanese Literature*, edited by Rajyashree Pandey, Kimura Saeko, and Eve Zimmerman. Tallinn: Tallinn University Press, 2015
- “Conceptual Journeys,” Conference Report to the Workshop *Representations of Sexualities in Asian and European Cultures* (June 8-9, 2009), available online at <http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de>
- “Panic Attacks: Violent Female Displacement in *The Tale of Genji*,” M.A. Thesis, June 2008, available online at <http://scholarworks.umass.edu>
- “Tamakazura, feminitatea refractară” (“Tamakazura, Reluctant Femininity”). UCDC Analalele Universității, Seria Științele Limbii, Literaturii și Didactica Predării (Dimitrie Cantemir University Annals, Languages, Literatures and Pedagogy Series), June 2005, Bucharest, Romania
- “The Rehabilitation of the Seductress in *The Tale of Genji*,” in *Romano-Arabica: The Journal of the Center for Arab Studies*, pp. 50-60. University of Bucharest, December 2002, Bucharest, Romania

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Presenter, Association of Asian Studies, March 24-27, 2022, Honolulu, Hawai'i, USA
Paper title: "Watching the Romance: Classical Waka in Contemporary Manga and Anime"
- Presenter, "Corporeality in Pre-Meiji Literature" workshop, December 3-4, 2021, Dartmouth College, Hanover
Paper title: "Sweat Pouring Forth Like Water:" The (In)Visible Female Bodies in *Monogatari* Literature and Beyond"
- Presenter, 16th International Conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies, August 25-28, 2021, Ghent, Belgium
Paper title: "Utsusemi/ Genji vs. Nezame/ The Emperor: *Yoru no nezame* as Transformative Fan Fiction"
- Presenter, "Thinking <Women X Women> in Japan," Vizualizing Texts, Reading Images Workshop III, October 16-17, 2020 (virtual), Dartmouth College, Hanover
Paper title: "Fandom, Fiction, Fantasy: Rewriting *The Tale of Genji* in *Yoru no Nezame*"
- Presenter, Waka Workshop XI, "Exploring Waka Culture through the Ages," November 22-23, 2019, University of Virginia, Charlottesville
Paper title: "Watching the Romance: Classical Waka in Contemporary Manga and Anime"
- Presenter, Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, October 18-19, 2019, Mexico City, Mexico
Paper title: "Between Text and Theory: Defining and Analyzing Sexual Violence in Premodern Japanese Court Tales"
- Presenter, organizer, chair, Association of Asian Studies, March 21-24, Denver, 2019
Panel title: Written Image, Painted Word: Characters, Iconographies and Narrative Techniques in *Emaki* Picture Scrolls
Paper title: Lying Broken on the Floor: Trauma and Iconographies of Feminine Distress in the 12th Century *Tale of Genji Scroll*
- Roundtable participant, Association of Asian Studies, March 21-24, Denver, 2019
"Classical Japanese Special Interest Group 2019 Roundtable Discussion"
- Presenter, "The Woman in the Story: Female Protagonism in Japanese Narratives," March 13-15, 2019, UCLA, Los Angeles
Paper title: *Onnagatari*: Female Protagonists and Narratives of Sexual Violence in Post-*Genji* Court Tales
- Presenter, Asian Studies Conference Japan, July 8-9, 2017, Tokyo, Japan

Paper title: “‘Bathed in Perspiration:’ Sexual Violence and the Female Body in Heian-Period *Monogatari*”

- Presenter, Associations of Teachers of Japanese, March 16, 2017, Toronto, ON, Canada
Paper title: “Lady Murasaki’s Fans: Writing Sexual Violence in Post-*Genji* Women’s Literature”
- Presenter, Association of Japanese Literary Studies, October 8-10, 2015, Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA
Paper title: “Sweat Pouring Forth Like Water”: Representations of the Violated Female Body in Heian *Monogatari*”
- Presenter, Association of Asian Studies, March 27, 2015, Chicago, IL, USA
Paper title: “Reading *Genji*, Writing Rape: *Monogatari*-like Representations of Sexual Violence in Lady Nijo’s *Towazugatari*”
- Presenter, New England Association of Asian Studies, October 11, 2013, Bridgewater, MA, USA
Paper title: “Turning into a Shadow: Textual Management of Sexual Violence in *Taketori monogatari*”
- Presenter, Associations of Teachers of Japanese, April 2, 2011, Honolulu, USA
Paper title: “The ‘Dream’ Trope in *Kokinshū* and *Genji monogatari* Love Poetry”
- Presenter, The Japanese Studies Association of Canada Conference, October 2, 2010, Vancouver, Canada
Paper title: “Sex, Dreams and Nightmares”
- Invited reporter, “Representations of Sexualities in Asian and European Cultures” Workshop, June 8-9, 2009, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Report title: “Conceptual Journeys”
- Invited reporter, “New Perspectives on Pictorial Narrative in Japan” Workshop, June 10, 2009, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Report title: “A Symphony of Images”
- Presenter, the Seventeenth Annual Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, February 2008, Columbia University, New York, USA
Paper title: “Uprooting Young Bamboo: *Genji*’s Violent Displacement of Utsusemi”
- Presenter, Annual Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, February 2006, Columbia University, New York, USA
Paper title: “Women Cornered: The Understated Violence of Heian Courtship Rituals in *The Tale of Genji*”

