

# Paul Kreitman

Weatherhead East Asian Institute #933, International Affairs Bldg, Columbia University  
420 West 118th Street, NY, NY, 10027, [USA](#)  
[pk2528@columbia.edu](mailto:pk2528@columbia.edu) Tel: +1-347-840-3842

## Career

- Assistant Professor, **Columbia University**, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, July 2016-
- Junior Research Fellow, Institute of Historical Research, School of Advanced Studies, University of London, September 2015-August 2016
- Senior Teaching Fellow, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, September 2015-August 2016
- **Japan Foundation Visiting Fellow**, University of Tokyo Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, August 2012-October 2013
- Carbon Offset Consultant, Mitsubishi UFJ Securities, July 2007-July 2009
- Northpoint Network Trading Co., Sapporo, Support Staff, December 2006-June 2007
- [**Nobel Peace Prize-winning**] Grameen Bank, Dhaka, Intern, Sept-Dec 2006

## Education

- Ph.D., **Princeton University** History Dept., September 2015: “Feathers, Fertilizer & States of Nature: Uses of Albatrosses in the U.S.-Japan Borderlands, 1856-1965” (Advisors: Sheldon Garon, David Howell)
- B.A. (**1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons**) Modern History, Balliol College, University of Oxford, June 2006

## Works in Progress

- “Attacked by Excrement: the political ecology of nightsoil in wartime and postwar Tokyo” [past peer review with *Environmental History*]
- Book manuscript: [working title: *Islands, Birds and People: wildlife and sovereignty conservation in Japan's border islands*]
- “Total War, Techno-Utopia and Big Hydropower: the wartime transnational origins of the Three Gorges Dam” [draft article]

## Select Invited Talks

- “The Search for the Ryūkyū Albatross: Sovereignty and Wildlife Conservation in the Senkaku Islands, 1945-1972” to be delivered at Yale University, [date tbd 2017-2018]
- “Bonito, Birdshit, and Torpedoes: Japanese Economic and Military Expansion into the South China Seas, 1918-1939” to be delivered at Vassar College, 19 October 2017
- “Attacked by Excrement: The Political Ecology of Night Soil in Wartime and Postwar Tokyo”, keynote lecture delivered at GradCon 2017, Columbia University, 25 February 2017
- “Saving the Japanese Albatross: Wildlife and Sovereignty Conservation in Postwar Japan” delivered at the University of Oslo East Asian Lunch Seminar, 12 November 2015
- “Total War, Techno-Utopia and Big Hydropower: the wartime transnational origins of the Three Gorges Dam” delivered at Shanghai University of Science and Technology American House, 13 December 2013
- “*Nijū seiki zenhan Kantō no shimogoe junkan: yūkibutsu no kajōka to Tōkyō no shinyō-zeme*” (“Attacked by Excrement: nightsoil circulation and organic overload in early 20th century Kantō”) delivered at Osaka University, 23 May 2013

## Select Conference Papers

- “The Search for the Ryūkyū Albatross: Sovereignty and Wildlife Conservation in the Senkaku Islands, 1945-1972” delivered at the European Association for Japanese Studies, Lisbon, 1 September 2017
- “Wildlife and Sovereignty Conservation in the Northwest Hawaiian and Senkaku Islands” delivered at AAS-in-Asia, Seoul, 26 June 2017

