

ASIANetwork Annual Conference
April 12-14, 2024
Hyatt Regency Atlanta

DRAFT POSTER PROGRAM

Send questions/corrections to execdir@asianetwork.org

Poster Number	Table Number	Title of Poster	Presenter(s)	Faculty Advisor	College/University
1	1	<i>Japan and Netherlands' Relationship during the Edo Period</i>	Sarah Weeks	Hiroko Chiba	DePauw University
2	1	<i>Changing Perceptions of Gun Control in Japanese Society</i>	Reagan Gerry	Mary McCarthy	Drake University
3	2	<i>Privacy vs. Visibility: How LGBTQ Communities in Japan Find Representation</i>	Nathan Roach	Hiroko Chiba	DePauw University
4	2	<i>Japan's Cultural Diplomacy and Economic Influence in the Progression of Globalization</i>	Nia Phipps	Tinaz Pavri	Spelman College
5	3	<i>Hikikomori in Japan: The Connection Between Cultural Values and Psychology</i>	Sophie Bartos	Hiroko Chiba	DePauw University
6	3	<i>The Kimono Shop: Analyzing Utagawa Hiroshige's Silk-Goods Lane, Odenma-cho</i>	Leah McBain	Alison Miller	Sewanee: The University of the South
7	4	<i>Transnationality in Eileen Chang's "Classmates"</i>	Ashbey Kirkpatrick	Karen Kingsbury	Chatham University
8	4	<i>The Japanese Poetic Attitude & the Disclosure of Nature</i>	Hieronymus Wold	Bradley Park	St. Mary's College of Maryland
9	5	<i>Hiroshi Yoshida's Toshogu Shrine</i>	Olivia Stafford	Alison Miller	Sewanee: The University of the South
10	5	<i>Using Data Analysis to Study the Art and Life of Chinese Painter Wu Zhongxiong (C.Y. Woo; 1898-1989)</i>	Addie Richmond and Rachel Malek	Janice Glowski	Otterbein University
11	6	<i>Understanding Japanese International Relations and Stereotypes of "Westerners" during the Late Edo Period: an Analysis of Utagawa Yoshitora's Print, Pictures of People from Foreign</i>	Heyward Bost	Alison Miller	Sewanee: The University of the South

		<i>Lands: Americans (Gaikoku jinbutsu zuga: Amerikajin)</i>			
12	6	<i>Feminine Identity & Cosmetics During the Edo Period</i>	Elizabeth Fisher	Alison Miller	Sewanee: The University of the South
13	7	<i>Japanese Matchlocks</i>	Samuel Wyatt Beach	Anthony Miller	Hanover College
14	7	<i>Reviving the Past: A Mid-Western Zhou Jade Pendant and its Neolithic References</i>	Kate Medlock	Allison Miller	Southwestern University
15	8	<i>"Is a Heathen Worth Educating?": Korean Student's Perspective on Race and Racism in the Jim Crow South</i>	Madison Smith	Stella Xu	Roanoke College
16	8	<i>Prevalence and Impact of the Model Minority Stereotype on Asian American Students at a Private Liberal Arts University</i>	Ollie Bowen	Elaine Wong	Trinity University
17	9	<i>Why Madame Mao?: A Comprehensive Literature Review of the Stereotypic Perceptions and Experiences of Asian American Classical Musicians</i>	Shobha Pai	Justin Preddie	Muhlenberg College
18	9	<i>Hmong in Minnesota: Past Present and Future</i>	Valerie Partida	Carol Brash	College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University
19	10	<i>Untold Journeys: Exploring Furman and Greenville's Connections with Asia</i>	Elijah Kibler and Eva Kiser	Kylie Fisher	Furman University
20	10	<i>The Disappearance of the American Chinatown</i>	Melissa Redding	Karen Kingsbury	Chatham University
21	11	<i>How the Chinese Communist Party Maintains Control of the Tibetan People</i>	Caroline Klunk	Allison Quatrini	Eckerd College
22	11	<i>Unveiling Minban Teachers' Journey: Perspectives on Rural Education Reform in X County, China (1960s-2010s)</i>	Ann Zhu	Dáša Mortensen	Davidson College
23	12	<i>Increasing Diversity with China 101</i>	Dalton Favors	Ruihua Shen	Morehouse College
24	12	<i>Unpacking the Power of Influencer Marketing and Its Impact on Vietnamese</i>	Phuong Lu	Ann Ericson	Augustana College

		<i>Gen Z Consumers: Strategies for Brands in the Digital Era</i>			
25	13	<i>Codifying Race in Burma: The Burman & their "Others"</i>	Alyssa Arends	Larissa Pitts	Quinnipiac University
26	13	<i>Climbing Mount Niitaka: Colonial Taiwan and its National Parks</i>	Seowon Back	Yu Zhou	Vassar College
27	14	<i>A Movement Without Memory: The Legacy of Japanese Colonial Architecture in Modern Taipei</i>	Nora Leahy	Eiren Shea	Grinnell College
28	14	<i>Taiwan: Public Diplomacy and Foreign Perception</i>	Elijah Shoaf	Matthew Krain	The College of Wooster
29	15	<i>American Life through Taiwanese Eyes</i>	Devyn Hardwick	Ruihua Shen	Morehouse College
30	15	<i>Studying Buddhist Community-based Care through Oral Narratives</i>	Serena Li	Zhiru Ng	Pomona College
31	16	<i>Navigating the Liancourt Rocks Dispute</i>	Nichole Hotzler	DongJoon Park	Drake University
32	16	<i>Changing the Narrative of North Korean People</i>	Vickey Kim	Karen Kingsbury	Chatham University
33	17	<i>Attention Restoration in Japanese Hospitality Design: A Solution to a Rapidly Aging Population's Toll on the Economy</i>	Ashlyn Weyforth	Karen Kingsbury	Chatham University
34	17	<i>Examining the Southeast Asian Approach to International Refugee Law</i>	Maya Daniels	Zhengbin Lu	Spelman College
SFF1	18	<i>Agriculture and Environment in Taiwan</i>	Mai Craig, Nick Newman, and Callum Dooley	Dongping Han	Warren Wilson College
SFF2	18	<i>Overcoming Financial Shocks: Is Resilience and Emotional Intelligence the Answer? The Case of Taiwan</i>	Capri Kalvelage and Ava Pulaski	Dimitra Papadovasilaki	Lake Forest College
SFF3	19	<i>Intercultural Art Practice in South Korea</i>	Joanna Locke	Leekyung Kang	Hope College
SFF4	19	<i>DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) in Japan: Buraku Issues in the Past and Present</i>	Desiree Smith and Megan Taber	Hiroaki Kawamura and Rie Aoki	University of Findlay
SFF5	20	<i>Gender Gap in Conservation Biology in Japan</i>	Ibrahim Ware	Mizuki Takahashi	Bucknell University

