

Conrad Hirano

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Northwestern University
Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies
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EDUCATION

- 2024 Ph.D. in History, Northwestern University (Evanston, IL)
Dissertation: “A History of Air Pollution and Anti-Smoke Campaigns in Modern Japan, 1880s to 1990s,” Dissertation Advisor: Dr. Laura E. Hein
- 2018 M.A. in History, Montana State University (Bozeman, MT)
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Brett L. Walker
- 2013 B.A. Liberal Arts, Soka University of America (Aliso Viejo, CA)
Thesis Advisor: Dr. Dongyoun Hwang

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024-Present Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies, Northwestern University
Energy and Environments: A Global History
- Fall 2024 Adjunct Instructor, Northeastern Illinois University (Chicago, IL)
History of Modern Japan
- 2019-2022 Teaching Assistant, Department of History, Northwestern University
Global Korean Diasporas
Chinese Civilization (from 2000 BCE to 1600 CE)
Global Asians (Asian American Studies, History of Asian Migrations)
Diseases and Biomedicine in World History
American Environmental History
- 2016-2018 Teaching Assistant, Department of History and Philosophy, Montana State University
History of the United States after 1860
Philosophy of the World

PUBLICATION

“Air Pollution Lawsuit and ‘Community Development for Environmental Regeneration’: The Case of Mizushima District in Kurashiki City, Okayama Prefecture,” co-authored with Miho Hayashi and Masafumi Yokemoto, in Masafumi Yokemoto et al., ed., *Environmental Pollution and Community Rebuilding in Modern Japan* (Springer, 2023):

TRANSLATION

Asano section of “Japan and Its Margins: Okinawa, Hokkaido, Korea, and Taiwan from the Meiji to the Postwar Period,” in Laura Hein ed., *The New Cambridge History of Japan: Volume III* (Cambridge University Press, 2023): 87-137.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023-Present Researcher and Author, Study Group on the Pollution-Related Proceedings of the Imperial Diet, in collaboration with six Japanese historians
- 2023 Visiting Researcher, Osaka Metropolitan University, dissertation research
- 2022-2023 Researcher, Resource Book Creation Team, The Center for the Redevelopment of Pollution-damaged Areas in Japan (Osaka)
- 2021-2022 Research Assistant (remote) for Dr. Quy Huy (Professor of Strategy) and Dr. Winnie Jiang (Assistant Professor of Organizational Behavior), INSEAD Singapore. Project on the company history of Tesla, Inc.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2025 The Conference Travel Grant, American Society for Environmental History
- 2023 The Interdisciplinary Conference Travel Grant, Northwestern University
- 2023 The Graduate School Conference Travel Grant, Northwestern University
- 2021 The Henry Binford Prize for Best Teaching Team, Northwestern University
- 2021 2021-2022 Japanese Studies Doctoral Fellowship (12 months), Japan Foundation
- 2018 Best MA Research Paper, Montana State University Burlingame Annual Award
- 2018 Outstanding Teaching Assistant, Montana State University Burlingame Annual Award

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“How to Define ‘Dense Smoke’?: Use of the Ringelmann Chart in Pittsburgh and Osaka, Japan.” American Society for Environmental History Conference. Pittsburgh, PA. April 12, 2025.

“Visualizing Air Pollution in 1910s Osaka, Japan: The Photograph, Graph, and Statistical Table.” History of Science Society Annual Meeting. Merida, Mexico. November 10,

2024.

“Asahi Shimbun’s Air Pollution Incident, 1886-1888.” Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs. Champaign, IL. September 30, 2023.

“Mantetsu-led Anti-Smoke Campaign in 1930s Dalian.” Conference of East Asian Environmental History. Daejeon, South Korea. June 29, 2023.

“Taikiosensoshogo niokeru Kyodo no Machizukuri – Okayama ken Kurashiki shi Mizushima chiku wo Jirei toshite.” Co-presented with Yokemoto Masafumi and Hayashi Miho in Japanese. Society for Environmental Economics and Policy Studies Conference. Online hosted by Meijo University (Nagoya, Japan). October 1, 2022.

Discussant. “Cultivating *Pembangunan*: Rice and the Intellectual History of Agricultural Development in Indonesia, 1945-65.” Northwestern University Arryman Fellows Annual Symposium. Evanston, IL. May 11, 2019.

“Creating the White City: The Coal Smoke Abatement of Interwar Osaka.” American Society for Environmental History Conference. Columbus, OH. April 13, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Asian Studies (AAS)

American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)

Asian Association for Environmental History (AAEH)

Society for History of Technology (SHOT)

Modern Japan History Association (MJHA)

History of Science Society (HSS)

LANGUAGES

Japanese: Native

English: Fluent

Mandarin Chinese: Conversational

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participant, Reflective & Effective Teaching Program at the Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching, Northwestern University, September 2024-Present

Participant, Hacking History: The Gale Digital Humanities Skills Workshop at Loyola University Chicago, December 5, 2024

Participant, National Institute of Japanese Literature/European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists Kuzushiji Workshop, April 19-21, 2023

Graduate advisory committee member, Northwestern University Alice Kaplan Institute's Environmental Humanities Research Workshop, 2021-2024

Participant, the University of Pennsylvania's Dream Lab 2021 course: *Digital Humanities & East Asian Studies*, June 14-17, 2021