

LAURA NENZI

Lindsay Young Professor
Japanese History
Department of History
University of Tennessee Knoxville
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Knoxville, TN 37996-4065
email: lnenzi@utk.edu

EDUCATION

2004 Ph.D. in Japanese History, University of California Santa Barbara
1994 Laurea *summa cum laude* in East Asian Studies, University of Venice Ca' Foscari, Italy

FIELDS

Early Modern Japan (1600-1868): social history; gender; travel literature; Meiji Restoration.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2016-present	Professor	University of Tennessee Knoxville
2016-2017	Specially Appointed Professor	Ochanomizu University, Tokyo
2011-2016	Associate Professor	University of Tennessee Knoxville
2009-2011	Assistant Professor	University of Tennessee Knoxville
2004-2009	Assistant Professor	Florida International University, Miami

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Nenzi, L. *The Chaos and Cosmos of Kurosawa Tokiko: One Woman's Transit from Tokugawa to Meiji Japan*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2015.

Nenzi, L. *Excursions in Identity: Travel and the Intersection of Place, Gender, and Status in Edo Japan*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2008.

Book Chapters

Nenzi L. "The Gourd and the Gas Lamp: A Journey into the Night of Nineteenth-Century Edo (Tokyo)." In *The Global City: The Urban Condition as a Pervasive Phenomenon*, edited by Marco Pretelli, Ines Tolic, and Rosa Tamborrino. Edizioni AISU International. Forthcoming fall 2020.

Nenzi, L. "Travel and Gift Exchange in Nineteenth-Century Japan." In *Mediated by Gifts: Politics and Society in Japan, 1350-1850*, edited by Martha Chaiklin, 199-218. Leiden: Brill, 2016.

Nenzi, L. "Pilgrims." In *The Routledge Companion to Travel Writing*, edited by Carl Thompson, 217-226. Abingdon and New York: Routledge, 2016.

Nenzi, L. "Chiiki shakai ni okeru josei to seiji: Kurosawa Tokiko o chūshin ni" (in Japanese) (Women and Politics in Regional Society: The Case of Kurosawa Tokiko). In *Meiji ishin to josei* (Women and the Meiji Restoration), edited by Nishizawa Naoko and Yokoyama Yuriko, 55-88. Tokyo: Yūshisha, 2015.

Nenzi, L. "Kūkan no sōtaiseiriron: kinsei ni okeru Edo no ichi" (in Japanese) (A Theory of Spatial Relativity: The Place of Edo in Edo History). In *Shūhenshi kara zentaishi e*, edited by Kawanishi Hidemichi, Namikawa Kenji, and David Howell, 177-191. Tokyo: Seibundō, 2009.

Nenzi, L. "Le invisibili di passaggio: viaggi al femminile nel periodo Edo (1600-1868)" (in Italian) (Invisible Travelers: The Journeys of Women in Edo period Japan, 1600-1868). In *Ricercando in Giappone*, edited by Valerio Luigi Alberizzi and Marco Montanari, 11-32. Rome: Domograf, 2008.

Nenzi, L. "Women's Travel Narratives in Early Modern Japan: Genre Imperatives, Gender Consciousness, and Status Questioning." In *Traditions of East Asian Travel*, edited by Joshua A. Fogel, 44-69. New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2006 (reprint of 2004 journal article).

Articles

Nenzi L. "Portents and Politics: Two Women Activists on the Verge of the Meiji Restoration." *Journal of Japanese Studies* 38:1 (Winter 2012): 1-23.

Nenzi L. "Caught in the Spotlight: The 1858 Comet and Late-Tokugawa Japan." *Japan Forum* 23:1 (2011): 1-23.

Nenzi, L. "Encountering the World: Kawai Tsugunosuke's 1859 Journey to Yokohama and Nagasaki." *Early Modern Japan* XVI (2008): 68-83.

Nenzi, L. "To Ise at All Costs: Religious and Economic Implications of Early Modern *Nukemairi*." *Japanese Journal of Religious Studies* 33:1 (2006): 75-114.

Nenzi, L. "Cultured Travelers and Consumer Tourists in Edo-Period Sagami." *Monumenta Nipponica* 59:3 (Autumn 2004): 285-319.

Nenzi, L. "Women's Travel Narratives in Early Modern Japan: Genre Imperatives, Gender Consciousness and Status Questioning." *Journeys. The International Journal of Travel and Travel Writing* 5:1 (2004), *Special Issue: Traditions of East Asian Travel*: 47-72.