SFF6	20	<i>The Legacy of American Protestant Missionaries in Contemporary South Korea</i>	Cameron McDonald and Lewis Edward	Stella Xu	Roanoke College
SFF7	21	<i>Epistemology of Primatology in Japan and the U.S.</i>	Jordana Groveman and Brie LaPree-Chavez	Regina Paxton Gazes	Bucknell University
SFF8	21	<i>Historical, Cultural and Social Influences on Child Sex Trafficking in Cambodia</i>	Riley Bloom, Maggie Taishoff, Alexis Wathen, and Simi Matsil	Nancy Janus	Eckerd College
SFF9	22	<i>Envisioning Post-pandemic Tourism Through Japanese History</i>	Jonathan Garcia*, Roxana Pena, and Tenzin Yonten	Lisa Yoshikawa	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
SFF10	22	<i>The Journeys and Struggles of Asylum Seekers, Refugees, Labor Migrants, and Immigrants in Japan</i> Faculty Mentor	Lauren Dempsey	Taku Suzuki	Denison University
SFF11	23	<i>Korean Culture, Korean Wave (Hallyu), Korean Tourism, and Hyperlocal Tourism</i>	Isabelle Holland	Bomi Kang	Coastal Carolina University
SFF12	23	<i>Teaching and Learning through Interpersonal Relationships and Music in Malaysia</i>	Somerset Grant	Anne Dorothy Harley	Scripps College
SFF13	24	<i>Remittances to North Korea and Transborder Crossings Over the DMZ</i>	Joey Geary, Maddie Gunnell, Hannah Liscord, and Tucker Obering	Joowon Park	Skidmore College

Japan and Netherlands' Relationship during the Edo Period

Sarah Weeks, DePauw University

Hiroko Chiba (Faculty Advisor)

Japan was very careful of who to let into the country during the Edo Period especially concerning westerners. However, they managed to maintain a relationship with a small

country in Europe, The Netherlands. In this poster I will look at why the Japanese and Dutch relationship worked and what caused them to stay working together for so long. Japan had a previous failed western relationship with the Portuguese but were able work with the Netherlands as the only western country allowed into Japan for over 200 years. Looking at why Japan and the Netherlands chose to work together will further put into perspective international relationships at the time in Asia and especially in Japan. This poster will examine the exchanges of the two nations with trade, technology, economic growth to show why it was beneficial for Japan and the Netherlands to sustain a cohesive relationship.

Codifying Race in Burma: The Burman & their "Others" (Video)

Alyssa Arends, Quinnipiac University

Larissa Pitts (Faculty Advisor)

This paper engages with the origins of racial hierarchies in the multi-ethnic British colony of Burma. Through colonial surveying, and the utilization of Burmese enumerators to codify and categorize groups of people, precolonial notions of belonging were challenged by British notions of biological "race" based in linguistics. This process established the Burman "race" as not only the primary and dominant racial group in Burma, but one associated with Buddhism, the inhabitation of Burma Proper, and "natural pride." People living in the Frontier Areas are described in these surveys, among other colonial documents from the 19th and 20th centuries, as being "less civilized," "savage," and more resistant to the British administration. This surveying process solidified racialized understandings of belonging in colonial Burma and has had lasting effects on the independent nation of Myanmar, including a modern system of citizenship that prioritizes the rights of "pure-blooded nationals."

Transnationality in Eileen Chang's "Classmates"

Ashbey Kirkpatrick, Chatham University

Karen Kingsbury (Faculty Advisor)

Eileen Chang's posthumously published mid-length story "The Classmates All Are Not Too Shabby Now," (同学少年都不贱) focuses around two women's decaying friendship and their gap in social status spanning from 1930s China to 1960s United States. The protagonist, Zhao Jue, becomes increasingly disillusioned with her lack of success as she watches her former classmate gain wealth and fame among American political elites. Concepts of Chinese American transnational identity and its intersectionality with race, gender, and political beliefs are demonstrated through the protagonist's experiences. Contextualizing the relationship between Chang and the sociopolitical movements of her time will espouse new literary understandings of cross-cultural identity. Chang uses

American and Chinese cultural figures and items as tools to measure the boundaries of time and distance throughout the novella.

The Kimono Shop: Analyzing Utagawa Hiroshige's Silk-Goods Lane, Odenma-cho

Leah McBain, Sewanee: The University of the South

Alison Miller (Faculty Advisor)

Japan's Edo period (1603-1868) was characterized by social and economic stability, lasting peace, and the culture of ukiyo-e, or the floating world, expressed in woodblock prints. Utagawa Hiroshige's print series "One Hundred Famous Views of Edo" depicted several famous sites of the city and catered to the new public interest in travel. This poster discusses a single print from the series, Hiroshige's Silk-Goods Lane, Odenma-cho, No. 74, held at the University Archives in Sewanee, TN, which depicts a carpenter's procession in front of a kimono shop. In this project I analyze the original print to determine the artist's visual strategies and utilize object-based research to understand how the print fits into the economic and social backdrop of the time. I also discuss artistic commercialization and the role it played in the commissioning of the print and its composition, as well as considering how profit motives impacted the viewing experience.