- “Biodiversity production on a Hawaiian border island, 1890-1911” delivered at the Biodiversity and its Histories Workshop hosted by the Center for Science and Society at Columbia University and the New York Botanical Garden, 24 April 2017
- “Biodiversity production on a Hawaiian border island, 1890-1911” delivered at the World History Association Regional Conference, Honolulu, 17 February 2017
- “Birdshit, Bonito, Torpedoes: Commodity and Sovereignty Production in the Spratly Islands, 1918-1939” delivered at the Columbia University Modern Japan Seminar, 30 September 2016
- “The Marcus Island Incident: Imperialism or Colonialism?” delivered at workshop on “Japanese Imperialism in and across the Pacific Region,” University of Zurich, 4 September 2015
- “The Marcus Island Incident of 1902: Sovereignty and Albatross Exploitation in the North Pacific Borderlands” delivered at the British Association for Japanese Studies Advanced Postgraduate Workshop, School of Oriental & African Studies, 25 April 2014
- “Manufacturing Scarcity: The Rasa Island Guano Company and Japan’s quest for autarky, 1911-1945” delivered at the American Society for Environmental History conference, San Francisco, 15 March 2014
- “Wildlife and Sovereignty Conservation in the Post-Annexation Hawaiian Borderlands, 1898-1910” at Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies Colonialism and Imperialism Graduate Student Workshop, Princeton, 12 March 2014
- “Total War, Utopian Visions & Big Hydropower: wartime transnational origins of the Three Gorges Dam”, delivered at the Association of Asian Studies conference, 22 March 2013
- “Hokubei ni okeru Nihon senmonka ikusei jigyo” (“Organizations promoting training of Japan specialists in North America) delivered at International House, Tokyo, 19 February 2013
- “Dongbeiyi de guqi jitong: Zhongguo Dongbei de huangdou dui jindui Riben luse geming de yingxiang” (“The Northeast Asian Nitrogen Pump: the influence of the Manchurian Soybean on Japan’s Green Revolution”) delivered at the Tsinghua University Inter-University Program for Chinese, Beijing, 8 December 2011
- “The Northeast Asian Nutrient Pump: The Manchurian Soybean in Japan’s Green Revolution, 1895-9141” delivered at workshop on “Empire and Beyond: Manchuria in the Modern World”, **Harvard University**, 6 May 2011
- “Nihon shokuminchi o meguru shiryō chōsa” (“Survey of archival resources pertaining to the Japanese colonial territories”) delivered at I-House Japan, Tokyo, 19 February 2011

### Select Teaching Experience

#### *Fall 2017* (Columbia University)

- GR8839 Modern Japan: Environment, Science, Technology [graduate level seminar]
- GU4847 Modern Japan [upper-level undergraduate seminar]

#### *Spring 2017*

- GR6200 MA Workshop in East Asian History [methods course for MA students]
- GU4822 Troubled Islands of the Indo-Pacific [upper-level undergraduate seminar]

#### *Fall 2016*

- GR6510 Japan Bibliography [methods course incl. digital humanities for PhD students]
- UN1361 East Asian Civilizations: Japan [entry-level undergraduate lecture course]

#### *Fall 2015/Spring 2016* (SOAS, University of London)

- 15PHIH Japanese Modernity [two module MA-level seminar on Japanese history]

#### *Spring 2012* (Princeton University)

- HIS208 Modern East Asia [section instructor for undergraduate survey course]

### Academic Service

#### *Fall 2017/Spring 2018*

- EALAC liaison with History Department
- Admissions coordinator for EALAC Japanese history applicants
- Lecture series programmer for Donald Keene Center for Japanese Studies

*Fall 2016/Spring 2017*

- Workshop co-organizer for 'Environmental Approaches to East Asian Texts'
- Admissions coordinator for EALAC Japanese history MA applicants

Languages

Japanese (fluent), Mandarin (reading and near fluent), French (reading)

Awards

- Japan Foundation Fellowship, 2012-2013
- Distinction in general examinations, Princeton University, 2011
- Princeton University History Department Davis Prize, 2009-2014
- Princeton University Council of Humanities Perkins Prize, 2009
- Sasakawa Foundation Scholarship, 2003
- Balliol College Gay Scholarship, 2002

References

Sheldon Garon, Nissan Professor of Japanese History, Princeton University

[garon@princeton.edu](mailto:garon@princeton.edu)

Tel: +1 609-258-4993

David Howell, Professor of Japanese History, Harvard University

[dhowell@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:dhowell@fas.harvard.edu)

Tel: +1 617-495-8367

Emmanuel Kreike, Professor of Environmental History, Princeton University

[kreike@princeton.edu](mailto:kreike@princeton.edu)

Tel: +1 609-258-4155

Susan Naquin, Professor Emeritus, History & East Asian Studies, Princeton University

[snaquin@princeton.edu](mailto:snaquin@princeton.edu)

Tel: +1 609-258-5801

Angus Lockyer, Lecturer in the History of Japan, SOAS, University of London

[a21@soas.ac.uk](mailto:a21@soas.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0)20 7898 4626