

# Japan Specialist Workshop

*Access to the Culture and the Society of Contemporary Japan*

2012

## Call for Applications

*Thank you for your interest in applying for the Japan Specialist Workshop 2012. Please note that the application forms and other supporting documents must arrive at the International House of Japan Library by Thursday, September 29, 2011, by postal mail.*

*Before you fill out the application form, please make sure that you have read the entire packet and that you meet all the terms of eligibility.*

Inquiries should be made to, and the application materials should be sent to

Library

International House of Japan

5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 JAPAN

Tel: +81-3-3470-3213 Fax: +81-3-3475-0424

E-mail: [infolib@i-house.or.jp](mailto:infolib@i-house.or.jp)

URL: <http://www.i-house.or.jp/en/library/top.htm>

# 1 . WHAT IS JSW?

---

The International House of Japan and the National Diet Library of Japan are jointly launching the Japan Specialist Workshop (JSW) to be held February 14 to 22, 2012, in which selected specialists will be invited to attend a series of workshops in Japan.

The JSW seeks to increase access to information in Japanese Studies, and create a close, personal and professional network among Research and Information Specialists in Japanese Studies overseas.

In this workshop, programs in specific areas will be featured. For the year 2012, it will be the humanities (history, literature, art, philosophy, and religion).

Participants from a research background or information retrieval background in Japanese Studies will take part in this Workshop through seminars and individual research.

As it is a residential workshop, all participants will stay at the International House of Japan, and will attend the same program.

The JSW believes that the participants' research and information dissemination will be very useful for the development of Japanese Studies in the future.

# 2 . WHY JSW?

---

The environment encompassing Japanese Studies has changed greatly in recent years, as shown by the increasing interest in Japanese popular culture and also the rise of Chinese and Korean Studies. Moreover, a generational change in Japanese Information Specialists also presents a new challenge.

It is therefore crucial for the future development of Japanese Studies to support early-career specialists by improving their knowledge and skills for accessing the latest information of in the new age.

The purpose of this Workshop is to help overseas Japanese information specialists and young Japanese Studies researcher/academics in obtaining, offering, and disseminating "access to the culture and the society of modern Japan," and constructing an international network through the experience.

This is also an opportunity to create a network of future leaders in Japanese Studies.

# 3 . WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR JSW?

---

The Workshop is intended for those who obtain, offer, and disseminate Japanese information overseas.

This will include early-career researchers (graduate students are also welcome) and librarians or curators, etc., who have working experience in obtaining and introducing Japanese information.

Qualification Requirements:

1. Those fitting any of the following conditions:
  - a) Early-career researchers or graduate students in Japanese Studies overseas.
  - b) Those having research or working experience at Japanese Studies-related institutions, libraries, museums, etc., overseas.
2. Having the language ability to hold a discussion in Japanese.
3. Providing a letter of recommendation from their affiliated institution.
4. Able to stay at the International House of Japan during the Workshop.
5. The following are not eligible:
  - a) Residents in Japan.
  - b) Those staying in Japan on other programs during the Workshop.

Number of participants:

Maximum of ten participants

# 4. WORKSHOP

---

This Workshop is conducted in Japanese. No support for language problems is provided.

Outline:

The theme of this workshop is the field of the humanities (history, literature, art, philosophy, and religion), and it is composed of the following three elements:

1. Knowledge and technological improvement of information searches

Working to improve search skills for Japanese materials and information by performing practical exercises.

2. Field surveys at research institutions, libraries, and archives in Japan

Each participant will conduct a field survey on a topic of interest in accordance with a research plan made beforehand and submitted when applying for the Workshop.

3. Briefing session on the field survey results

Participants will present the results of the above research at the beginning of the session. There is a possibility of publishing the presentations in paper or on the Web.

Schedule:

February 14 to 22, 2012

Schedule	Morning	Afternoon
2/13	Arrival in Japan	
2/14	Orientation	<Basics 2> Lecture by a Japanese studies journal editor
	<Basics 1> Keynote lecture	
2/15	<Basics 3> Introduction and practice of basic research tools	<Humanities 1> Research and information-searching methods in Japanese history
2/16	<Humanities 2> Introduction and practice of research tools in the humanities	<Humanities 3> Research and information-searching methods in Japanese literature
2/17	<Basics 4> Introduction and tour of historical documents from modern to present age on Japanese politics, and early Japanese books in the National Diet Library	<Humanities 4> Research and information-searching methods in Japanese art
		<Supplementary Subject> User guide for the National Diet Library (optional)
2/18 2/19	Day off	
2/20 2/21	Field surveys at research libraries, archives, and institutions	
2/22	Opinion exchange and evaluation meeting	Debriefing session of field survey results (open to the public)
	Preparation for debriefing session of field survey results	
2/23	Departure from Japan	

\*Some part of the schedule above might be changed.

\*Participants are required to use a PC (Windows Japanese Version) to do exercises.

Venues:

The International House of Japan (Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo), the National Diet Library (in Nagata-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo), and at desired institutions in the metropolitan area for the field survey.

## 5 . TERMS & CONDITIONS

---

1. The cost of round-trip plane tickets (economy class and the shortest route) will be provided.  
The maximum amount will depend on your distance from Japan.
2. The cost for hotel lodging at the International House of Japan (ten nights with breakfast) will be provided. Please refrain from staying at other hotels or residences.
3. You need to obtain your own travel insurance during the Workshop, and money to cover food and transport costs in Tokyo.

## 6 . HOW TO APPLY

---

Applicants should submit the following documents to the *International House of Japan Library* to arrive no later than **Thursday, September 29, 2011, by postal mail only.**

1. Documents to be posted by applicants to the International House of Japan Library. The documents should be printed out in A4 or letter size.
  - a) Application form (use the designated form) completed, dated and signed.
    - \* The form can be downloaded at the URL below.  
<http://www.i-house.or.jp/jp/library/JSW2012/ApplicationForm.pdf>
  - b) Document that proves Japanese ability (photocopy of certification of language exam such as the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test or a reference letter from your language teacher).
2. Document to be posted by the Recommender directly to the International House of Japan Library. The documents should be printed out in A4 or letter size.
  - a) Letter of Recommendation (use the designated form) in English or Japanese from the affiliated institution.
    - \* The form can be downloaded at the URL below:  
<http://www.i-house.or.jp/jp/library/JSW2012/RecommendationForm.pdf>

## 7 . SELECTION

---

Selection Policy:

Selection will be based on the submitted documents, while considering such factors as the need for Workshop participation in Japan, research and work content and achievements, future career prospects, and Japanese ability. Approval or rejection will be decided by the selection committee.

Selection Schedule:

*September 29, 2011*

*Application deadline*

*November 15, 2011*

*Notice of selections*

## 8 . OTHER

---

1. Personal information will be used only for organizing this workshop, and for no other purpose.
2. The set of submitted documents will not be returned.
3. Inquiries into the reasons for non-selection will not be answered.
4. Inquiries:

Any questions concerning this workshop, and completed application forms should be addressed as follows:

**Library**

**International House of Japan**

**5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032 JAPAN**

**Tel: +81-3-3470-3213 Fax: +81-3-3475-0424**

**E-mail: [infolib@i-house.or.jp](mailto:infolib@i-house.or.jp)**

**URL: <http://www.i-house.or.jp/en/library/top.htm>**