Hiroshi Yoshida's Toshogu Shrine

Olivia Stafford, Sewanee: The University of the South

Alison Miller (Faculty Advisor)

This poster explores the work of Hiroshi Yoshida's Toshogu Shrine from 1937. Yoshida was trained in painting but switched his focus to woodblock prints later in his career, as evidenced by the painterly style of his prints. Toshogu Shrine is one of the few works by Yoshida depicting a shrine or religious structure, as most of his work is focused around national parks and landscapes. This poster explores how the print functions in relation to Japanese essentialism and stereotypes as catering to Euro-American audiences. By studying this print along with primary sources from Yoshida, the poster investigates to what extent the Euro-American audience influenced the choice of the subject matter and how Yoshida depicts it. Additionally, the poster focuses on the role of nature and the people depicted in the print in tandem with his previous work and the role of the audience in purchasing his work.

Privacy vs. Visibility: How LGBTQ Communities in Japan Find Representation

Nathan Roach, DePauw University

Hiroko Chiba (Faculty Advisor)

Queer people around the world experience difficulty, ranging from everyday microaggressions to violence to discriminatory legislation. The queer community in Japan still has not been widely accepted by society, which still operates largely under strict heteronormative and patriarchal traditions. While queer people in Japan might choose to come out and live openly, depending on their comfort level, it is still encouraged to hide their identity to avoid stress or to better fulfill their family or corporate duties. With this project, I attempt to look deeper into some first-hand accounts of queer experiences and lifestyles in Japan, analyzing the ability to find acceptance in their authenticity versus the desire to keep their identity private. I hope for my project to appeal to an interdisciplinary audience and thoughtfully open up the conversation of acceptance in order to spread a general awareness and normalization of queer subjects.

Feminine Identity & Cosmetics During the Edo Period

Elizabeth Fisher, Sewanee: The University of the South

Alison Miller (Faculty Advisor)

In this project, I will dive into the intricate world of cosmetics in Japan's Edo period (1600-1868), as portrayed in the woodblock print "Ono no Komachi at Sekidera" from the series "Seven Komachi in the Modern Style" by Ikeda Eisen. Against the backdrop of 1825/1835 Edo Japan, I analyze the beauty practices and cosmetic rituals of this era through the print's depiction and marketing of cosmetics, including Bien Senjoko, a brand of face powder, and an exploration of gender ideals in overlapping vernacular cultures such as poetry, theatre, and print. Ikeda Eisen's attention to detail provides valuable insights into historical beauty practices, as well as serving as a record of cultural aesthetics. Utilizing an original print housed at the University Archives in Sewanee, TN, this study sheds light on how the role of cosmetics shaped the beauty ideals and feminine identity of the Edo period.

Hikikomori in Japan: The Connection Between Cultural Values and Psychology

Sophie Bartos, DePauw University

Hiroko Chiba (Faculty Advisor)

Hikikomori is a widespread condition in Japan, prevalent primarily in males. It is characterized formally by Japanese psychiatrist T. Saito, who defined hikikomori officially as an individual who stopped attending work or school for more than six months. In Japan, hikikomori is regarded as merely a phenomenon with little interest in investigating the exact influences that cause the condition and the effective treatments available. In my presentation, I will clearly define what Hikikomori is, examining both the cultural values ingrained in Japanese society present in both historical and modern times, which can cause individuals to isolate themselves, as well as the strong psychological connection to Hikikomori. Then, I will provide solutions to treating this condition, focusing on past research conducted in the psychological and medical fields

and alternative treatments available in Japan to provide insight into what the most effective solutions are to reintegrate Hikikomori back into society.

Understanding Japanese International Relations and Stereotypes of “Westerners” during the Late Edo Period: an Analysis of Utagawa Yoshitora’s Print, Pictures of People from Foreign Lands: Americans (Gaikoku jinbutsu zuga: Amerikajin)

Heyward Bost, Sewanee: The University of the South

Alison Miller (Faculty Advisor)

By conducting primary-source research on Utagawa Yoshitora’s work, *Pictures of People from Foreign Lands: Americans (Gaikoku jinbutsu zuga: Amerikajin)*, created in 1860, this poster will explore stereotypes of Americans through the lens of Japanese fascination with foreigners during the nineteenth century. Through a comparative analysis of other woodblock prints by Utagawa Yoshitora, this study will result in a general understanding of historic Japanese stereotypes of “westerners.” Furthermore, this research will be contextualized by considering the international relations of late Edo period Japan shortly after the country’s borders were re-opened. *Pictures of People from Foreign Lands: Americans* is held at the University Archives at Sewanee.

"Is a Heathen Worth Educating?": Korean Student's Perspective on Race and Racism in the Jim Crow South

Madison Smith, Roanoke College

Stella Xu (Faculty Advisor)

Yun Ch’i-ho, a Korean student at Vanderbilt University and Emory College in the late 19th-century, found himself in a society deeply invested in Jim Crow era racism and xenophobia, and kept records of his daily life in a diary he would maintain for 43 years. Although such a valuable primary source, there has been little scholarship connecting his experiences to the context of his time, as he is largely remembered for being a pro-Japanese traitor. As the only Korean in the American South, Yun Ch’i-Ho was not only a victim of anti-Asian racism, but he also had been positioned in a way that allowed him to observe the aggressions of anti-Black racism without expectations to interfere. As a result of his environment, Yun began to adapt pieces of that rhetoric into his own vocabulary and use it against other Asian students and Black Americans he met, contributing to the powerful role that language has in society.

Studying Buddhist Community-based Care through Oral Narratives (Poster/Video)

Serena Li, Pomona College

Zhiru Ng (Faculty Advisor)

The influence of modern environmental and social challenges poses a need for innovative, community-based care. In Taiwan, a response has manifested through the work of humanistic Buddhists in their culture of volunteerism and altruism, aimed to benefit both human and non-human life through a broader culture of care. Through the use of oral narratives, which provide a first-hand glimpse into the work of specific volunteers and organizations, this project aims to document the manifestations and impacts of socially engaged Buddhist care on Taiwanese society.

