

# Gento Kato

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

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Last Updated: August 3, 2020

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## Research Interests

**General interests.** Political behavior, Japanese politics, American politics, political methodology

**Substantive interests.** Low-information voting logic, political knowledge, cognitive heuristics, voter competence, motivated reasoning, social identity, media priming/framing, comparative behavior

**Methodological interests.** Formal modeling, EITM, machine learning, agent-based simulations, experiments, Bayesian statistics, measurements/scaling

## Positions

*Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan*

*Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations* Aug. 2020-

## Education

**Ph.D. in Political Science, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA** 2020

**Dissertation:** *The Logic and Social Consequences of Context-based Uninformed Voting*

**Advisers:** Robert Huckfeldt, Ph.D., Cheryl Boudreau, Ph.D., Ryan Hübner, Ph.D.

**M.A. in Political Science, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan** 2015

**Master's Thesis:** *Participate with Uncertainty? What "Don't Know" Responses and a Response Time Reveal About Political Awareness and Political Participation*

**Advisers:** Aiji Tanaka, Ph.D., Airo Hino, Ph.D.

**B.A. in Politics, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan** 2012

**Study abroad program, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT** 2010-11

## Summer Program

**EITM Summer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, GA** Jul. 2019

**Institute for Political Methodology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan** Jul. 2015

**ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI** Jun.-Jul. 2014

**The Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA** Jul.-Aug. 2012

## Working Papers (Single Authored)

### *Local Bandwagoning and National Balancing:*

*How Uninformed Voters Respond to the Partisan Environment* Sep. 2019

*Explaining Uninformed Participation in Referendum Voting* Apr. 2017

*International News Coverage and Perception of Foreign States in Japan* Nov. 2017

*Alternative Measurements of Political Knowledge and Uncertainty* Mar. 2015

## (Co-authored)

*Towards a General Methodology of Bridging Ideological Spaces* Aug. 2020

*With Tzu-Ping Liu and Samuel Fuller*

*Can Non-Western University Education Cultivate Immigrant Integration?*

*The Case of Local Enfranchisement for Foreign Residents in Japan* May 2020

*Under review. With Fan Lu*

*Territorial Threat, Motivated Reasoning, and Twitter Network* Aug. 2017

*With Takanori Fujiwara, Christian Collet, Tetsuro Kobayashi, and Takafumi Suzuki*

*Candidate Selection Process Captured through Eye- and Mouse-tracking* May 2016

*With Ling Liu*

## Peer-reviewed Publications

Kato, Gento and Susumu Annaka (Forthcoming) "Explaining 'Twisted' Preferences Toward Monetary Easing in Japan: Experimental Evidence on the Effect of Information Environment on the Relationship Between Ideology and Policy Preferences," *Japanese Journal of Electoral Studies* (Senkyo Kenkyu). In Japanese.

Kato, Gento (2020) "When Strategic Uninformed Abstention Improves Democratic Accountability," *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 32(3), 366-388.

Kohno, Masaru, Gabriella R. Montinola, Matthew S. Winters, and Gento Kato (2020) "Donor Competition and Public Support for Foreign Aid Sanctions," *Political Research Quarterly*.

Collet, Christian and Gento Kato (2014) "Does NHK Make You Smarter (and Super News Make You "Softer")? An Examination of Japanese Political Knowledge and the Potential Influence of TV News," *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 15(1), 23-50.

## Honors & Awards

*Merk Prospectus Award*, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$4,000) 2019

*Provost's Dissertation Year Fellowship*, Graduate Studies, UC Davis (\$43,200) 2019-20

*Dissertation Improvement Award*, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$2,500) 2019

<b>Summer Collaborative Award</b> , Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$5,000) With Professor Adrienne Hosek	Summer 2018
<b>Travel Award</b> , Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$500)	Spring and Fall 2017, 2019
<b>Graduate Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students</b> , Japan Student Services Organization	2015-20
<b>Ijima Award</b> , Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University	2015
<b>The Best Master Thesis Award</b> , Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University	2015
<b>Azusa Ono Memorial Award</b> , Waseda University	2015
<b>Okuma Memorial Scholarship</b> , Waseda University	2014
<b>125th Anniversary Scholarship</b> , Waseda University	2013

