

CHRISTOPHER L. HILL

Associate Professor, Japanese Literature
Dept. of East Asian Languages and Literatures
Tel. (203) 432-2867; e-mail chris.hill@yale.edu

EDUCATION

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, Ph.D. with distinction, 1999
Japanese and Comparative Literature

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, M.A., 1992
Comparative Literature

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, B.A. with highest honors, 1986
English and American Literature

CURRENT PROJECTS

Traveling Naturalism. Investigation of the rise of the naturalist novel and its proliferation around the world in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with special focus on France, Japan, and the United States. Crowds and urbanization, the degenerate body, and the unbound woman as characteristic tropes of the transnational genre.

"*Nana in the World*." Essay on the reception of Zola's 1880 novel and the "Nana figures" it inspired around the world.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Modern Japanese fiction; the novel in comparative perspective; naturalism; narrative theory; transnational intellectual exchange; nationalism; historical narrative; history of social thought; history of publishing and printing.

PUBLICATIONS

National History and the World of Nations: Capital, State, and the Rhetoric of History in Japan, France, and the United States (Durham: Duke University Press, fall 2008).

"Exhausted by Their Battles with the World: Neurasthenia and Civilization Critique in Early Twentieth-Century Japan," *Perversion and Modern Japan: Experiments in Psychoanalysis*, ed. Nina Cornyetz and Keith Vincent (London: Routledge, forthcoming 2009).

"The Naturalist Novel and the Boundaries of Japanese Literature," *Proceedings of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies* 9 (forthcoming 2009).

"The Body in Naturalist Literature and Modern Social Imaginaries," *Tradition and Modernity: Comparative Perspectives* (Beijing: Peking University Press, 2007).

"How to Write a Second Restoration: The Political Novel and Meiji Historiography," *Journal of Japanese Studies* 33:2 (Sum. 2007).

"Mori Ôgai's Resentful Narrator: Trauma and the National Subject in 'The Dancing Girl,'" *Positions* 10:2 (Aut. 2002).

"National Histories and World Systems: Writing Japan, France, the United States," *Turning Points in Historiography: A Cross-Cultural Perspective*, ed. Q. Edward Wang and Georg G. Iggers (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2002). Trans. in *Globale Geschichte: Theorien, Ansätze, Themen*, ed. Sebastian Conrad, Andreas Eckert, and Ulrike Freitag (Frankfurt: Campus, 2007).

"Ideologies of Novelty and Agedness: Narrating the Origins of the Meiji Nation," *New Directions in the Study of Meiji Japan*, ed. Helen Hardacre and Adam L. Kern (Leiden, New York, and Köln: Brill, 1997).

"Fashizumu to hyôshô no shutai—Maruyama, Adoruno, yûtopia" (Fascism and the

Subject of Representation: Maruyama, Adorno, Utopia), trans. Takeuchi Takahiro, *Hihyô kûkan* (Tokyo) 2:4 (Jan. 1995).

Review of Jonathan Zwicker, *Practices of the Sentimental Imagination: Melodrama, the Novel, and the Social Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Japan*, *Journal of Japanese Studies* 43:2 (Sum. 2008).

Review of Maeda Ai, *Text and the City: Essays on Japanese Modernity* and Kamei Hideo, *Transformations of Sensibility: The Phenomenology of Meiji Literature*, *Modern Language Quarterly* 66:2 (June 2005).

Review of Massamiliano Tomasi, *Rhetoric in Modern Japan: Western Influences on the Development of Narrative and Oratorical Style*, *Journal of Asian Studies* 64:2 (May 2005).

Review of Ayako Kano, *Acting Like a Woman in Modern Japan: Theater, Gender, and Nationalism*, *Journal of Japanese Studies* 29:2 (Sum. 2003).

Review of James A. Fujii, *Complicit Fictions: The Subject in the Modern Japanese Prose Narrative*, *MFS* 40:1 (Dec. 1994).

PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"Nationalism as Comparative and International History," American Historical Association, Jan. 2009.

"Simultaneity, Unevenness, and the Failures of Modernity," Modern Language Association, Dec. 2008.

"Enlightened Japan: Local Reading and European Universalism," European University Institute, Nov. 2008.