Attention Restoration in Japanese Hospitality Design: A Solution to a Rapidly Aging Population's Toll on the Economy

Ashlyn Weyforth, Chatham University

Karen Kingsbury (Faculty Advisor)

Japan is home to one of the fastest aging populations in the world which has led to a subsequent decline in its economy. Through the creation of an all-inclusive hospitality project (hotel, food services, and other amenities) the economy can be boosted through the generation of tourism. Foreigners and Japanese citizens alike will be enticed to partake in a unique healing experience based on Japanese traditional design and healing practices and the interior design theory of Attention Restoration, which is meant to generate healing in the spaces it is utilized in through the focus of less directed attention (attention necessary for everyday tasks). With this design, not only will tourism be generated but a cultural center created where an aging population can connect with their own and foreign communities.

Changing the Narrative of North Korean People

Vickey Kim, Chatham University

Karen Kingsbury (Faculty Advisor)

When one thinks of North Korea, for many, the first few things that come to mind are the regime, starvation of the people, and countless missile launches. However, even after the famine of the late 1990s so-called "arduous march," many found a way to be self-sufficient. Continuously, people who have defected from the country and the ones who are still left behind show immense resiliency by sneaking in foreign media to fuel their curiosity and smuggling goods to fund themselves after the funds from the government have stopped. Even with limited resources, living in one of the most restricted countries, the people of North Korea haven't given up but continue to show their resilience and curiosity. Through my research, I hope to present how some of the North Koreans who left their country thrive in a world with freedom.

Examining the Southeast Asian Approach to International Refugee Law

Maya Daniels, Spelman College

Zhengbin Lu (Faculty Advisor)

This study examines the international framework overseeing refugees and the various methods of Southeast Asian countries in addressing this issue. Focusing on regional policies and case studies, it examines how nations in the region navigate the landscape of international refugee law, sovereignty, and humanitarian duties. The analysis reveals that while Southeast Asian countries like Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia have not officially signed the 1951 Convention on Refugees, they treat people they recognize as needing protection differently. Although the States are not a part of the convention, their participation in the agreements they are not legally tied to helps strengthen the principle as common international practice. This demonstrates the regional efforts to recognize and implement the core principles of international refugee law.

American Life through Taiwanese Eyes

Devyn Hardwick, Morehouse College

Ruihua Shen (Faculty Advisor)

Reflecting on my time in Taiwan, I'll explore the intriguing cultural disparities between America and Taiwan. Additionally, I will delve into Taiwan's perspective on American culture and their knowledge of American history, while also considering what Americans think of Taiwanese culture and history.

The Japanese Poetic Attitude & the Disclosure of Nature

Hieronymus Wold, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Bradley Park (Faculty Advisor)

What does it mean to be at home in the world? The answer lies in fundamentally transforming how we respond to the alterity of the natural world. This transformation must be rooted in opening up our emotional receptivity to other beings. A transformation in our pre-rational emotional response to nature changes our relationship to it on an existential instead of merely conceptual level. This project inquires into this affective dimension of our relationship to the world by examining encounters with nature in Shinto-Buddhist poetry through a phenomenological, specifically Heideggerian, lens. Heidegger argues that the poetic attitude holds a unique power to transform our relationship with the world into one that is non-willful and authentically open. The work of many Japanese poets centers on a sense of pathos that, I will argue, is a form of this affective receptivity that can radically change our response to the alterity of nature.

Prevalence and Impact of the Model Minority Stereotype on Asian American Students at a Private Liberal Arts University

Ollie Bowen, Trinity University
Elaine Wong (Faculty Advisor)

Asian Americans have long been perceived under the model minority stereotype (MMS), which falsely depicts all members as academically successful. Previous studies have shown that this label has detrimental effects on mental health. This project, conducted in the summer of 2023, uses constructivist grounded theory and a focus group to gather and analyze information about the effects of the model minority stereotype on Asian American students at a small, private liberal arts university. The results indicate that the MMS is less prevalent due to the high academic demands at the university and the student community's awareness. However, the participants deviated on whether the MMS was more or less impactful, referring to their internal understandings of how it affects them personally. Some felt that the small student body made them representative of their community, whereas others felt that because the stereotype was less prevalent, it had less impact on them.

Using Data Analysis to Study the Art and Life of Chinese Painter Wu Zhongxiong (C.Y. Woo; 1898-1989)

Addie Richmond and Rachel Malek, Otterbein University
Janice Glowski (Faculty Advisor)

Modern Chinese painter Wu Zhongxiong/C.Y. Woo (1898-1989) was at the center of Shanghai's cultural life in the early 20th century, and his work was shown in official Chinese, Sino-Japanese, and European exhibitions. He migrated to Worthington, Ohio in 1964. Today, over 1700 Wu paintings and artifacts (dating from 1929–1989) are held in Ohio museums: The Frank Museum of Art, Otterbein University, Cincinnati Art Museum, Columbus Museum of Art. Our study involves the analysis, individual identification, and databasing of 121 seal impressions that Wu placed on his paintings. Trends in individual seal use were quantitatively and qualitatively analyzed against other data assets (dated inscriptions, genres, biography). This poster, which is one part of a larger, comprehensive interdisciplinary study of Wu's artwork, reports our basic research findings and offers preliminary conclusions about how this data can assist in understanding Wu Zhongxiong's life and work in both China and the United States.

Why Madame Mao?: A Comprehensive Literature Review of the Stereotypic Perceptions and Experiences of Asian American Classical Musicians

Shobha Pai, Muhlenberg College
Justin Preddie (Faculty Advisor)

This project is a comprehensive literature review of stereotypical perceptions of Asian American classical musicians and their experience navigating those stereotypes in the

classical music industry. The review primarily explored the relevant literature of two related psychological constructs: stereotype threat and the stereotype content model. The review highlighted the absence of scholarship focused on the specific and intersectional experiences of Asian Americans in the domain of music. The summer project also served as preliminary research for my senior thesis which combines my two areas of scholarly interest: Psychology and Media and Communications.

Increasing Diversity with China 101

Dalton Favors, Morehouse College

Ruihua Shen (Faculty Advisor)

The field of Chinese Studies has a diversity problem. Despite the wealth of Black professionals and academics all over the world studying and commenting on the number two superpower, the field lacks a consistent pipeline for young Black people to engage in learning about the Chinese language, culture, and its role in global policy. The Black China Caucus' China 101 initiative aims to fill this gap, establishing a network that connects Black students interested in Chinese Studies with one another and with professionals who want to further their professional advancement in their relevant fields. My poster presentation will advocate for diversity in the field of Chinese Studies and platform the work of the Black China Caucus and China 101, explaining the purpose of the organizations and how they achieve their goals according to the NODE framework of Networking, Opportunities, Development, and Exposure.

