

FEDERICO MARCON

Assistant Professor of History
(Departments of East Asian Studies and History)
Julis Foundation University Preceptor
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EMPLOYMENT

From January 2015	Editorial Board Member, <i>Modern Intellectual History</i> , Cambridge University Press
From July 2011	Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Japanese History, Princeton University
2008-2011	Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Japanese History, University of Virginia
2007-2008	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University

EDUCATION

October 2007	Ph.D. in Japanese History, Columbia University, New York. Dissertation defended on June 2007 and awarded with Distinction.
Nov. 2005-Dec. 2006	Visiting Researcher at Waseda University, Tokyo.
Oct. 2004	M.Phil. History-East Asia Program, Columbia University. Orals fields: Premodern Japanese history (Prehistory to 1600); Modern Japanese history (1600 to present); Theories and methodologies of intellectual history; Social history of scientific thought in early modern Europe.
Oct. 2004	M.A. History-East Asia Program, Columbia University, New York.
Sept. 1999-May 2001	Research Student at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo.
Mar. 1998	Laurea (M.A. equivalent) <i>summa cum laude</i> in East Asian Languages and Cultures, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari,” Italy. Thesis title: “Le parole e i sentimenti: La teoria della conoscenza di Motoori Norinaga (1730-1801)” [Words and Sentiments: The Theory of Knowledge of Motoori Norinaga (1730-1801)]
Oct. 1995-Sept. 1996	Visiting Student at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2011-Present Undergraduate and graduate classes on early modern and modern Japan, Princeton University.
- Fall 2011 EAS/HIS321 “Early Modern Japan”
HIS526/EAS521 “Early Modern Japan”
- Spring 2012 HIS208 “East Asia since 1800”
EAS523 “Research in Japanese History”
- Fall 2012 HIS526/EAS521 “Early Modern Japan”
- Fall 2012 HIS526 “Early Modern Japan”
- Spring 2013 HIS208 “East Asia since 1800”
FRS122 “Who Was the Last Samurai?”
- Spring 2014 HIS208 “East Asia since 1800”
EAS580/HIS580 “A History of Early Modern Japanese Thought”
- Fall 2014 FRS141 “Japanese Ghosts and Monsters: A Social History”
HIS526/EAS521 “Early Modern Japan”
- Spring 2015 EAS/HIS321 “Early Modern Japan”
EAS527/HIS522 “Eighteen Sixty-Eight: Telling Japan’s Modern Revolution”
- 2008-2011 Courses and seminars on Japanese history and culture and the history of science, UVA
- Fall 2008 HIEA 2071 “Japan: Susanoo to Sony”
HIEA 1501 “Who Was The Last Samurai?”
- Spring 2009 HIEA 3221 “Japanese Political History”
HIEA 1501 “Science and the Making of Modern Japan”
- Fall 2009 HIEA 2071 “Japan: Susanoo to Sony”
HIEA 4501 “Telling Japan’s Modern Revolution”
- Spring 2010 HIEU 3321 “The Scientific Revolution”
HIEA 1501 “Ideas and Society in Early Modern Japan”
- Fall 2010 HIEA 2559 “A History of Japan from Prehistory to 1868”
HIST 7081 “Historical Theories and Methods”
- Spring 2011 HIST 3559 “Early Modern Japan: A Social History”
HIST 4501 “Science and the Making of Modern Japan”
- Spring 2005 Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to East Asian Civilization: Japan,”
Professor Max Moerman, Columbia University.
- Fall 2004 Teaching Assistant, “Japan in the 20th Century: Words and Images,”
Professor Gregory Pflugfelder, Columbia University.
- Spring 2004 Teaching Assistant, “Ideas & Society in Modern Japan: 1600 to Present,”
Professor Carol Gluck, Columbia University.
- Fall 2003 Teaching Assistant, “Introduction to East Asian Civilization: Japan,”
Professor David Lurie, Columbia University.
- Spring 2003 Teaching Assistant, “Japanese Religious Traditions,” Professor Ryuichi Abe, Columbia
University.
- Spring 2001 Adjunct Professor of Japanese Language, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari.”

1998-1999 Teaching Assistant, “Religions and Philosophies of East Asia” and “History of the Explorations of East Asia,” Professor Massimo Raveri (Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari”).

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2013 Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Fellowship (Scholars and Researchers, Long-Term), at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia of Tokyo University.

