

## **Robert Hoppens**

Associate Professor  
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
Department of History

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### **Academic Positions**

**Associate Professor**, Department of History, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, 2015-present

**Assistant Professor**, Department of History, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (formerly University of Texas Pan American) 2009-2015

### **Education**

**Ph.D. Modern Japanese History**, University of Washington, June 2009

- Dissertation: "The China Problem in Postwar Japan: Japanese Nationalism and Sino-Japanese Relations, 1971-1980"
- Dissertation Advisor: Professor Kenneth B. Pyle
- Fields: Modern Japanese History, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Chinese History, Korean History and International Relations Theory

**MAIS Japan Studies**, University of Washington, June 1998

**BA International Relations & History**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, December 1993

### **Research & Publications**

**Research interests:** the history of Sino-Japanese relations, history of Japan-Taiwan relations, Cold War history, nationalism & national identity in East Asia

**Current Research:** history of Cold War Japan-Taiwan relations

#### **Book**

- *The China Problem in Postwar Japan: Japanese National Identity and Sino-Japanese Relations*, (London: Bloomsbury Press, 2015) SOAS Studies in Modern and Contemporary Japan. <http://www.bloomsbury.com/us/the-china-problem-in-postwar-japan-9781472575463/>

Reviews:

- Giulio Pugliese, *Japan Review* 32 (2019), 228-229.  
Karl Gustafsson, *Monumenta Nipponica* 72:1 (2017) 142-145.  
Barak Kushner, *The American Historical Review* 121:4 (October 2016) 1258-1259.  
Lam Peng Er, *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 42:2 (Summer 2016) 470-473.  
Caroline Rose, *Japanese Studies* 36:1 (2016) 132-134.  
Kurt W. Radtke, *Sungkyun Journal of East Asian Studies* 15/2 (October 2015) 291-294.  
Reinhard Drift, *China Quarterly* 223 (September 2015) 822-823.  
James Boyd, *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 46:1 (August 2015) 159-161.

**Journal Articles**

- “The 1979 Sino-Vietnamese War and the Transformation of Japan’s Relations with China in Diplomacy and Discourse,” *Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies* 14/2 (July 2014). <http://www.japanesestudies.org.uk/>
- “Peace through Historical Revisionism: Yamamoto Shichihei on Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s,” *Sino-Japanese Studies* 19, Article 4 (2012) 47-65. <http://chinajapan.org/articles/19/4>

**Book Chapter**

- “Japan-Taiwan Relations under Abe and Tsai in Historical Context,” in Arthur Alexander, ed., *Expert Voices on Japan: Security, Economic, Social and Foreign Policy Recommendations, U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Cohort IV* (Washington D.C.: The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, 2018), 49-64. [https://mansfieldfdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Expert\\_Voices-FINAL.pdf](https://mansfieldfdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Expert_Voices-FINAL.pdf)

**Conference Proceedings**

- “Japan-Taiwan Relations under Abe and Tsai in Historical Context,” *2018 Policy Guidance from the U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Cohort IV*, (Washington D.C.: The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, 2018), 9-10. [https://mansfieldfdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pages-from-2018-Policy-Guidance-FINAL\\_1.pdf](https://mansfieldfdn.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pages-from-2018-Policy-Guidance-FINAL_1.pdf)

**Academic Blog Posts**

- “Deng Xiaoping Visits Tokyo, October 1978 and February 1979,” *Sources and Methods: A Blog of the History and Public Policy Program*, Wilson Center. Introduction to a documentary collection for the Cold War International History Project of the Wilson Center Digital Archive (May 18, 2020). <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/deng-xiaoping-visits-tokyo-october-1978-and-february-1979>
- “Contemporary Japan-Taiwan Relations in Historical Context,” *Asia Dialogue*, University of Nottingham Asia Research Institute (July 13, 2018). <http://theasiadialogue.com/2018/07/13/contemporary-japan-taiwan-relations-in-historical-context/>

## Book Reviews

- Ryosei Kokubun, Yoshihide Soeya, Akio Takahara, and Kawashima Shin, Keith Krulak, trans., *Japan-China Relations in the Modern Era*. (New York: Routledge, 2017). In *Contemporary Japan* 31/1 (June 2018) 105-107. <https://doi.org/10.1080/18692729.2018.1485267>
- June Teufel Dreyer, *Middle Kingdom and Empire of the Rising Sun: Sino-Japanese Relations, Past and Present*. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016) and Ming Wan, *Understanding Japan-China Relations: Theories and Issues*. (Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific, 2016). In *Journal of Japanese Studies* 43/2 (Summer 2017), 527-531.
- Griseldis Kirsch, *Contemporary Sino-Japanese Relations on Screen: A History, 1989-2005*. (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2015). In *Monumenta Nipponica*, 71/2 (2016), 491-494.
- Masuda Hajimu, *Cold War Crucible: The Korean Conflict and the Postwar World*. (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015). In *Journal of American-East Asian Relations*, 22/4 (2015), 378-380.
- Paula S. Harrell, *Asia for the Asians: China in the Lives of Five Meiji Japanese*. (Portland, ME: MerwinAsia, 2012) ISBN 9781937385200. In *The China Quarterly* 214 (June 2013), 500-501.
- Tonio Andrade, *Lost Colony: The Untold Story of China's First Great Victory over the West*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011). ISBN 9780691144559. In *Education About Asia*, 18/1 (Spring 2013), 68-69.