Hmong in Minnesota: Past Present and Future

Valerie Partida, College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University

Carol Brash (Faculty Advisor)

This project will explore how the Hmong arrived and settled into Minnesota, how they have contributed and presented opportunities for Minnesota, and how the future may be shaped by the Minnesotan Hmong. The examination of both visual and performing arts reveals alterations in the Hmong diasporic communication. Some interactions shaping these arts occurred as the Hmong diaspora relocated to the United States, more specifically Minnesota. The project will show how the diaspora engages and contributes to wider Minnesotan cultures while maintaining its own Hmong identity. Lastly, it will show how through navigating traditional and contemporary identities, the communities may continue to develop together. One example the project will include is a garden in St. Paul with Hmong visual elements.

Taiwan: Public Diplomacy and Foreign Perception

Elijah Shoaf, The College of Wooster

Matthew Krain (Faculty Advisor)

Is Taiwan's strategy of public diplomacy effective in changing foreign perceptions? How does cooperation with non-state actors impact its effectiveness? This question is critical, as it draws on constructivist international relations theory and examines the effectiveness of the emerging field of public diplomacy. The issue of Cross-Strait relations has both confused and surprised countless political scientists over the past eight decades. To preserve its sovereignty, Taiwan has been innovating its diplomatic efforts, something that is necessitated by a continued decline in 'official' diplomatic ties. The purpose of this study is to measure whether Taiwan's public diplomacy efforts are effective at changing US public opinion. Using a word association exercise followed by a feeling thermometer between the US and the PRC, the effectiveness of Taiwan's strategy is measured. This project consisted of two pieces: an interview conducted in Taipei at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in May 2023 to inform the project's design, and a survey of US citizens and those residing in the United States.

A Movement Without Memory: The Legacy of Japanese Colonial Architecture in Modern Taipei
(Video)

Nora Leahy, Grinnell College
Eiren Shea (Faculty Advisor)

My project focuses on Japanese colonial architecture in modern Taipei. As Taiwan has come into the 21st century, movements have picked up in its capital city to preserve historic architecture from the Japanese colonial regime, a fifty-year period from 1895 to 1945. This reflects Taiwan's growing public image as a multicultural and global country. By embracing their Japanese history, Taiwan claims an identity that is more than Chinese, a sharp change from KMT policies post-1949. I argue that this shift focuses on aesthetic value and neglects to address the still-complicated legacy of Japan's harsh rule, as seen prominently in their use of 'modern' Western architectural styles and offensive memorials. I focus on Taipei as the flagship city for the country, housing many prominent colonial buildings that have become synonymous with Taiwanese cultural imagery. Given the lack of available information about Japan's colonial period, this topic is timely and essential.

Unveiling Minban Teachers' Journey: Perspectives on Rural Education Reform in X County, China
(1960s-2010s)

Ann Zhu, Davidson College
Dáša Mortensen (Faculty Advisor)

Minban teachers, despite lacking formal teacher training, taught generations of children in rural Chinese schools between the 1960s and 2010s. During the socialist era, they

were employed by local administrators and assigned to work in community-based primary and secondary schools. The published scholarship is dominated by policy studies and educational studies. Within the history discipline, extant papers either lack a close analysis of first-hand accounts or fail to connect different people's experiences to form a collective narrative. In contrast, through extensive interviews with former minban teachers and a careful review of related educational policies, this research delves into the intricate dynamics between state directives and individual teachers, highlighting minban teachers' elasticity when facing policies that disadvantaged them, such as the implementation of the household responsibility system and salary disparities. This study emphasizes the importance of acknowledging minban teachers' contributions, aiming to make their narratives accessible to a broader audience.

Japanese Matchlocks

Samuel Wyatt Beach, Hanover College
Anthony Miller (Faculty Advisor)

I will talk about how important the study of Japanese matchlocks is for understanding Japan in the Muromachi and Azuchi-Momoyama Eras. I will touch on trade, religion, and politics which have to be studied holistically in order to understand how matchlocks spread across Japan, it is also required in order to understand its context.

Reviving the Past: A Mid-Western Zhou Jade Pendant and its Neolithic References

Kate Medlock, Southwestern University
Allison Miller (Faculty Advisor)

This presentation consists of a case study of a Mid-Western Zhou carved jade pendant (10th-9th centuries BCE) of two human faces in profile atop intricately carved birds and dragons. This study focuses on this work because it is representative of jades of this period that were modern productions that referred back to Neolithic jades. This pendant is unusual because very few jades up to this point integrated human faces. The recycling and collecting of Neolithic jades and their designs within Middle Western Zhou is something very few scholars have studied, and therefore I am hoping to shed light on the potential implications of Middle Western Zhou elites engaging with the past. I will show that this new trend of neoclassicism in the Mid-Western Zhou can be linked to new attempts to assert status by nobles who were becoming increasingly independent over the course of the Western Zhou.

Untold Journeys: Exploring Furman and Greenville's Connections with Asia

Elijah Kibler and Eva Kiser, Furman University
Kylie Fisher (Faculty Advisor)

As the name suggests, our Untold Journeys poster will be focused on presenting the lives and travels of various individuals between Asia and Greenville, SC from the late 19th and

through the 20th centuries. The poster will include several maps, images, and profiles for the faculty, students, missionaries, and community members we spent two months researching in the Furman Archives during the summer of 2022. These will all be accompanied by QR Codes which take viewers to different places on our online ArcGIS StoryMaps, a site built around our archival findings from that summer and subsequent semesters. Info-wise, our goal is to showcase simplified versions of the transpacific voyages made by Furman students and faculty early on while also giving viewers numerical and geographical data on where the University's international students came from. This will all be arranged in a cohesive format which is streamlined and visually pleasing for onlookers.

