Japanese as Foreign Language in the Age of Globalization
Naturalisation: A Passport for the Better Integration of Immigrants?

This book is open access under a CC BY license. This edited collection focuses on theories, language and migration in relation to multiculturalism in Japan and the Asia-Pacific. Each chapter aims to provide alternative understandings to current conflicts that have arisen due to immigration and policies related to education, politics, language, work, citizenship and identity.

National Paradigms of Migration Research

First Published in 1995. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Population Aging and International Health-Caregiver Migration to Japan

Japan is currently facing a demographic shift that will alter the nation’s social, cultural, and economic institutions significantly in the years to come. Due to a declining and aging population, foreigners have steadily comprised a greater portion of Japan’s population and workforce for the past three decades. Although foreigners currently comprise only 2% of Japan’s population, some experts predict an increase to between 8% and 27% by 2050. If even the most conservative of these estimates are true, this would raise serious questions about Japan’s future. Historically, Japan has relegated cultural and ethnic difference to the social margins, leaving little room for the integration of cultural Others. This has produced problematic relationships between Japan and its minority communities. Foreign and cultural Others have been denied rights and recognition within Japanese society and their presence has been largely overlooked. These recent demographic changes, however, are producing novel interactions between foreigners and Japanese in schools, restaurants, retail establishments, and other public spaces. Yet, the current research on Japan has not updated our knowledge of Japan with a critical look into the recent shift and its effects. This dissertation examines the parameters of Japan’s diversification and explores its broader social impacts. Specifically, it uses the novel contexts through which Japanese and non-Japanese people are coming into contact as a backdrop for examining questions about how Japanese-foreigner relations, Japan’s identity (internally and externally), and the ways foreigners are being positioned within contemporary Japanese society.

Migration in Metropolitan Japan

Gender, Religion, and Migration is the first collection of case studies on how religion impacts the lives of (im)migrant men, women, and youth in their integration in host societies in Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and North America. It interrogates the populist ideology that religion is anathema to social integration in the post-9/11 era.

Thinking Beyond the State

Japan faces multiple challenges in an era of population decline. Problems such as aging and a decreasing working-age population are expected to increase in severity, so tackling these challenges and examining the contributions that immigrants can make to society are vital for Japan’s future. What contributions do foreign residents make to Japan, especially in the labor market? How do national and local government policies effect the settlement and permanent residence of foreign nationals? Are issues - such as social mobility and quality of life of foreigners, the fertility of foreign women, and long-term trends in naturalization - important? What support does Japan offer to immigrants? As a ‘new’ country of immigration, the...
need to examine such questions is growing. This book takes a geographical perspective in examining the necessity of immigration and how foreign residents are helping to alleviate the problem of population decline in contemporary Japan. ***

“Over the last thirty years Japan has become a country of immigration again. While the literature on migration to Japan is growing, reliable data on the issue is still scarce. Yoshitaka Ishikawa’s edited volume is a major contribution to filling this void. Overall the papers compiled in the book are a good introduction to the complex and multifaceted realities of newcomer migrants and shed light on some understudied quantitative and qualitative aspects of migration to Japan.” – Pacific Affairs, Vol. 89, No. 4, December 2016 (Series: Japanese Society) [Subject: Sociology, Japanese Studies, Asian Studies, Migration Studies, Labor Studies]

**Political Implications of Cityward Migration: Japan as an Exploratory Test Case**

**Migration and Regional Economic Integration in Asia**

To what extent is Japan in decline? Recent views are that the rise of Japan is long since over and that the world’s second largest economy is not just treading water but that society and the economy are failing, with potential catastrophic outcomes. But is this really the case? Could it be that once again Japan is being misread and misinterpreted?