Nenzi, L. and Shinno Toshikazu. "Journeys, Pilgrimages, Excursions: Religious Travels in the Early Modern Period." *Monumenta Nipponica* 57:4 (Winter 2002): 447-471.

Conference Proceedings

Nenzi L., A. Gasperini, and D. Galli, "The Worldwide Impact of Donati's Comet on Art and Society in the Mid-19th Century." *The Role of Astronomy in Society and Culture, Proceedings IAU Symposium No. 260* (2009): 340-345.

Nenzi, L. "Donne sull'orlo di una crisi politica: Kurosawa Tokiko e Nomura Bōtō" (in Italian) (Women on the Verge of a Political Breakdown: Kurosawa Tokiko and Nomura Bōtō). *Atti del XXXI Convegno di Studi sul Giappone, Venezia 20-22 Settembre 2007*. Venezia: Cartotecnica Veneziana Editrice, 2007: 263-270.

Nenzi, L. "Ise sangū kondate dōchūki, un'odissea religioso-gastronomica del periodo Edo" (in Italian) (*Ise sangū kondate dōchūki: A Religious and Gastronomic Odyssey of the Edo Period*). *Atti del XXVI Convegno di Studi sul Giappone, Torino 26-28 Settembre 2002*. Venezia: Cartotecnica Veneziana Editrice, 2002: 357-369.

Book reviews

Review of Rebecca Corbett, *Cultivating Femininity: Women and Tea Culture in Edo and Meiji Japan* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2018). *Journal of Asian Studies* 78:2 (2019): 456-458.

Review of Gerald Groemer, *Street Performers and Society in Urban Japan, 1600-1900: The Beggar's Gift* (London: Routledge, 2016). *Monumenta Nipponica* 72:1 (2017): 95-99.

Review of Atsuko Hirai, *Government by Mourning: Death and Political Integration in Japan, 1603-1912* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Asia Center, 2014). *The Historian* 78:4 (Winter 2016): 784-785.

Review of Mark Teeuwen, Kate Wildman Nakai, Miyazaki Fumiko, Anne Walthall, and John Breen, trans. *Lust, Commerce, and Corruption: An Account of What I Have Seen and Heard, by an Edo Samurai* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2014). In *Monumenta Nipponica* 70:1 (2015): 155-158.

Review of W. Puck Brecher, *The Aesthetics of Strangeness: Eccentricity and Madness in Early Modern Japan* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2013). In *American Historical Review* 119:4 (October 2014): 1240-1241.

Review of Sumie Jones and Kenji Watanabe, eds. *An Edo Anthology: Literature from Japan's Mega City, 1750-1850* (Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2013). In *Journal of Asian Studies* 73:3 (August 2014): 811-812.

Review of Fabian Drixler, *Mabiki: Infanticide and Population Growth in Eastern Japan, 1660-1950* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013). In *Choice Magazine* 51:3 (November 2013).

Review of G. G. Rowley, *An Imperial Concubine's Tale: Scandal, Shipwreck, and Salvation in 17th-Century Japan*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2013. In *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 64:3 (Fall 2013): 843-844.

Review of Sanjay Subrahmanyam, *Three Ways to Be Alien: Travails and Encounters in the Early Modern World*. Waltham, Mass.: Brandeis University Press, 2011. In *American Historical Review* 118 (2013): 153-154.

Review of Tetsurō Watsuji (Hiroshi Nara trans.), *Pilgrimages to the Ancient Temples in Nara*. Portland, Me: MerwinAsia, 2012. In *Journal of Asian Studies* 72:2 (May 2013): 476-477.

Review of Amy Stanley, *Selling Women: Prostitution, Markets, and the Household in Early Modern Japan*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012. In *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 73:1 (June 2013): 207-211.

Review of Constantine N. Vaporis, *Voices of Early Modern Japan: Contemporary Accounts of Daily Life during the Age of the Shoguns*. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood Press, 2012. *ASIANetwork Exchange* 20:1 (Fall 2012): 63-66.

Review of Kären Wigen, *A Malleable Map: Geographies of Restoration in Central Japan, 1600-1912*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010. In *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient / Journal d'Histoire Économique et Sociale de l'Orient* 54:3 (2011): 439-441.

Review of Nam-lin Hur, *Death and Social Order in Tokugawa Japan: Buddhism, Anti-Christianity, and the Danka System*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center, 2007. In *Philosophy East and West* 59:3 (July 2009): 398-399.

Review of Barbara Ambros, *Emplacing a Pilgrimage: The Ōyama Cult and Regional Religion in Early Modern Japan*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center, 2008. In *Monumenta Nipponica* 63:2 (Autumn 2008): 414-416.