Unpacking the Power of Influencer Marketing and Its Impact on Vietnamese Gen Z Consumers: Strategies for Brands in the Digital Era

Phuong Lu, Augustana College
Ann Ericson (Faculty Advisor)

In the dynamic landscape of marketing, influencers have become an effective approach to help brands engage with Generation Z consumers in Vietnam. During the digitalization era, many influencers have evolved from merely product endorsers to informational sources and relatable figures with genuine stories to share. Because Gen Z customers frequently want quality, educational, and values-based experiences, they actively seek influencer content; consequently, collaborating with influencers allows brands to engage directly with targeted audiences and establish trust. Moreover, digital influencers have their fan community spread beyond multiple social media platforms, helping brands maximize their reach. When influencers advocate products, a significant portion of Vietnamese Gen Z consumers indicate improved trust in brands and products. Since the significance of influencer marketing grows, it is essential to gain insights into how Vietnamese Gen Z perceives and engages with influencers. The objective of this research is to examine the impact of social media influencers on their Vietnamese Gen Z followers' purchase intentions and identify the factors that drive their shopping behavior.

Climbing Mount Niitaka: Colonial Taiwan and its National Parks

Seowon Back, Vassar College
Yu Zhou (Faculty Advisor)

Research on Taiwan during Japanese colonial rule shows that depicting indigenous people was critical to creating modern Taiwan. Yet, scholars pay little attention to the formation of national parks as an aspect of its modernization process. This poster links studies on indigenous representation with national parks by examining 1930s postcards depicting Mount Niitaka of Niitaka-Ali National Park. I argue the construction of national parks and indigenous identities premised on mobilizing claims to 'nature,' an articulation intensified in ensuing decades of imperial conquests. To modernize rapidly, Japan's demonstrated success in taming Taiwan would

elevate the nation-state in engagements with the United States and Europe. With the trajectory of these colonial discourses tied to the creation of national parks in Taiwan, the imagery of Mount Niitaka serves to signify Japanese imperial might.

Navigating the Liancourt Rocks Dispute

Nichole Hotzler, Drake University
DongJoon Park (Faculty Advisor)

Discussion of possible causes, solutions (and what is preventing them) for the Liancourt Rocks territorial dispute and a brief summary of why the issue is strategically important to both.

Changing Perceptions of Gun Control in Japanese Society

Reagan Gerry, Drake University
Mary McCarthy (Faculty Advisor)

Shock, anger, disbelief, the death of Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe came as a shock to the world, none more surprised than Japan itself. Often hailed in comparison to other countries for its strict gun control, the recent assassination of former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has sponsored renewed interest in Japanese gun control laws both in Japan and abroad. Some have hailed his death as proof of Japan's success in policy, others cite it as proof of law ineffectiveness. This begs the question, how is gun control viewed in the Japanese social climate? Japanese society's stance on gun control is in harmony with modern-day strict gun control laws, yet is there a historical precedent for this? I examine how Japan's History of strict gun control laws in combination with Japan's culture of respecting authority and conformity have resulted in Japanese society's perception of guns.

Japan's Cultural Diplomacy and Economic Influence in the Progression of Globalization

Nia Phipps, Spelman College
Tinaz Pavri (Faculty Advisor)

This thesis delves into Japan's significant role in the global context of globalization, exploring the various dimensions of its engagement with the world. Inspired by the "International Business" course at Morehouse, specifically Chapter 2, which delves into globalization dynamics, we examine the consequences of globalization, including its impact on culture and politics. We investigate Japan's involvement through major corporations like Toyota, cultural icons such as Pikachu and Anime, and its culinary and traditional heritage. Our aim is to understand how Japan has used soft power and cultural diplomacy to shape and maintain economic influence as globalization continues to evolve. This thesis takes a multi-faceted approach, covering economic, cultural, and diplomatic dimensions, to offer a comprehensive view of Japan's global contributions.

Through this examination, we seek to provide valuable insights into Japan's strategic positioning in the global landscape and its adept use of cultural diplomacy to preserve economic influence in the face of ongoing globalization.

How the Chinese Communist Party Maintains Control of the Tibetan People

Caroline Klunk, Eckerd College

Allison Quatrini (Faculty Advisor)

In 1951, the area now recognized as the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR) was annexed by the People's Republic of China (PRC) creating a strained relationship between the eastern Han Chinese dominant Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the native Tibetan population. Tibetans under Chinese annexation have a history of protest against the party-state in both a subtle manner with attempts to maintain Tibetan traditions and attention-grabbing political organization like that mass participation of the 2008 Lhasa protests. Despite the Tibetans' continuous push for freedoms not guaranteed by the party-state, the CCP persists in its goal to settle down and assimilate Tibet into Han Chinese culture. The three ways in which the CCP maintains control that are analyzed in this piece are the modernization and territorialization of the TAR, spiritualization of the party leadership, and the hard power used in handling unrest. While these methods have allowed the CCP to stay in power in the TAR, and may persuade future generations to accept CCP rule, they are not sustainable methods that will keep the current Tibetan people content.

Discourse around Food in War and Peace: Occupation of Japan (Video)

Adam Dunn, Trinity University

Gina Tam (Faculty Advisor)

This paper explores American discourses about race and food during the Pacific War (1941-1945) and how those discourses were used by the Supreme Command of the Allied Powers (SCAP) to justify food policy during the Occupation of Japan (1945-1952). I argue that SCAP and other authorities used American discourse about Japan during the Pacific War to justify food-related policy. This discourse contended that while Axis aggression caused food shortages, in Japan, blame for aggression and food shortages was racialized, with Japanese people being portrayed as primitive and warlike. After surrender, this discourse was used to formulate the Occupation's ideological goals as the transformation of an entire race, with food policy playing a role. While occupation authorities did not always agree on policy, they justified and understood it within the same discourse, and would all adapt these discourses into an emerging Cold War framework as the perceived communism threat took priority.

The Disappearance of the American Chinatown

Melissa Redding, Chatham University

Karen Kingsbury (Faculty Advisor)

My poster will explore the idea of the disappearance of the American Chinatown throughout the 20th and 21st centuries, the reasons for this phenomenon and the actions that can be taken to ensure preservation of remaining Chinatowns. The presentation will begin by exploring the beginnings and natures of American Chinatowns and further inspect the current standing of these communities. Through this exploration, my presentation will emphasize several conclusions surrounding activism, preservation, and protection. The first conclusion is that without activism and attention, Chinatowns will continue to disappear. Secondly, property ownership is an important key to the preservation of American Chinatowns. And lastly, historical centers and historical recognition can work as effective methods to protect Chinatowns.