## Presentations

- "Japanese History 1945 to the Present," Yokosuka Council on Asia-Pacific Studies (YCAPS) Getting to Know Japan Webinar Series, June 10, 2021.
- "The End of the Early Cold War Order in East Asia: The Death of Chiang Kai-shek and Japan-Taiwan Relations," UTRGV History Department Faculty Colloquium, April 15, 2021.
- "Webinar: 75 Years of Peaceful US-Japan Partnership" Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, August 17, 2020.
- "Japan in a Changing Asia," History in the News Speaker Series, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, February 13, 2020.
- "The Death of Chiang Kai-shek and Japan-Taiwan Relations: A Case of Cold War Historical Reconciliation" Southwest Conference of the Association on Asian Studies, St. Edward's University, October 18, 2019.
- "The Past and Future of Japan-Taiwan Relations after the Death of Chiang Kai-shek (1975)," Southwest Conference of the Association on Asian Studies, Baylor University, October 20, 2018.
- "Repaying Violence with Virtue: Japanese Relations with Chiang Kai-shek and Taiwan in the 1970s," 17<sup>th</sup> Conference on Japanese Studies in German Speaking Countries, Freie Universitat, Berlin, August 29, 2018.
- U.S.-Japan Network for the Future: AAS 2019 Inter-Cohort Event Roundtable, Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, March 23, 2019.

- “Japan-Taiwan Relations under Abe and Tsai in Historical Context,” U.S.-Japan Network for the Future Policy Summit, Capitol Hill Symposium, Panel 2: Politics and Leadership, Cannon House Office Building, Washington D.C., June 6, 2018.
- U.S.-Japan Network for the Future: AAS 2018 Roundtable, Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, March 24, 2018.
- “History and Nationalism in Japan’s Relations with China in the 1970s” for the panel, Why History Matters for International Relations of the Asia-Pacific, at the SMU Sun & Star China Symposium: The China Challenge and International Relations of the Asia-Pacific, Southern Methodist University, March 15-16, 2018.
- “US-East Asia Relations under the Trump Administration,” Political & Economic Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, Southwest Texas Asian Symposium (SWTAS), UTRGV, November 8, 2017.
- Roundtable on US-Asia Relations, UTRGV, SWTAS, November 8, 2017.
- “Japanese War Guilt and Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s,” Tulane University, March 15, 2016
- “Ōhira Masayoshi and Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s,” SOAS Japan Research Centre Seminar Program, SOAS University of London, December 2, 2015.
- “Japanese War Guilt and Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s,” Cambridge East Asian Studies Seminar Series, War Crimes and Empire Project, European Research Council, Cambridge University, November 30, 2015.  
<http://warcrimesandempire.com/blog/2015/11/30/japanese-war-guilt-and-sino-japanese-relations-a-monday-night-seminar-with-dr-robert-hoppens/>
- “He Yingqin and Cold War Japan-China Relations,” 44<sup>th</sup> annual conference, Southwest Conference on Asian Studies (SWCAS), Texas Christian University, November 7, 2015.
- “Allegories of Historical Revisionism: Yamamoto Shichihei on Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s,” University of Texas at Austin Center for East Asian Studies, November, 13, 2012.
- “The Transformation of Sino-Japanese Relations in the 1970s: Japanese Diplomacy and Discourse in the Cold War,” a paper on the Vietnam War and Sino-Japanese relations presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual International Association of Historians of Asia (IAHA) Conference for a panel I was invited to participate in on “The Cold War in Asia,” in Solo, Indonesia, July 2012.
- “Panda-brand Cigarettes and Japanese Nationalism: Etō Jun meets Deng Xiaoping, October 1978,” presented at the Association of Asian Studies annual meeting March 2009, as part of a panel I organized on “Lessons in History: The International Politics of Historical Interpretation.”
- “What do the Jews have to do with Sino-Japanese Relations? Exploring the Jewish Question and the China Problem in Japan in the 1970s and 1980s” presented at the Western Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Boulder, CO September 14, 2008.
- “The 1979 Sino-Vietnamese War and Japanese Perceptions of the PRC,” presented at the German Institute for Japanese Studies History and Humanities Study Group, Tokyo January 21, 2004.

- “The People’s Republic of China in Postwar Japanese Nationalist Discourse, 1949-1979,” at the Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference. Hosted by the Department of History University of Colorado at Boulder, September 19 & 20, 2003.