**Local Citizenship in Recent Countries of Immigration**

This book introduces Japan’s current policy initiatives directed at eldercare and international labor migration, and, wherever appropriate, it adds a comparative perspective from Germany. The book shows how eldercare is currently being organized and discusses integration policies for foreigners. It studies the policy-making process behind the system, and contextualizes the migration avenue within the strong roots of Japan’s eldercare in local communities and the non-preparedness of the nation to grant local citizenship to international newcomers. Through applying an approach of multi-level policy making, putting a strong focus on the local level and introducing new approaches, this book is of interest to policy makers and scholars in aging, migration, health care, and contemporary Japan.

**Gender, Religion, and Migration**

Since the end of the Cold War, Japan’s security environment has changed significantly. While, on the global level, the United States is still Japan’s most important security partner, the nature of the partnership has changed as a result of shifting demands from the United States, new international challenges such as the North Korean nuclear programme and the rapid rise of China. At the same time, Japan has been confronted with new, ‘non-traditional’ security threats such as international terrorism, the spread of infectious diseases, and global environmental problems. On the domestic level, demographic change, labour migration, economic decline, workplace insecurity, and a weakening impact of policy initiatives challenge the sustainability of the lifestyle of many Japanese and have led to a heightened sense of insecurity among the Japanese public. This book focuses on the domestic discourse on insecurity in Japan and goes beyond military security. The chapters cover issues such as Japan’s growing perception of regional and global insecurity; the changing role of military forces; the perceived risk of Chinese foreign investment; societal, cultural and labour insecurity and how it is affected by demographic changes and migration; as well as food insecurity and its challenges to health and public policy. Each chapter asks how the Japanese public perceives these insecurities; how these perceptions influence the public discourse, the main stakeholders of this discourse, and how this affects state-society relations and government policies. Governing Insecurity in Japan provides new insights into Japanese and international discourses on security and insecurity, and the ways in which security is conceptualized in Japan. As such, it will be of interest to students and scholars working on Japanese politics, security studies and international relations.

**Dominicano Donde Sea**

Ruth Achenbach develops a model of individual return migration decision making, which examines both the process and the decisive factors in return migration decision making of Chinese highly skilled workers and students in Japan. She proposes to answer a question yet insufficiently explained by migration research: why do migrants deviate from their migration intentions and return sooner or later than planned, or not at all? Her study integrates factors from the spheres of career, family and lifestyle, and redefines stages in long-term decision-making processes, thereby contributing to decision and migration theory. She analyzes migrants’ shifting priorities over the course of migration, including a perspective on life course and on the impact of the triple catastrophe of March 11, 2011.

**Language, Education and Citizenship in Japan**

Based on extensive original research, this book explores the early educational experiences of foreign children in Japan. It considers foreign children’s experiences of Japanese schools, examines the special tutoring such children often have to improve their language proficiency, and explores the role of mothers in encouraging their children’s education. It contrasts the experiences of foreign children with those of Japanese children and sets out the extensive difficulties foreign children encounter in becoming fully accepted by and integrated into Japanese society. The book concludes by discussing the nature of citizenship in Japan and the importance of education, including early education, in shaping Japanese citizenship.
Indicators of Integration

This book considers the role of civilian workers on U.S. bases in Okinawa, Japan and how transnational movements within East Asia during the Occupation period brought foreign workers, mostly from the Philippines, to work on these bases. Decades later, in a seeming “reproduction of base labour”, returnees of both Okinawan and Philippine heritage began occupying jobs on base as United States of Japan (USFJ) employees. The book investigates the role that ethnicity, nationality, and capital play in the lives of these base employees, and at the same time examines how Japanese and Okinawan identity/ies are formed and challenged. It offers a valuable resource for those interested in Japan and Okinawa, U.S. military basing, migration, and mixed ethnicities.