2011-2015 Summer research salary, Princeton University.

2009, 2010 Summer research grant, University of Virginia.

Sept.2006-June 2007 Weatherhead Junior Fellowship in Japan Studies, Columbia University.

Nov.2005-Dec. 2006 Japan Foundation Fellowship for Doctoral Candidates, Waseda University.

2002-2004 Summer Research Fellowship, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University.

Sept. 2001 - 2006 Columbia University Graduate Fellowship (5 years).

Sept.1999-Apr.2001 Japanese Ministry of Education (Monbushō) Graduate Research Fellowship, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.

Mar. 1999 Alcantara Teaching Assistantship, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari,” Italy.

Oct.1995-Sept.1996 Takase Foundation Fellowship for Outstanding Foreign Students in Japan, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.

1992-1995 Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari” Scholarship for Outstanding Academic Performance.

RESEARCH FIELDS AND INTERESTS

Book Project: “Money Talks: The Social Life of Money in Early Modern Japan” (second book)

Current Projects: “Money Talks: Arai Hakuseki vs. Ogyū Sorai on the Value of Currency” (article project); “Without Nature: Prolegomena to a Comparative History of the Idea of Nature” (article project); “Adorno in Japan: The Fortunes and Misfortunes of the Frankfurt School in Japan” (article project)

Primary fields: Social, intellectual and cultural history of early modern Japan

Secondary fields: History of philosophy; history and philosophy of science; comparative social history of knowledge; philosophy of history; literary theory.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 2011-Present Graduate Admission Committee, History (15-16); Committee member for Korean Literature or History Search (14-15); EAS Undergraduate Curriculum Advising Committee; EAS Language Committee; Graduate Admission Committee, EAS (11-12, 12-13); Committee member for Early and Premodern Japanese History Search, Princeton University.
- 2010-2011 Organizer and Coordinator of the Page-Barbour Workshop Series on “Nature, Knowledge, and Machines: Parallels and Divergences”, University of Virginia.
- 2009-2011 Academic Advisor, University of Virginia.
- 2009-2011 Assistant Director for Graduate Admissions at the East Asia Center – University of Virginia
- Fall 2008 Japan History Search – Adjunct Committee Member, University of Virginia.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Knowledge of Nature and the Nature of Knowledge in Early Modern Japan (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2015)

Articles and translations in refereed books:

In print:

“*Honzōgaku* after *seibutsugaku*: Traditional Pharmacology as Antiquarianism in Early Meiji Japan,” chapter in the book anthology edited by Benjamin Elman *Early Modern Asian Medical Classics and Medical Philology* (Brill, 2015).

"Inventorying Nature: Tokugawa Yoshimune and the Sponsorship of *Honzōgaku* in Eighteenth-Century Japan" in B. Walker, J. Thomas, I. Miller (eds.), *Japan at Nature's Edge: The Environmental Origins of a Global Power* (Honolulu: The University of Hawaii Press, 2013), 189-206.

Gian Carlo Calza. *Ukiyo-e*. London, New York: Phaidon, 2005. Transliteration and translation of the following poems and colophons: I.14, I.19, I.30, I.65, I.67, II.9, II.18, II.22, II.23, II.36, II.37, II.42, II.61, II.70, II.72, II.76, III.5, III.7, III.21, III.26, III.36, III.37, III.38, III.39, III.40, III.41, III.43, III.44, III.45, III.46, IV.2, IV.3, IV.8, IV.33, IV.51, IV.53, IV.64, V.17, V.18, V.22, V.23, V.27, V.38, V.41, V.65, V.66, V.70, V.91, VI.3, VI.9, VI.11, VI.24, VI.25, VI.27, VI.28, VI.36, VI.47, VI.48, VI.67, VI.78, VI.80.

Articles in refereed journals:

In print:

“Satō Nobuhiro and the Political Economy of Natural History in Nineteenth-Century Japan,” *Japanese Studies*, 34:3 (December 2014)

“Guanniandi shijieshi shi foukeneng? 觀念的世界史是否可能?”, *Aomen ligongxue bao* 澳門理工學報 17:3 (April 2014), 189-193.