### **Awards & Honors**

- Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and Korea Foundation Bridging the Divide Program, Seoul, Republic of Korea, June 17-21, 2019.
- Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) US-Japan Network for the Future, Cohort 4, 2016-2018
- NSEP David L Boren Graduate Fellowship. Twelve-month fellowship to conduct dissertation research in Beijing, June 2005 - June 2006.
- Harvard-Peking University-University of Hawaii China Studies Fellowship for dissertation research at Peking University, academic year 2004-2005.
- Fulbright third-country research grant for dissertation research in Beijing, April-July 2004.
- Fulbright Fellowship for dissertation research on the history of postwar Sino-Japanese relations under the guidance of Professor Tanaka Akihiko, University of Tokyo September 2002 through April 2004.
- Japan Foundation Fellowship 2002-2003, (declined in favor of Fulbright Award).
- Blakemore Foundation Fellowship for academic year of intensive Chinese language study at the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies (IUP) at Tsinghua University, Beijing, 2001-2002.
- Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) award for intensive Japanese language study, summer 2001.
- Academic-Year FLAS award for Japanese language and area studies, 2000-2001.
- Summer FLAS award, summer 2000 for intensive Chinese language study in Beijing.
- Summer FLAS award, summer 1997 for intensive Chinese language study.
- Japan Foundation Scholarship for one year of intensive Japanese language training at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC) in Yokohama, Japan 1998-1999.
- Offered an academic year FLAS for 2001-2002, offered Fulbright Fellowship for 2001-2002, declined in favor of Blakemore Foundation grant.

### **Teaching**

#### **University of Texas Rio Grande Valley**

- Introduction to East Asian History I (HIST 3372)
- Introduction to East Asian History II (HIST 3373)
- History of East Asia to 1800 (HIST 3372)
- History of Modern Japan (HIST 3375)
- History of Modern China (HIST 3376)

- History of Modern Korea (HIST 3377)
- History of Modern Korea & Vietnam (HIST 4394)
- World History I (HIST 2321)
- World History II (HIST 2322)
- World History Studies (HIST 3301)
- Race & Racism in Modern East Asia (HIST 5360, graduate course)
- Cold War in East Asia (HIST 5373, graduate course)
- Japan in the Modern World (HIST 5373, graduate course)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century East Asia: History of US-China Relations (HIST 5373, graduate course)
- History of Modern Japan (HIST 5360, graduate course)
- History & Culture in Japan (HIST 4394/5390, study abroad course)

### **University of Washington**

- Japan's Relations with China (HSTAS/SISEA 490)
- Introduction to Japanese Civilization (HSTAS/SISEA 241)
- Guest lecturer on modern Japanese foreign policy and postwar Japanese foreign policy, Temple University Japan program, Tokyo, Japan.

### **Service**

#### **University of Texas Rio Grande Valley**

- College of Liberal Arts Tenure & Promotion Committee 2019-2021
- Department Faculty Evaluation Committee 2017-2021
- Department Policies Committee 2018-2019
- Department Workload Committee 2018-2019
- Department Scholarship Committee 2017-2018
- Department Policies & Procedures Committee 2016-2017
- Department Graduate Program Committee 2016-2017
- Department Tenure, Promotion & Annual Review Committee 2015-2016
- Department Undergraduate Program Committee 2015-2016, 2020-2021
- Department World History Search Committee, Chair 2015-2016
- Department World History & Geography Search Committee, Chair 2014-2015
- Department Policy Committee 2012-2014
- Asian Studies Minor, faculty
- Faculty advisor, History Club 2011-present
- University Graduate Council 2010-2013
- Department Undergraduate History Committee 2009-2012

#### **Professional Service**

- Peer reviewer for articles submitted for publication to *Education About Asia*, the *Journal of Korean Studies*, the *Chinese Journal of International Politics*, *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, *Asian Studies Review*, *Acta Koreana*, *International Journal of Asian Studies*.

## Language Training

### **Japanese**

- Summer of intensive Japanese study at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Studies in Yokohama, Japan. Funded by Blakemore Foundation Refresher Grant, summer 2002.
- Independent study in Advanced Readings in Japanese History. Funded by FLAS Fellowship 1999-2001.
- One year of Japanese language study at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC) in Yokohama, Japan, 1998-1999. Funded by Japan Foundation Scholarship.
- Two years of Japanese language training, including Readings in Modern Japanese Literature, Readings in the Japanese Social Sciences and Readings in Japanese History, at the University of Washington, 1996-1998.
- One year study abroad at Seijō University, Tokyo, 1994-1995.
- Three years of Japanese at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee 1990-1993.

### **Chinese**

- One year of Chinese language training at the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies (IUP) at Tsinghua University, Beijing. Funded by a Blakemore Foundation Fellowship, 2001-2002.
- Summer Program at the Inter-University Program at Tsinghua University, 2000. Funded by Summer FLAS award.
- Four years of Chinese language training at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1995-1996 and the University of Washington, 1998-2001.