The sojourner community [electronic resource]

Immigrant Japan? Sounds like a contradiction, but as Gracia Liu-Farrer shows, millions of immigrants make their lives in Japan, dealing with the tensions between belonging and not belonging in this ethno-nationalist country. Why do people want to come to Japan? Where do immigrants with various resources and demographic profiles fit in the economic landscape? How do immigrants narrate belonging in an environment where they are “other” at a time when mobility is increasingly easy and belonging increasingly complex? Gracia Liu-Farrer illuminates the lives of these immigrants by bringing in sociological, geographical, and psychological theories—guiding the reader through life trajectories of migrants of diverse backgrounds while also going so far as to suggest that Japan is already an immigrant country.

Return Migration Decisions

Migration, Regional Integration and Human Security

Families Precede Nation and Race?

*An important study that will be a major contribution to the field of Filipino migration studies. The research findings have implications for future policy-making and underscore the need for transnational approaches to migration that, as the book’s title suggests, ‘think beyond the state’.* Professor Mina Roces, School of Humanities and Languages, The University of New South Wales. Human mobility has been a widely examined phenomenon in the social sciences, and in this increasingly globalized world migration continues to be of significant concern. The chapters comprising this volume on Thinking Beyond the State address the need to think beyond prevailing state discourses in problematizing human movements between Japan and the Philippines, by focusing on the presence of other actors involved in these processes. This collection investigates a range of issues that are part and parcel of the migration experience: citizenship and nationality, migrant incorporation and integration, human security, migrant welfare, philanthropy, identity, and multiculturalism. The editor and contributors aim to inform the larger public of the realities that are embedded in this particular phenomenon, as well as engage academics involved in migration studies. The book will be a valuable resource to those with professional interests in the East Asian region, most particularly in Japan and the Philippines.

Migrant Workers In Japan

Immigrant Japan

The Migration Conference 2020 Proceedings: Migration and Integration

The international trend towards migration is growing rapidly and becoming increasingly complex. As the first-wave generation of migrants ages, their children and even grandchildren are reaching adulthood having spent their entire lives in the countries their families chose long ago. International Perspectives: Integration and Inclusion is a wide-ranging exploration of this new, global reality. While many countries have been, and remain, resistant to migration, the sheer volume of people moving from one country to another is forcing public policy and perceptions to change. Migrant inclusion and integration, however,
remains an issue in many locales. Insightful and timely, this volume brings together contributions from various countries and levels of the migrant experience in order to consider the ways in which states can facilitate the integration and inclusion of newcomers and minorities.

Postcolonial Citizens and Ethnic Migration

This book gathers researchers from across the globe to examine paradigms, policies, and practices for developing an inclusive intercultural and transnational framework to reduce societal inequities brought about by transnational migration. This is necessary to positively integrate culturally-diverse families into schools and societies.

Migration and Identity

"Unlike other war brides of World War II, the international and interracial marriages between Japanese women and U.S. servicemen posed distinct challenges to the American and Japanese states and, in particular, to the image of American families at home and abroad. This dissertation examines how these Japanese women were treated as a 'problem' by American and Japanese societies and how the 'problem' was approached through diverse but intertwined sites, venues, and agents. It also examines how these women responded to those approaches, how they remembered their experiences, and their ongoing transnational relationships with their two home countries"--Abstract.

Thinking Beyond the State

Dr. Albert Schmid President of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees According to the United Nations, about 200 million people of the estimated world population of 6.8 billion are international migrants – that corresponds to about three per cent of the total world population. The proportion of international migrants in the global population has increased only marginally in the last 40 years. But, as a result of global population growth, the absolute number of migrants has increased, and their structure and spatial distribution has changed considerably. A structural shift has taken place primarily in the industrialised countries, where less than 20 per cent of the global workers are now living, but where more than 60 per cent of all migrants worldwide reside. Since 1990, more than 16 million people have moved to Germany, while about 11 million have left the country in the same period. Altogether, 15 million people of international migration origin are living in Germany, comprising almost 19 per cent of Germany’s current population of 82 million. At the end of 2006, about 64 million people out of Europe’s population of 732 million, or nine per cent, lived in a European country they were not born in. But why does anybody migrate at all? People decide to leave because, in general, they expect to find better conditions and opportunities in other countries or regions.