## Conference and Workshop Presentations

<b>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b>	2014, 2017, 2019, 2020*
<b>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</b>	2014, 2017, 2019
<b>PolMeth (The Society for Political Methodology Annual Summer Meeting)</b>	2020
<b>Japanese Political Science Association Annual Meeting</b>	2019
<b>Japanese Association of Electoral Studies Annual Conference</b>	2015
<b>Japan Association of Political Economy Annual Conference</b>	2014, 2015
<b>Asian Network for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference</b>	2013, 2014
<b>Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop</b>	Nov. 2019
<b>Political Science Research Workshop</b> , UC Davis, Davis, CA	Oct. 2019
<b>Conference Public Opinion and Foreign Aid</b> , Geneva, Switzerland	Feb. 2019
<b>International Metropolis Conference</b> , Sydney, Australia	Oct. 2018
<b>Migration Research Cluster Workshop</b> , UC Davis, Davis, CA	Nov. 2017
<b>GSDS Symposium Konstanz: Exploring Ignorance -- The Acquisition, Selection and Processing of Information</b> , University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany	May 2016
<b>International Workshop: New Developments in Political Communication Research</b> , Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan	Jun. 2015

\*Proposal accepted.

## Research Assistance

<b>Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis</b> Research assistant for Professors Lauren Peritz and Adrienne Hosek	2019
<b>EGAP Metaketa Initiative</b> Member of third-party experiment replication team	2019-20
<b>Institute of Applied Social Psychology + connect</b> , Osaka, Japan Assistant researcher	2012-13, 2016

<b>Waseda Institute of Advanced Study, Tokyo, Japan</b>	2014-15
Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno	
<b>Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan</b>	2012
Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet	

## Teaching (Graduate Level)

<b>POL213: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science II, UC Davis</b>	Spring 2019
Teaching assistant for Professor Scott MacKenzie	
<b>POL212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science, UC Davis</b>	Winter 2019
Teaching assistant for Professor Christopher Hare	
<b>POL211: Research Methods in Political Science, UC Davis</b>	Fall 2018
Teaching assistant for Professor Adrienne Hosek	
<b>Empirical Methodology Summer Seminar, Waseda University</b>	Summer 2014
Teaching assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno	

## (Undergraduate Level)

<b>POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis</b>	
<u>Graduate student instructor</u>	Spring 2018
Teaching assistant for Professor Benjamin Highton	Fall 2018
Teaching assistant for Professor Christopher Hare	Winter 2017
<b>POL155: Judicial Process and Behavior, UC Davis</b>	Spring 2017, Winter 2018
Teaching assistant for Professor Ryan Hübert	
<b>POL100: Local Government and Politics, UC Davis</b>	Fall 2016
Teaching assistant for Professor Scott MacKenzie	
<b>POL148B: Government and Politics in East Asia: Japan, UC Davis</b>	Spring 2016
Teaching assistant for Professor Ethan Scheiner	
<b>POL142C: Comparative Political Development: Democracy, UC Davis</b>	Winter 2016
Teaching assistant for Professor Gabriella Montinola	
<b>Undergraduate Research Seminar, Waseda University</b>	2014-15
Teaching assistant for Professor Aiji Tanaka	
<b>POL101: Introduction to Political Methodology, International Christian University</b>	Spring 2012
Lab assistant for Professor Christian Collet	
<b>(Other)</b>	
<b>Online (Japanese) Academic Writing Course, Waseda University</b>	2013-15
Academic writing adviser	

## **Professional Activities**

<i>Member, American Political Science Association</i>	2014-
<i>Member, Midwest Political Science Association</i>	2014-
<i>Member, Japanese Political Science Association</i>	2019-
<i>Member, Japanese Association of Electoral Studies</i>	2014-

## **Other Professional Services**

<i>Assistant Coordinator, Political Science Research Workshop, UC Davis</i>	2019-20
<i>Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</i>	2019
<i>Mentor, First Friends Program, UC Davis</i>	2016-17

## **Other Skills**

*Computing.* SPSS, Stata, R, Python (including oTree) and LaTeX  
*Languages.* Japanese (native) and English (highly proficient)