The following citations and abstracts introduce recent publications and dissertations, written in English by members of the Japanese Association for American Studies, on topics related to American Studies. The works are listed in the order of articles in journals, articles in books, and dissertations.

**ARTICLES IN JOURNALS**


In taking the approach dubbed “analytical eclecticism,” this article challenges the notion that Japan’s reluctance to use its military overseas derives from “antimilitarism.” It, instead, claims that Japan’s gun-shy policy is a result of constructivist and realist factors, such as its alliance security dilemma.


This article presents a fresh explanation of why U.S. policy toward Cuba remained hostile even after the Cold War ended. Using newly declassified documents available at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and the personal archives of Cuban exiles, this article reveals previously neglected aspects of the interaction of the U.S. government with anti-Castro exiles in South Florida.

When the U.S. federal government forced Japanese Americans to move into “relocation centers” during World War II, officials allowed the inmates to publish their own newspapers “freely,” under “supervision” but without “censorship.” In reality, however, the newspapers published under governmental auspices were inevitably subject to various types of editorial interference. Officials also elicited self-restraint from staffers, making strict supervision or outright censorship unnecessary.


This article intends to undo the commodity status of several martial arts films produced in Hollywood and their pretence of ethnic recognition in terms of Rey Chow’s concept of “the protestant ethnic.” It offers an interpretation of the significance of the genre in accordance with an obvious combination of commercial and security interests of the United States.


Japanese women in 1910 in the privileged class who gained access to Western liberal ideologies, but who were alienated from society and from women in other classes, were not able to overcome the double standards embedded in gendered policies to transform their knowledge into a social movement.


The food culture of the United States experienced great changes from the 1820s to the 1890s. At this time, the popular health movement arose, which questioned the food culture that had grown so much richer and more diverse. The movement began in opposition to standard medicine and proposed new methods of healing and care that focused reforming the “bodies and souls” of Americans, especially through diet. Fully worked-out recipes unified the movements’ followers, who believed that attaining good health would allow them to perform as essential members of a changing American society.

ARTICLES IN BOOKS

This article examines the relationship between the Japan-U.S. alliance and a future East Asian community, which is expected to be multilateral and cooperative. It points out that the Japan-U.S. alliance would have to be relativized to harmonize with the multilateral community.


This article highlights the implications of postwar enlightenment formulations for democratic development in Japan by focusing on the discourse of Masao Maruyama. It argues that Maruyama’s overriding concern was to support the ideal of self-government, although his attitudes toward formal liberal political arrangements varied significantly, depending on time and context.


This article assesses the role of the Institute of Pacific Relations (IPR) and the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in the unofficial planning for the future American Occupation of Japan during World War II. Making use of both Japanese and American archival materials, it closely examines the competing visions of the two influential private organizations in regard to key policy issues surrounding the U.S. Occupation of Japan.


The so-called British Invasion of the mid-1960s occurred as a result of exchanging folk music traditions between the United States and England. This article discusses two major factors responsible for the birth of this musical phenomenon—the structure of the music industry and the twists and turns of the Cold War political situation.

This dissertation examines the development of feminist consciousness among Japanese middle-class women in Tokyo in the interwar period in the context of increasing competition between imperial powers internationally and an emerging imperialistic and militaristic ideology domestically. Focusing on transnational contacts, it examines how Japanese women localized the master narrative of the Western feminist movement. It argues that the transnational feminist movement was a constructive force for dealing with the negative influences of militarism, imperialism, and modern patriarchy.


This dissertation examines how and why postwar urban college students embraced traditional folk music as a way to construct their cultural identity in their particular socioeconomic condition. To them, folk music was a search for self as well as a way out of the dilemmas of postwar American society.