Japan in Decline

In our globalizing world of today, the significance, status and demand of languages are experiencing changes which are unmatched in human history. These changes also relate to the languages of Japan as well as to the way that they are being taught and studied. In this book 14 authors from four continents present their research results on Japanese as foreign language (JFL) in the age of globalization. The participation of these authors reflects the fact that research into JFL has itself become global. Since JFL in the age of globalization is a field too extensive to be comprehensively covered by a single book, we restricted ourselves to three topics which we believe are central in discussing this issue. New kinds of language learners and new teaching paradigms: Native – non-native speaker interaction or contact situations in a more general sense; New insights into cognitive processes in language learning

Living in Two Homes

Governing Insecurity in Japan

Winner, ASA Book Award on Asia/Transnational (2017) This book compares the Korean diasporic groups in Japan and the United States. It highlights the contrasting adaptation of Koreans in Japan and the United States, and illuminates how the destinies of immigrants who originally belonged to the same ethnic/national collectivity diverge depending upon destinations and how they are received in a certain state and society within particular historical contexts. The author finds that the mode of incorporation (a specific combination of contextual factors), rather than ethnic ‘culture’ and ‘race,’ plays a decisive role in determining the fates of these Korean immigrant groups. In other words, what matters most for immigrants’ integration is not their particular cultural background or racial similarity to the dominant group, but the way they are received by the host state and other institutions. Thus, this book is not just about Korean immigrants; it is also about how contexts of reception including different conceptualizations of ‘race’ in relation to nationhood affect the adaptation of immigrants from the same ethnic/national origin.

New Policies for New Residents

Because of severe domestic labor shortages, Japan has recently joined the increasing number of advanced industrialized nations that have begun importing large numbers of immigrant workers since the 1980s. Although the citizenship status of...
foreign workers is the most precarious in such recent countries of immigration, the national governments of these countries have become increasingly preoccupied with border enforcement, forcing local municipalities and organizations to offer basic rights and social services to the foreign residents who are settling in their local communities. This book analyzes the development of local citizenship in Japan by examining the role of local governments and NGOs as well as grass-roots political and judicial activism in the expansion of immigrant rights. In this manner, localities are emerging as important sites for the struggle for immigrant citizenship and social integration, enabling foreign workers to enjoy substantive rights even in the absence of national citizenship. The possibilities and limits of such local citizenship in Japan are then compared to three other recent countries of immigration (Italy, Spain, and South Korea).

Divided Fates

The different traditions of migration research in different countries are closely related to national political patterns and the self-image of the respective nation-state -- either affirmatively reinforcing or critically questioning. If you place them side by side, much becomes questionable and debatable that previously seemed self-evident. This volume presents the migration research traditions in twelve countries: the traditional immigration countries Canada and Australia, four European countries with decades of immigration experience (Great Britain, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands), the new immigration countries Italy, Poland and Japan and the postcolonial countries India, Malaysia and Nigeria. In this way, from a comparative perspective, the volume opens the way to a better understanding of different research traditions, beyond the traditional Western context of discussion. We can better understand and put into perspective the different patterns of inclusion and exclusion of immigrants and intellectual discourses if we confront them with other solutions and traditions of thought. Since the key disciplines of migration research are not the same in different countries, the volume also contains a pluralism of subject approaches: sociologists, political scientists, ethnologists, economists and philosophers define migration, integration and their relationships to social structures. In doing so, you question assumptions that are taken for granted in the respective context.

Multiculturalism and Conflict Reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific

This book refines the concept of the sojourner vis-a-vis settler which demonstrates the growing significance in contemporary migration issues. It also illustrates the characteristic patterns of contemporary migration by analysing statistical as well as empirical data on Japanese residency in Australia.