***** Student-Faculty Fellows Posters *****

Remittances to North Korea and Transborder Crossings Over the DMZ

Joey Geary, Maddie Gunnell, Hannah Liscord, and Tucker Obering, Skidmore College
Joowon Park (Faculty Mentor)

The Korean DMZ (demilitarized zone) is considered the most hazardous and militarized strip of land in the world. Originally established to divide the Korean peninsula into a Soviet-backed North and the US-backed South in the aftermath of World War II, this space is littered with active landmines, razor wires, tank traps, and ossified human remains from the Korean War, and the space is heavily securitized to prevent human crossings. However, what non-human encounters across the DMZ make this a space of fluidity and passage that facilitate human interaction? This research project investigates the material and nonmaterial entanglements across the Korean DMZ in the form of North Korean refugees' economic remittances sent to their families in North Korea, and hydrogen balloons filled with dried foods that refugees prepare and send across the border. How do these transborder crossings exist in relation to the terrestrial division, and what do these reveal about an ongoing Cold War?

Teaching and Learning through Interpersonal Relationships and Music in Malaysia

Somerset Grant, Scripps College
Anne Dorothy Harley (Faculty Mentor)

Scripps' four cohort students and Professor Anne Dorothy Harley (Scripps College) present a video recording and their reflections on a group collaborative theater project they conducted in Malaysia (Sabah and Kuala Lumpur). The students' individual research projects are unified by a shared interest in the experience of teaching and learning the performing arts in a Southeast Asian context.

Somerset Grant applies Carl Rogers' theory of interpersonal relationships to analyze the relationships formed with the other SFF students and their Malaysian collaborators. Jeannette Hunker describes the lessons she learned on interdisciplinary and multi-modal teaching from the groups' teaching activities in Malaysia. Similarly, Lizbeth Betances investigates how the group used interpersonal strategies to teach across language barriers in Malaysia. Isabel Li, inspired by Schaeffer's pioneering work on musique concrète, explores the group's use of ambient noise as music in their devised performance.

Envisioning Post-pandemic Tourism Through Japanese History

Jonathan Garcia*, Roxana Pena, and Tenzin Yonten, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Lisa Yoshikawa (Faculty Mentor)

The 1955 English language Pocket Guide to Japan by the Japan Tourist Bureau (JTB) described Japan as the "land of color, charm, and courtesy where the East blends with the West and the old with the new." This introduction marked a post-war effort to reinvigorate foreign tourism a decade after US fire-bombings and Japan's defeat in the Asia Pacific Wars. Now, with the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting international travel, Japan, like other tourism-dependent nations, faces a new challenge in welcoming back foreign tourists. This project explores Japan's historical strategies in attracting tourists, balancing the image of Oriental charm and modern advancements. By retracing Tokyo tourist itineraries in old JTB brochures, examining changes over time, and interviewing current perspectives, the research sheds light on Tokyo's tourism evolution, considering both immediate global economic challenges and long-standing issues in Japan.

Korean Culture, Korean Wave (Hallyu), Korean Tourism, and Hyperlocal Tourism

Isabelle Holland, Coastal Carolina University
Bomi Kang (Faculty Mentor)

This immersive study aims to use qualitative data obtained through one-on-one interviews conducted in the country of South Korea to shed light on the impact of Hallyu and Korean culture to Korean tourism, and how Korean tourism relates to growing Hyperlocal tourism. Hallyu tourism, also known as the Korean wave, is tourism to Korea that stems from an interest in Korean culture, both pop-culture and traditional culture. Korean pop-culture in the forms of K-dramas, K-pop, and K-beauty have become increasingly popular around the world, promoting tourism drastically. Hyperlocal Tourism is a new phenomenon in the tourism industry, involving tourists' desire for a more authentic experience representing the area's true beauty, history, and cultural background.

The purpose of this study is to demonstrate the impact Hallyu has on the world and how it has achieved bringing tourists to Korea to enjoy the uniqueness of this country. It also focuses on the implementation of the term "Hyperlocal Tourism" and how tourists relate

or describe this term without the prior knowledge of being introduced to it. Questions this study posed to its participants include topics such as “Are you interested in any K-drama and movie, K-pop, K-beauty, K-food, K-medical, if yes, how did you become interested in this?” and “What does hyper local experience mean to you? If you don’t know what hyper local experience is, what is your first impression of hearing the word?” Based on the results of the interviews, the study will aim to develop further understanding of the driving factors of tourism in a South Korean context.

The Journeys and Struggles of Asylum Seekers, Refugees, Labor Migrants, and Immigrants in Japan

Lauren Dempsey, Denison University
Taku Suzuki (Faculty Mentor)

Immigration has always been a hot button issue not only in the United States but the entire world, and Japan is no exception. Despite Japan's reputation as a homogeneous country, people immigrate to Japan for a variety of reasons. Some people seek employment and skill training, while others are fleeing from dangerous situations such as war and natural disasters in their home countries. The life of an immigrant is not easy, and our project's purpose is to document and explore the complexities of immigrant journeys in Japan. Our group investigated the legal, social, and cultural structures that immigrants, asylum seekers, refugees, and labor migrants encounter while living in Japan, both legally and illegally.

Historical, Cultural and Social Influences on Child Sex Trafficking in Cambodia

Riley Bloom, Maggie Taishoff, Alexis Wathen, and Simi Matsil, Eckerd College
Nancy Janus (Faculty Mentor)

The goal of our research in Cambodia was to uncover factors that make child sex trafficking difficult to eradicate. We found this important to research because Cambodia has declined from Tier 2 Watchlist to Tier 3 status on the State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report. Efforts to find, report and prosecute traffickers have been insufficient. In Cambodia, our team conducted 140 interviews with young Cambodians aged 13-27. We also interviewed staff from 12 prominent anti-trafficking NGOs. Our interviews explored family relationships, gender expectations, education about sex and personal relationships, use of technology, effects of the pandemic and Cambodia’s history. We hypothesized that all of those might relate to the problem of child sex trafficking in the country. Our poster, paper, and discussion will manifest all that we learned.