“Law and Society: The Story of the 47 Rōnin.” ExEAS Teaching Materials & Resources. At: <http://www.exeas.org/resources/law-society.html>

Federico Marcon & Henry D. Smith II. “A Chūshingura Palimpsest: Young Motoori Norinaga Hears the Story of the Akō Rōnin from a Buddhist Priest.” *Monumenta Nipponica* 58:4 (Winter 2003), pp. 439-465.

Motoori Norinaga. “The Story of the Loyal Samurai of Akō.” Ed. and trans. by Federico Marcon.

Monumenta Nipponica 58:4 (Winter 2003), 467-493.

Book Reviews:

Forthcoming:

Rebekah Clements, *A Cultural History of Translation in Early Modern Japan* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015). Review article. *Monumenta Nipponica* (forthcoming, 2016)

In print:

Alain Briot, *Monstres et prodiges dans le Japon d'Edo. Présentation, traduction et commentaires de l'Album Tayasu 84* (Paris: Collège de France, Institut des Hautes Études Japonaises, 2013). Review Article. *East Asian Publishing and Society* 5: 2 (2015), 221 –224.

Maki Fukuoka, *The Premise of Fidelity: Science, Visuality, and Representing the Real in Nineteenth-Century Japan*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012. Review Article. *Journal of Asian Studies* 73:1 (February, 2014), 249-251.

Watanabe Hiroshi, *A History of Japanese Political Thought, 1600-1901*. Trans. by David Noble. Tokyo: International House of Japan, 2012. Review article. *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 73:2 (December 2013), 396-403.

Carla Nappi. *The Monkey and the Inkpot: Natural History and Its Transformations in Early Modern China*. Review Article. *The Journal of Asian Studies* 70 (November 2011), 1138-1141.

J-F. Soum. *Nakae Tōju et Kumazawa Banzan*. Review Article. *Asiatica Veneziana* 5 (2000).

CONFERENCE PAPERS

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| March 2015 | “Money’s Tempo: Tokugawa Monetary Policies during the Crisis of the 1830s.” Paper presented at the 2015 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Chicago. |
| November 2014 | “Money Talks: Arai Hakuseki vs. Ogyū Sorai on the Value of Currency.” Invited lecture at the University of Pennsylvania. |
| November 2014 | “Between Truth and Accuracy: Natural History in Late Tokugawa Japan.” Invited lecture at Yale University. |
| October 2014 | “The Knowledge of Nature and the Nature of Knowledge in Early Modern Japan.” Invited lecture at the University of Maryland. |
| March 2014 | “Without Nature: Thinking about the Environment in Tokugawa Japan.” Paper presented at the International Symposium <i>Rethinking Nature in Japan: From Tradition to Modernity</i> , University of Venice (Italy) |
| February 2014 | “How to Think About Money: Notes for a Social History of Money in Early Modern Japan.” Paper presented at the <i>Lunch Colloquia</i> , Princeton University |
| December 2013 | “Is a World History of Ideas Possible?” Paper presented at the Third Fudan, Princeton and Tsinghua Conference on <i>Contested World Histories: Global History in the Eyes of China, Japan, and the U.S.</i> Princeton. (December 2013) |
| April 2013 | “Satō Nobuhiro and the Political Economy of Natural History in Nineteenth-Century Japan.” Paper presented at the 2013 American Society of Environmental History Meeting, Toronto. |