International Migrants in Japan

Revolutionized by the growing use of fossil fuels and electricity and the reduced costs of transportation and communications, international trade and migration has received an unprecedented boost in recent years. Using a theory of economic and political gravitation, backed up with both quantitative analysis and qualitative description, Mosk argues that the tendency for trade and migration to flow together is tempered by market forces and political resistance to diversity in migration. This results in a glaring paradox: the political arenas of nation states are divided between embracing and opposing diversity in immigration, the same immigration flows their own policies helped create. A remarkable volume, this book will be invaluable to students of economics demographic historians, policy makers and political scientists.

Migration, Whiteness, and Cosmopolitanism

This book analyzes the increase in contemporary European migration to Japan, its causes and the lives of Europeans in Japan. Desconstructing the picture of highly skilled, privileged, cosmopolitan elites that has been frequently associated with white or Western migrants, it focuses on the case of Europeans rather than Westemers migrating to a highly developed, non-Western country as Japan, this book offers new insights on increasing diversity in migration and its outcomes for integration of migrants. The book is based on interviews with 57 subjects from various parts of Europe occupying various positions within Japanese society. What are the motivations for choosing Japan, how do white migrants enjoy the ‘privilege’ based on their race, what are its limits, and to what extent are the social worlds of such migrants characterized by cosmopolitanism rather than ethnicity? These are the main questions this book attempts to answer.

International Perspectives

Using qualitative research methods and evidence gathered from interviews, this work explores and highlights contradictions between Japanese immigration and immigrant policies as they relate to ethnic Japanese "returnees."

The Social Integration of Nikkei Brazilian Immigrants

This book provides a cross-regional investigation of the role of citizenship and ethnicity in migration, political incorporation, and political transnationalism in the age of globalization, exploring the political realities of Dutch Antilleans in the Netherlands and Latin American Nikkeijin in Japan.

Japan's Demographic Revival
Migration and Integration

This original and timely book is the first to analyze the interconnectedness of migration, regional integration and the new security studies. Exploring the conflict between the actions of transnational migrants and state government policy in a series of theoretical chapters and regional case-studies, the book includes theoretical chapters which look at three key facets of the nation-state: population, territory and government, discussing the ways in which migration, regional integration and new security thinking challenge the accepted role and responsibilities of the state. Regional case-studies are also included which explore the specific challenges faced in regions including Central America, Asia and the Pacific and Central and Eastern Europe. As a book that asks crucial questions about the formulation of migration policies and the consequences of that success of failure, it will be essential reading for students and scholars of migration in sociology, politics and international relations and also for those with professional interests in the area.

Opening the Door

Demographic Aspects of Migration

International Migrations and Local Governance

In recent decades, many countries have experienced both a rapid increase of in-migration of foreign nationals and a large-scale devolution of governance to the local level. The result has been new government policies to promote the social inclusion of recently arrived residents. In New Policies for New Residents, Deborah J. Milly focuses on the intersection of these trends in Japan. Despite the country’s history of restrictive immigration policies, some Japanese favor a more accepting approach to immigrants. Policies supportive of foreign residents could help attract immigrants as the country adjusts to labor market conditions and a looming demographic crisis. As well, local citizen engagement is producing more inclusive approaches to community. Milly compares the policy discussions and outcomes in Japan with those in South Korea and in two similarly challenged Mediterranean nations, Italy and Spain. All four are recent countries of immigration, and all undertook major policy innovations for immigrants by the 2000s. In Japan and Spain, local NGO-local government collaboration has influenced national policy through the advocacy of local governments. South Korea and Italy included NGO advocates as policy actors and partners at the national level far earlier as they responded to new immigration, producing policy changes that fueled local networks of governance and advocacy. In all these cases, Milly finds, nongovernmental advocacy groups have the power to shape local governance and affect national policy, though in different way.

Transnational Identities on Okinawa’s Military Bases

This conference proceedings provides the papers presented at the This conference proceedings provides the papers presented at the OECD/European Commission joint seminar on Naturalisation and the Socio-Economic Integration of Immigrants and their Children held in October 2010 in Brussels.