Review of Jilly Traganou, *The Tōkaidō Road: Traveling and Representation in Edo and Meiji Japan*. New York and London: Routledge Curzon, 2004. In *Japan Studies Review* 12 (2008): 130-132.

Review of Herbert Plutschow, *A Reader in Edo Period Travel*. Kent, U.K.: Global Oriental, 2006. In *Monumenta Nipponica* 62:1 (Spring 2007): 113-115.

Review of Martha Chaiklin, *Cultural Commerce and Dutch Commercial Culture: The Influence of European Material Culture on Japan, 1700-1850* (Series Studies in Overseas History 5). Leiden: CNWS, 2003. In *Japan Studies Review* 10 (2006): 143-147.

Review of Marcia Yonemoto, *Mapping Early Modern Japan: Space, Place, and Culture in the Tokugawa Period (1603-1868)*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003. In *History: Reviews of New Books* 31:4 (Summer 2003): 174-175.

Work In Progress

Book: *After Dark: A History of the Nighttime in Nineteenth-Century Japan*.

Book Chapter: "Print Culture: The Flow of People and Things" for *The Cambridge History of Japan*, ed. by David Howell (under contract; submitted).

Article: "Wrestling with Disaster: Sumo Prints as Emergency Responses in Nineteenth-Century Japan"

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Sept. 2019: "The Gourd and the Gas Lamp: A Journey Into the Night of Nineteenth-Century Edo"
9th Conference of the Italian Urban History Association: *The Global City*
University of Bologna, Italy

June 2019: "Cities of Light and Cities of Darkness: Managing the Night in Early Modern Japan"
World History Association annual conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Sept. 2018: "Tokugawa v. Meiji: A Nocturnal Interpretation"
Conference *Revisiting Japan's Restoration: Interregional, Interdisciplinary, and Alternative Perspectives*, National University of Singapore

March 2014: "A Space to Escape, A Space to Engage: Nomura Bōtō's Retreat, 1845-1865"
Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Philadelphia

June 2013: "A Loyalist Mission Behind the Scenes: The Many Networks of Kurosawa Tokiko"
Symposium *Women and Networks in Nineteenth Century Japan*
Sophia University, Tokyo

April 2011: "The Many Reincarnations of a Bakumatsu Woman: Mobility and Female Agency in Historical Interpretation"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Honolulu

March 2010: "Ghosts, Visions, and Prophecies in Late-Tokugawa Political Debates"
Southern Japan Seminar, Miami (Panel organizer)

- March 2009: "A Woman's Life Between the Lines: The 1858 Diary of Kurosawa Tokiko"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago
- Oct. 2008: "Wrestling with Disaster: Sumo Iconography as a Metaphor for Conflict in Late-Tokugawa Japan"
Annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region/Association for Asian Studies.
Rutgers University, NJ.
- June 2008: "Turmoil Above, Turmoil Below: The 1858 Comet and Late Tokugawa Japan"
Asian Studies Conference Japan. Rikkyō University, Tokyo (Panel organizer)
- April 2008: "The Sky is Falling: The 1858 Comet"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Atlanta
- March 2008: "Shock and Awe: Popular Reactions to the 1858 Comet"
Southern Japan Seminar, Miami (Panel organizer)
- Sept. 2007: "Donne sull'orlo di una crisi politica: viaggi e visioni nelle esperienze di Nomura Bōtō e Kurosawa Tokiko" (in Italian) (Women on the Verge of a Political Breakdown: Journeys and Visions in the Lives of Nomura Bōtō and Kurosawa Tokiko)
Annual meeting of the Italian Association for Japanese Studies. University of Venice, Italy
- March 2007: "Unidentified Foreign Objects: A Samurai in 1860 Nagasaki"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Boston
- June 2006: "I Dream of China: Journeys to Chinese Nagasaki in Tokugawa Japan."
IV International and Interdisciplinary Conference Alexander Von Humboldt and Zheng He
Xi'an University of International Studies, Xi'an, China (Panel organizer)
- May 2006: "Maps, Movements, and the Malleable Spaces of Early Modern Japan"
University of Oxford—Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
- March 2006: "Glimpses of China: A Merchant, a Nun, and a Samurai in Nineteenth-Century Nagasaki"
Southern Japan Seminar, Coral Gables, Florida
- Sept. 2005: "Memories for Sale: The Role of Historical Souvenirs in the Edo Period"
European Association for Japanese Studies, 11th Intl Conference. Univ. of Vienna, Austria
- Feb. 2005: "Challenges and Love Stories in Meiji Japan," response to panel *Transitional Issues*
Southern Japan Seminar, Wolfsonian Museum, Miami (panel discussant)
- March 2004: "Poor Pilgrims? Rethinking Early Modern *Nukemairi* from an Economic Perspective"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Diego
- March 2003: "At the Intersection of Travel and Gender in Edo Period Japan"
Graduate Student Symposium, University of California Santa Barbara
- Sept. 2002: "*Ise sangū kondate dōchūki*: un'odissea religioso-gastronomica del periodo Edo" (in Italian) (*Ise*