- March 2013 “Satō Nobuhiro and the Political Economy of Natural History in Nineteenth-Century Japan.” Paper presented at the 2013 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Diego
- December 2012 “Illustrations and Knowledge in Early Modern Natural History: A Comparative View.” Paper presented at the Second Fudan, Princeton and Todai Conference on *Local History in the Context of World/Global History*. Shanghai, Fudan University.
- December 2012 “La forma delle cose. Lo sviluppo della storia naturale nel Giappone Tokugawa.” Invited conference at the Università Ca’ Foscari di Venezia
- November 2012 “Against Nature: Short-circuits in Translation” Paper presented at the *Lunch Colloquia*, Princeton University.
- November 2012 “Some Remarks on the Classification of Natural Species in Tokugawa Pharmacopoeias.” Paper presented at the *Workshop on Early Modern Japanese Medicine*, Princeton University.
- April 2012 “Nature as Commodity: The Politics of Natural History in Satsuma in Early Modern Japan.” Paper presented at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University.
- March 2012 “Surprising Convergences: Natural History in Late-Tokugawa Japan.” Paper presented at the Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton University.
- February 2012 “*Honzōgaku* after *seibutsugaku*: Traditional Pharmacology as Antiquarianism in Early Meiji Japan.” Paper presented at the *Medical Classics and Medical Philology in Early Modern East Asia, 1550-1850* workshop, Princeton University.
- December 2011 “*Bakumatsu Honzōgaku*: Internal Transformations and External Convergences.” Paper presented at the First Fudan, Princeton and Todai Conference on *Local History in the Context of World/Global History*. Tokyo, Tokyo University.
- December 2011 “*Bakumatsu Honzōgaku*: How to Write the Last Chapter of my First Book.” Paper presented at the *Lunch Colloquia*, Princeton University.
- March 2011 “Thinking with Feudalism: Japan.” Paper presented at the *Premodern Conversations* workshop series, University of Virginia.
- February 2011 “Japanese Readings of “Chinese” Medicine.” Paper presented at the *Medical Classics and Medical Philology in Early Modern East Asia, 1550-1850* workshop, Princeton University.
- March 2010 “Exchanging Goods, Trading Ideas: Commerce and Knowledge in Kimura Kenkadō’s Salon.” Paper presented at the 2010 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia.
- March 2009 “Inventorying of the Realm: Nature Studies in Early Modern Japan.” *Science, Technology, Society Colloquium*, University of Virginia.
- November 2008 “The Polysemy of Nature: The Diversity of *Honzōgaku* Practices in Early Modern Japan.” Paper to be presented at the Mini-Symposium on History of Medicine in China and Japan (History of Medicine and Health in East Asia Colloquium Series), Stanford University.
- October 2008 “Surveying Nature: Tokugawa Yoshimune and the Sponsorship of *Honzōgaku*.” Paper presented at the Fifth Annual Michael P. Malone Memorial Conference “Japan’s Natural Legacies: Bodies and Landscapes Realized, Idealized, and Poisoned,” Montana State University.
- April 2008 “Tokugawa Yoshimune and the Invention of Professional Naturalists.” Paper presented at the Modern Japan Workshop, Amherst College.

- April 2008 “What Nature? The Study of Plants and Animals in Early Modern Japan.” Paper presented at the Early Science Workshop, Harvard University.
- April 2008 “The Spectacle of Nature: The 1762 Exhibition of Medicinal Substances and the Study of Nature in Tokugawa Japan.” Paper presented at the 2008 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Atlanta.
- October 2007 “*Honzōgaku*: From Pharmacology to Natural History in Tokugawa Japan.” Paper presented at the Japan Forum, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies.
- February 2007 “Intellectual Communities and Practices of Natural History in Tokugawa Japan.” Paper presented at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.
- September 2005 “Memorization *versus* Memory in Early Modern Japanese Intellectual Discourse.” Paper presented at the 11th International Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies, Vienna.
- February 2004 “Some Reflections on Comparative History.” Paper presented at the Columbia University Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, New York.
- March 2003 “Confucian Crossfire: The Debate over the ‘Righteous Samurai.’” Paper presented at the symposium “Rethinking *Chūshingura*: A Symposium on the Making and Unmaking of Japan’s National Legend,” New York.
- March 2003 “Young Motoori Norinaga Hears the Story of the Akō Rōnin from a Buddhist Monk.” Paper presented at the 2003 Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting, New York.
- February 2003 “Edo Monsters and Intellectuals.” Paper presented at the Columbia University Graduate Student Conference on East Asia, New York.
- October 2002 “Monstrous Shinto: Edo Monsters and Norinaga’s Conception of *Kami*.” Paper presented at the “International Shinto Workshop,” Columbia University, New York.
- November 2000 “‘Fiori di ciliegio sotto il sole del mattino:’ La teoria della conoscenza di Motoori Norinaga” [“Cherry-Blossoms Under the Morning Sun:” Motoori Norinaga’s Theory of Knowledge]. Paper presented at the Italian Cultural Institute, Tokyo.

LANGUAGES

Italian (native)
English (fluent)
Japanese (fluent; Japanese Proficiency Test 1st level)
Classical Japanese (fluent; reading proficiency of *kanbun*, *sōrōbun*, and calligraphic Japanese)
Classical Chinese (reading fluency)
French (reading fluency)
Spanish (reading fluency)
Latin (reading fluency)