"*Nana* in the World: The Naturalist Novel and Its Fellow Travelers," American Comparative Literature Association, Apr. 2008.

"Generic Self-Awareness and the Genres of Modernity," Edogawa Rampo and Modernism as Global Culture, Ritsumeikan University, Dec. 2007.

"The Naturalist Novel and the Boundaries of Japanese Literature," Association for Japanese Literary Studies, Nov. 2007.

"Shinkei suijaku to bunmei hihan" (Neurasthenia and Civilization Critique), Waseda University, Oct. 2007.

Discussant, New York premiere of HBO documentary *White Light/Black Rain* (dir. Steven Okazaki), Asia Society, June 2007.

"Generic Self-Awareness and the Genres of Modernity," Wakô University, May 2007.

"Generic Self-Awareness and the Genres of Modernity," Edogawa Rampo: Delinquency and Crimes of the Modern, New York University, Apr. 2007.

"Affect and Imperial History in *Kajin no kigû*," Modern Language Association, Dec. 2006.

"Narrative Form as Historical Evidence," Modern Japanese History Workshop, Oct. 2006.

"The Urban *Sakariba* and Naturalist Representation," Association for Asian Studies, Apr. 2006.

"National Histories and World Systems," Cross-Lingual Poetics working group, Yale University, Dec. 2005.

Discussant, "The Space Between: The Cartographic Imagination of Japanese

- Modernism," Center for Japanese Studies, University of California, Berkeley, Oct. 2005.
- "Naturalism, the Book, and the Mediatization of Society: Examples from Japan," Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, Sept. 2005.
- "The Body in Naturalist Literature and Modern Social Imaginaries," Center for Japanese Studies, University of California, Berkeley, Sept. 2005.
- "Naturalism, the Book, and the Mediatization of Society," Asian Studies Conference Japan, June 2005.
- Discussant, Workshop on Nobility and Civility, Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, May 2005.
- "The Body in Naturalist Literature and Modern Social Imaginaries," Australian National University and University of Sydney, Mar. 2005.
- "The Body in Naturalist Literature and Modern Social Imaginaries," Tradition and Modernity: Comparative Perspectives, Beijing University, Mar. 2005.
- "Naturalist Literature and Social Imaginaries," Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, Jan. 2005.
- "Comparative Literature, World Systems, and the Specialist," East Asia and Future Directions of Comparative Literature, Princeton University, Apr. 2004.
- Response to keynote address by Naoki Sakai, The Face of Another conference on Japanese film, Yale University, Feb. 2002.
- "Naturalism and Social Observation in Late-Meiji Japan," Asian Cultural Studies Workshop, Harvard University, Feb. 2001.
- "Interdisciplinarity and Discipline Problems in East Asian Studies," Modern Japanese History Workshop, Oct. 2000.
- "Tōkai Sanshi's *Chance Encounters*: Meetings with National History," Program in East Asian Studies, New York University, Feb. 2000.
- "Mōri Ōgai's Resentful Narrator: National History and National Allegory in 'Maihime'," Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University, Feb. 2000.
- "Frame, Time, and Politics in *Setchūbai*," Reading Practices Group, Harvard University, Dec. 1999.
- "National Histories and World Systems: Writing Japan, France, the United States," Turning Points in Historical Thinking: A Comparative Perspective, State University of New York at Buffalo, Aug. 1999.
- "'Intercourse' and the Space of Nation-States in Early Meiji Historiography," Association for Asian Studies, Mar. 1998.
- "'Intercourse' and the Constitution of the Nation-State in Early Meiji Histories of Civilization," Comparative Perspectives in Contemporary Asian Studies: Culture, Politics, Literature and Art, Rutgers University, Apr. 1997.
- "Time as Ideology: Historicism in a Global Context," Ph.D. Kenkyūkai, University of Tokyo, Sept. 1996.
- "Histories of the Present: Narrative and Meiji's Ideology of the 'Break'," Conference on Meiji Studies, Harvard University, May 1994.

**PANELS, TALKS, AND WORKSHOPS
ORGANIZED**

Roundtable "The Problem of Nationalism in a Global Frame," accepted for

American Historical Association, Jan. 2009.

Panel "Urban Space and the Urban Gaze: Literature, Ethnography, Art," Association for Asian Studies, Apr. 2006.