- Presenter, Harvard East Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, February 2006, Harvard, USA
Paper title: “Choosing Freedom: Saikaku’s Challenge of the Prostitute Stereotype in *Kōshoku ichidai onna*”

TALKS

- Fall Faculty Forum, September 27, 2019, Middlebury College
Title: “Everything Old is New Again:” Teaching Classical Japanese Literature through Popular Culture”
- Life of the Mind talk, April 8, 2019, Middlebury College
Title: “Silent All These Years:” The Tale of Genji, Sexual Violence and Contemporary Japanese Popular Culture

INVITED LECTURES

- Guest lecturer, Middlebury College, Fall 2019
JAPN 475, “Advanced Reading in Japanese Studies.”
Presentation title: “Genji monogatari yaku ni okeru sekushuaru baiorensu no byōsha”
- Guest lecturer, University of British Columbia, 2008 – present
(delivered one-class lectures or seminars on various topics and conducted class discussions)

ASIA 464, Japanese Women's Self-Writing (November 19, 2010)
Presentation title: “Abutsu Ni: Feminine Transmission of Cultural Capital”

ASIA 344, Topics in Japanese Cultural History I: Aristocrats and Warriors (October 22, 2010)
Presentation title: “The Dark Side of Love: Women and Violence in *The Tale of Genji*”

ARTH 366, Japanese Pictorial Narrative Traditions (November 3, 2009)
Presentation title: “*Genji monogatari emaki: The Tale of Genji*, Text and Image”

ASIA 455, Adaptations of Japanese Classics (October 29, 2009)
Presentation title: “Adaptations of the Spirit Possession Episode of *The Tale of Genji: Aoi no ue* and *Lady Aoi*”

ASIA 344, Topics in Japanese Cultural History I: Aristocrats and Warriors (October 27, 29, 31, 2008 and November 3, 2008)
Presentations titles: “The Everyday Life of Heian Aristocrats,” “An Overview of *Genji* Art,” “Hanachirusato, Suma, Akashi”

JAPN 312, Classical Japanese (March 11, 13, 23, 30, 2015)

Presentation titles: “*Genji monogatari* – “Wakamurasaki”,” “*Ise monogatari* – “Azuma kudari,” “*Ise monogatari* – Dan 64,” “*Hyakunin isshu* – selected poems.”

- Teaching Assistant, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2005 – 2008
(aided the course instructor, Prof. Doris G. Bargen, constructed and marked quizzes and papers, delivered guest lectures, advised students)
JAPAN 491, Graduate Seminar/ Capstone Course: Rebels and Martyrs
JAPAN 491, Graduate Seminar/ Capstone Course: The Samurai
JAPAN 143, Courtly Romance and Warrior Epic
JAPAN 135, Japanese Arts and Culture
- Teaching Assistant, Hokkaidō Summer Program, Hokkaidō University, Japan, 06.2006 – 07.2006
- Guest lecturer, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2005 – 2006
(delivered one-class lectures on various topics and conducted class discussions)

JAPAN 143, Courtly Romance and Warrior Epic

Presentation title: “Buddhism in *The Tale of Genji*”

JAPAN 135, Japanese Arts and Culture

Presentation title: “Women’s Lives in the Heian Period”

- Instructor of Japanese Language and Literature, Dimitrie Cantemir University, Romania, 03. 2004 – 08. 2005
(instructor in charge of all class-related duties)

Pre-Modern Japanese Literature

Modern Japanese Literature

Introductory Modern Japanese

Intermediate Modern Japanese

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Fellowship, Japan Foundation, 2011 – 2012
- Four-Year Graduate Fellowship, University of British Columbia, 2009 – 2012
- The Okamatsu Family Scholarship for Japanese Studies, University of British Columbia, 2009 – 2010
- Travel Grant, Center for Japanese Research, University of British Columbia, 2009
- Faculty of Arts Graduate Award, University of British Columbia, 2008 – 2009

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING

- Co-organizer with Hilary Lehmann (Classics), “Gaia & Genji: Sexuality and Gender in the East and the West,” Cross-Disciplinary Colloquium, October 6-7, 2017, Knox College, USA
- Co-organizer with Prof. Doris Bergen, “Assassination as Sacrifice” Conference, May 3, 2008, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA
- Co-organizer with Prof. Doris Bergen and Aragorn Quinn of Intergenerational Graduate Student Conference on Diversity in East Asia, May 1, 2006, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA

MEMBERSHIP

- Association for Japanese Literary Studies, 2015 – present
- American Association of Teachers of Japanese – 2015 - present
- Japanese Studies Association of Canada, 2010 – present
- Association of Asian Studies (AAS), 2008 – present
- Phi Delta Kappa (The Professional Association in Education), 2004-2005

LANGUAGES

- English (near native-speaker)
- Japanese (excellent reading, speaking, comprehension)
- French (excellent reading, speaking, comprehension, writing)
- Italian (good reading, speaking, comprehension)
- Romanian (native)