sangū kondate dōchūki: A Religious and Gastronomic Odyssey of the Edo Period)
Annual meeting of the Italian Association for Japanese Studies. University of Turin, Italy

March 2000: "The Province of Sagami as a Preferred Package Tour for Edo Period Travelers"
Annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Diego (Panel organizer)

INVITED TALKS

- Oct. 2019 "How Deep Does the Rabbit Hole Go? *Omote-naibun* Language and Microhistory."
Symposium *Facade Truths in Tokugawa Japan and Beyond*.
Yale University.
- Feb. 2019 "What the Obscured Night Illuminates: Toward a History of the Night in Tokugawa Japan"
Duke University, Raleigh NC
- Feb. 2019 "Working on Women's Life Stories" (workshop)
Duke University, Raleigh NC
- Nov. 2018 "Darkness in a Different Light: The Nighttime in Early Modern and Modern Japan"
University of North Georgia, Dahlonega
- June 2018: [PODCAST] "Meiji at 150"
<https://meijiat150.podbean.com/e/episode-49-dr-laura-nenzi-tennessee/>
- July 2017: "The Size of History: Small Worlds, Big Worlds, and the People Caught in Between"
Ochanomizu University, Tokyo
- Dec. 2016: Keynote Speech
"After Dark: The Night in Nineteenth-Century Japan"
The Sixth Japanese History Workshop, University of Auckland, New Zealand
- Oct. 2016: "Fun Stuff or Serious Business? Mock Sumo Programs of the Tokugawa Period"
Meiji Gakuin University, Yokohama
- June 2016: "Kinsei ni okeru josei no tabi to onna tabi nikki" (in Japanese) (Journeys and Travel Diaries of Women in the Early Modern Period)
Senshū University, Tokyo (via videoconference)
- June 2016: "Authority and the High City: Ueno"
NEH Summer Institute, Florida International University, Miami
- May 2016: "The Night and Its Aggregates in Nineteenth-Century Japan"
Seminar *Embattled and Conquered: The History of the Nighttime in the Early Modern World*
in honor of Carlo Ginzburg
Villa I Tatti, Harvard University's Center for Renaissance Studies, Florence (Italy)
- Oct. 2015: "Researching the Margins: Challenges and Consequences of Embarking on a Microhistory Project"
University of California Santa Barbara

- Feb. 2014: "The Chaos and Cosmos of Kurosawa Tokiko"
Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
- Oct. 2013: "Edo's Townspeople Culture: Whose Space is it Anyway?"
Florida International University, Miami
- Mar. 2013: "Working and Networking in Late-Tokugawa Japan"
Workshop *Work in Early Modern Japan: Precarious Pasts*
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Mar. 2011: "Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858"
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Feb. 2011: "Bakumatsu jidai no kinnōka no josei: Mito-han no Kurosawa Tokiko" (in Japanese) (A
Female Loyalist of the *Bakumatsu* Period: Mito Domain's Kurosawa Tokiko)
National Museum of History and Folklore (Kokuritsu Rekishi Minzoku Hakubutsukan),
Sakura, Chiba, Japan
- Nov. 2010: "Excursions in Identity: Travel and the Intersection of Place, Gender, and Status in Edo
Japan."
University of Tennessee, Dept. of Anthropology
University of Tennessee, Dept. of Geography Colloquium Series
- Nov. 2009: "Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858"
University of Vermont
- Oct. 2009: "Kinsei ni okeru josei no tabi to onna tabi nikki" (in Japanese) (Journeys and Travel Diaries of
Women in the Early Modern Period)
Senshū University, Tokyo (via videoconference)
- May 2009: "Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858"
University of California Santa Barbara
- April 2009: "Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858"
Symposium *Wives, Concubines, Courtesans, Nuns: Early Modern Japanese Women*
University of Pennsylvania
- Nov. 2008: "Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858"
Princeton University
- Feb. 2008: "Travel Practices in the Early Modern Period (1600-1868): Was it Tourism?"
University of Florida, Gainesville
- Jan 2008: "Prophecy and Politics in Nineteenth-Century Japan: Women Activists on the Verge of the
Meiji Restoration"
Pennsylvania State University
- Oct. 2007: "Kinsei ni okeru josei no tabi to onna tabi nikki" (in Japanese) (Journeys and Travel Diaries of
Women in the Early Modern Period)