Workshop with cultural critic Ueno Toshiya (Wakô University), Yale University, Nov. 2005.

Workshop with Narita Ryûichi (history, Japan Women's University), Iyotani Toshio (economics, Hitotsubashi University), and Hirata Yumi (literature, Osaka University of Foreign Studies), Yale University, Oct. 2005.

Workshop with literary scholar Komori Yôichi (University of Tokyo), Yale University, Apr. 2002.

Workshop with Japanese literary scholars Kôno Kensuke (Nihon University) and Kanai Keiko (Waseda University), Yale University, Apr. 2002.

Panel "Coercive Universalities: History, Law, and Money in Meiji Japan," Association for Asian Studies, Mar. 1998.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Japan Foundation Short-Term Research Fellowship, 2007

Hilles Publication Fund Grant, Yale University, 2007

Junior Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2005-06

Morse Fellowship, Yale University, 2004-05

Griswold Faculty Research Grant, Yale University, 2002, 2004

Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University, 1999-2000

Columbia University Traveling Fellowship, for research in Paris, 1997 (declined)

Japan Foundation Doctoral Research Fellowship, for research in Tokyo, 1995-96

Jacob Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education, 1994-99

Weatherhead Fellowship, Columbia University, 1993-94

Robert Bennett Award, Columbia University, for master's thesis, 1992

Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, 1991-93

COURSES PRESENT AND PAST

<i>Modern Japanese Fiction</i>	Undergraduate lecture course introducing major works and trends in Japanese literature from the 1890s to the 1970s. The rise of realism, naturalism, and autobiographical fiction, and challenges to this tradition from modernists, leftists, women, and minorities.
<i>Imagining Space in Japanese Fiction and Film</i>	Undergraduate lecture-seminar on the representation of social and psychological space in Japanese fiction and selected films from the 1870s to the end of the twentieth century, with an opening unit on earlier periods. New urban phenomenologies, psychological interiority, cultural nostalgia, family and household.
<i>Naturalist Literature in the Global Frame</i>	Undergraduate seminar on French, American, and Japanese naturalist literature. The rapid movement of naturalism around the world, its relationship to local urbanization and industrialization, and its participation in debates on degeneration, sexuality, and social evolution.
<i>The Culture of Postwar Japan</i>	Graduate seminar on the postwar period through the 1960s. Memory and political responsibility, democracy, gender and sexuality, representations of urban space, and critical debates in the <i>bundan</i> .
<i>Modernity and Culture in Imperial Japan</i>	Graduate seminar on the late Meiji, Taishô, and early Shôwa periods (1905-1930). The evolution of narrative form, social observation, the representation of the self, and the emergence of critical reflections on modernity.

Literature, Culture, and Thought in Modern Japan Graduate seminar on the literature and thought of the Meiji period (1868-1912). Vernacularization and the development of new literary styles, nationalism, the rise of theories of progress, urban growth and the representation of space, and naturalism and anti-naturalism.

Readings in Contemporary Media and Literature Advanced Japanese language course focusing on reading and discussion of authentic texts including newspaper and magazine articles, sociology, philosophy, fiction, and poetry. Oral presentations, written assignments, and practice using idioms and other advanced expressions. Team taught with Senior Lecturer Seto Masahiko.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal of Japanese Studies, Comparative Literature, Columbia University Press, *Studies of the East Asian Institute* (Columbia University). Manuscript reviews.

Japan Society, New York. Contribute to primary and secondary school initiatives providing resources and curricular modules on Japanese literature; lead workshops for teachers in tri-state area.

Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Yale University. Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2002-04, 2005-07. Serve on search, reappointment, and graduate admissions committees. Carried out revision of major requirements in 2002-03.

Council on East Asian Studies, Yale University. Serve on committees for graduate admissions, postdoctoral fellowships, grants, and undergraduate prizes.

Richard U. Light Fellowships, Yale University. Served on Executive Committee of scholarship program for study of East Asian Languages.

Language Study Committee, Yale University, 2005-06. Served on committee overseeing language pedagogy across the university.

Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Yale University 2003. Served as faculty member of admissions panel.

Berkeley College, Yale University. Freshman and Sophomore advising.