Epistemology of Primatology in Japan and the U.S.

Jordana Groveman and Brie LaPree-Chavez, Bucknell University
Regina Paxton Gazes (Faculty Mentor)

Primatology, the study of nonhuman primates, developed independently in the West and in Japan in the early and mid 1900s. As undergraduate animal behavior majors, we have conducted research and been trained in the study of primatology in the U.S. In summer 2023, we visited Japan and collaborated with researchers at Kyoto University's Center for the Evolutionary Origins of Human Behavior (EHUB) to gain firsthand experience with modern practices of primatology in Japan. Our goal was to explore the epistemological differences between Western and Japanese primatology. In addition to collaborating with Japanese scientists, we investigated the cultural and historical contexts of primatology by navigating religious sites, natural spaces, and animal centers. We concluded that while traditional Japanese values continue to permeate the scientific approach through emphasis on social engagement, respect, and commonality, increased globalization has led to increased homogenization of modern primatological epistemology across the two countries.

The Legacy of American Protestant Missionaries in Contemporary South Korea

Cameron McDonald and Lewis Edward, Roanoke College

Stella Xu (Faculty Mentor)

The Roanoke College research team investigated the influence of US missionaries in contemporary South Korea through an analysis of existing literature, explorations of historically significant religious sites across the country, and conducting interviews with church members, religious scholars, and students interested in US missionaries in South Korea. Composed of six students and two professors, the research team is compiling a four-episode podcast detailing the data collected, how it adds to the existing literature surrounding US missionaries in South Korea, and recounting personal anecdotes from their travels abroad. After speaking with individuals in such academic settings as Ewha Women's University, Yonsei University, and the Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary and in prestigious and historic churches such as Jeong-dong, Seoul Union, Saemun'an, and the Chŏnju Sŏmun Church, the research team is prepared to deliver a comprehensive and alluring podcast experience to those interested in the missionary message in South Korea.

Gender Gap in Conservation Biology in Japan

Ibrahim Ware, Bucknell University

Mizuki Takahashi (Faculty Mentor)

Japan struggles with its gender gap in various areas. The 2015 OECD Education Report revealed that only 27.6% of women pursued a Bachelor's degree in STEM. Our lab at Bucknell studies conservation biology, which is one of the male-dominant fields in Japan. Thus, this project aimed to investigate possible factors contributing to the gender gap in the field of wildlife conservation and environmental studies in Japan. Through interviews

and surveys, we tested the following hypotheses: (1) Japanese society and surrounding communities would negatively impact young Japanese women's decision to pursue wildlife conservation as a university major, and (2) Japanese women working in the field would perceive more significant challenges associated with their gender than men. To our surprise, the results rejected the hypotheses and suggested that the gender gap in Japan is caused by the active choices of women (and men).

DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) in Japan: Buraku Issues in the Past and Present

Desiree Smith and Megan Taber, University of Findlay

Hiroaki Kawamura and Rie Aoki (Faculty Mentors)

Burakumin is one of the largest minorities in Japan with an estimate of over three million individuals (Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute). Unlike other minority groups such as the Ainu and Zainichi Koreans, Burakumin are not a racial or ethnic group. During the feudal era, many Burakumin were often engaged in professions often deemed "polluted," i.e., slaughtering animals and/or executing criminals. This has led to their descendants being seen as "unclean" as well. Burakumin were often excluded from social lives and suffered from the extreme poverty. While advancements have been made with respect to their living conditions by the 1969 law, discrimination still exists. In recent years, a new form of discrimination started emerging online. In 2023, we conducted a fieldwork in Japan with two other students and faculty mentors through the ASIANetwork Student Faculty Fellows program. This poster presentation will report our findings.

Intercultural Art Practice in South Korea

Joanna Locke, Hope College

Leekyung Kang (Faculty Mentor)

This student-faculty fellows program served as an introduction and exploration of the rich cultural traditions and contemporary art practices and dynamics of South Korea and East Asia which inform the global impact of Korean popular culture today. A series of cultural site visits, discussions, printmaking workshops at Seoul's Print Art Research Center (PARC), field trips to Buddhist temples, and traditional Korean paper mills (Hanji) helped students develop informed and educated perspectives on various aspects of the history of art & printmaking, the history of Korean culture, and contemporary Korean society.

The artwork produced in the workshop, pedagogical practices of collaboration, immersive global experiences, and exhibition of work demonstrates printmaking as a democratic art medium, enabling the students to share this with a larger number of viewers. In addition to the works created while abroad, the students continued their work after returning to campus. They have each produced new bodies of work now on display in the gallery, including installation and various forms of art practices reflecting

on what was learned during their trip.

Overcoming Financial Shocks: Is Resilience and Emotional Intelligence the Answer? The Case of Taiwan

Capri Kalvelage and Ava Pulaski, Lake Forest College

Dimitra Papadovasilaki (Faculty Mentor)

Taiwan is one of the leading economies in the world due to its position in the production of semiconductors. The Taiwanese economy grew dramatically during the past century despite all the financial and political challenges that were taking place. Due to the country's position in the global economy, it is very important to understand the financial behavior of Taiwanese people. We use a sample of agents born and raised in Taiwan to examine the relationship between resilience and financial risk taking, as well as emotional intelligence and financial risk taking. We show that resilience positively affects financial risk taking, where emotional intelligence does not. We follow by exploring the effect of culture on the two variables, resilience and emotional intelligence and try to understand their part in the country's development.

Agriculture and Environment in Taiwan

Mai Craig, Nick Newman, and Callum Dooley, Warren Wilson College

Dongping Han (Faculty Mentor)

This poster presentation is about what we did in Taiwan during the Summer of 2023. We worked and studied on three different farms in Meinong, Gaoxing City, and Shoufeng Town, Hualian City. We worked with the farmers on their farms, examining their agricultural and environmental practices. We also interacted with local NGOs and college students to understand the culture and practices. We learned a great deal from working with farmers in the fields.