Senshū University, Tokyo (via videoconference)

- April 2007: “Urbanistica, architettura e potere: la Edo dei Tokugawa (1600-1657)” (in Italian) (Urban Planning, Architecture, and Power: Edo and the Tokugawa, 1600-1657)
Symposium *The City and the Ideal: Ideal and Real Cities between East and West*
Società Dante Alighieri, Tokyo
- Sept. 2006: “The Open Road and the Blank Page—Diaries of Traveling Women in the Edo Period”
Symposium *Women and Literacy in the Edo and Meiji Periods*
Cambridge University (UK)
- May 2006: “Travel as Re-Creation: Gender, Movement, and Identity on the Roads of Edo Period Japan”
Harvard University
- July 2001: “Le invisibili di passaggio: viaggi al femminile nel periodo Edo” (in Italian) (Invisible Travelers –The Journeys of Women in the Edo Period)
Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Tokyo

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, PROFESSORSHIPS

- 2019-2021: Lindsay Young Professorship, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 2015-2018: Lindsay Young Professorship, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 2016-2017: Specially Appointed Visiting Professor, Institute for Gender Studies, Ochanomizu University, Tokyo
- 2014: Residential Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton
- 2011: Visiting Scholar, Kokuritsu Rekishi Minzoku Hakubutsukan (National Museum of History and Folklore), Sakura
- 2008-2009: National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Research Award
- 2003: Regents Dissertation Fellowship, University of California Santa Barbara
- 2001: Japan Foundation Fellowship
- 1998-2003: Graduate Division Humanities Predoctoral Fellowship, University of California Santa Barbara

AWARDS AND HONORS

- April 2015: Quest Scholar of the Week, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- May 2013: Quest Scholar of the Week, University of Tennessee Knoxville (graduation week)
- 2012: Award for New Research, Scholarly and Creative Projects in the Arts and Humanities, University of Tennessee Knoxville
LeRoy P. Graf Award for Faculty Excellence in History, University of Tennessee Knoxville
Chancellor’s Grant for Faculty Research, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 2006: Harvard Yenching Library, Travel Grant
Duke University, Library Travel Grant
‘Bring Your Favorite Professor’ Dean’s Gala Dinner, Florida International University
- 2005: Faculty Development Program Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, Florida International University
- 2000: D. H. Ellison Prize for best graduate paper, Dept. of History, University of California Santa Barbara
- 1992: Study Tour Awards for Outstanding Foreign Students of the Japanese Language
Japanese Institute of Culture, Rome (declined in favor of Monbushō)

ACADEMIC RESEARCH IN JAPAN

2016-2017:	Visiting Professor, Institute for Gender Studies, Ochanomizu University, Tokyo
2011:	Visiting Scholar, Kokuritsu Rekishi Minzoku Hakubutsukan (National Museum of History and Folklore), Sakura
2007:	Tokyo University Historiographical Institute
2001:	Tokyo University Historiographical Institute

COURSES OFFERED**Graduate**

- Teaching World History
- The Profession of History
- Japan in the Age of the Shoguns, 1600-1868
- The Making of Modern Japan
- Gender Issues in Tokugawa History (Ochanomizu University)

Senior Seminars

- Japan and the West, 1543-1892

Undergraduate

- Modern Japan
- Pre-modern Japan
- History of Tokyo
- The Samurai: Fact, Fiction, Fantasy

Surveys

- World Civilizations since 1500

SERVICE TO THE FIELD

2014-2020	Board of Trustees, Society of Japanese Studies (University of Washington) – Journal of Japanese Studies
2008-present:	Book manuscript reviewer for Harvard University Asia Center, University of California Press, Bedford St. Martin's, Columbia University Press, Routledge, Westview Press Article manuscript reviewer for <i>Journal of Japanese Studies</i> ; <i>Japan Studies</i> ; <i>Early Modern Japan</i> ; <i>History Compass</i> ; <i>U.S. Japan Women's Journal</i> ; <i>Journeys: The International Journal of Travel and Travel Writing</i>
2004-2009:	Assistant Director, Institute for Asian Studies, Florida International University
2004-2009:	Editorial board, <i>Japan Studies Review</i>