

GENTO KATO

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

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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, identity politics and gender, media priming/framing, comparative behavior

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

POSITIONS

Yale University, New Haven, CT Sep. 2021-May 2022
Postdoctoral Associate, Council on East Asian Studies

Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan Aug. 2020-
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA Jun. 2020
Dissertation: The Logic and Social Consequences of Context-based Uninformed Voting
Advisers: Robert Huckfeldt, Ph.D., Cheryl Boudreau, Ph.D., Ryan Hübert, Ph.D.

M.A. in Political Science, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan Mar. 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 Mar. 2012

Study abroad program, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT Aug. 2010-May 2011

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

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Annaka, Susumu, Junpei Suzuki, and **Gento Kato** (Forthcoming) "Universalist Social Benefit and Regressive Taxation as Determinants of Welfare State Support: Survey Experiment on Consumption Tax Hike in Japan," *The Annals of Japanese Political Science Association (Nenpo Seijigaku)*. (In Japanese)

Kato, Gento and Susumu Annaka (2020) "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)* 36(2), 151-167. (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** (2021) "Donor Competition and Public Support for Foreign Aid Sanctions," *Political Research Quarterly* 74(1), 212-227. (Published online first February 17, 2020)
- 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.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Kato, Gento** (Forthcoming) "Mutohaso to Sosharu Nettowaku Kankyo [Independents and Social Network Environments]," In Aiji Tanaka, Masahisa Endo, Norihiro Mimura, and Arata Yamazaki eds. *Mutohaso no Kenkyu [Study of Independents in Japan] (tentative title)*, Tokyo: Yuhikaku. (In Japanese)

SELECTED 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)

- Public reactions toward government-sponsored COVID-19 information in Japan** Jan. 2022
Under review. First author with Susumu Annaka and Masahisa Endo.
- Reexamining the Effect of Democratization on
Respect for Human Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1978-2008** Sep. 2021
Under review. Joint first author with Bimal Adhikari and Jeffrey King.
- In Japan, University Education Does Not Increase Support for Immigrant Integration** Jul. 2021
Under review. First author with Fan Lu.
- Can a Constitutional Monarch Influence Democratic Preferences?
Japanese Emperor and the Regulation of Public Expression** Jun. 2021
Under review. Joint first author with Susumu Annaka.
- Towards a General Methodology of Bridging Ideological Spaces** Aug. 2020
With Tzu-Ping Liu and Samuel Fuller.
- Socioeconomic Inequality and COVID-19 Prevalence
Across Municipalities in Catalonia, Spain** May 2020
With Ryohei Mogi and Susumu Annaka.
- Territorial Threat, Motivated Reasoning, and Twitter Network** Aug. 2017
First author with Takanori Fujiwara, Christian Collet, Tetsuro Kobayashi, and Takafumi Suzuki.

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

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

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting	2014, 2017, 2019-21*
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	2014, 2017, 2019
PolMeth (The Society for Political Methodology Annual Summer Meeting)	2020
Japanese Political Science Association Annual Meeting	2019
Japanese Association of Electoral Studies Annual Conference	2015, 2021
Japan Association of Political Economy Annual Conference	2014, 2015
Asian Network for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference	2013, 2014
Asian Politics Online Seminar Series	Sep. 2021*
New Data for the New Challenges of Population and Society , University of Padua, Padua, Italy	Sep. 2021*
Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series	Oct. 2020
PSIR Faculty Lecture Series , Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan	Sep. 2020
Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop	Nov. 2019
Political Science Research Workshop , UC Davis, Davis, CA	Oct. 2019
Conference Public Opinion and Foreign Aid , Geneva, Switzerland	Feb. 2019
International Metropolis Conference , Sydney, Australia	Oct. 2018
Migration Research Cluster Workshop , UC Davis, Davis, CA	Nov. 2017
GSDS Symposium Konstanz: Exploring Ignorance – The Acquisition, Selection and Processing of Information , University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany	May 2016
International Workshop: New Developments in Political Communication Research , Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan	Jun. 2015

*Proposal accepted.

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis , Davis, CA Research assistant for Professors Lauren Peritz and Adrienne Hosek	2019
EGAP Metaketa Initiative Member of third-party experiment replication team	2019-20

Institute of Applied Social Psychology + Connect, Osaka, Japan Assistant researcher	2012-13, 2016
Waseda Institute of Advanced Study, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno	2014-15
Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet	2012

TEACHING

(Instructor, Undergraduate/Graduate Level)

PLSC162/678: Japan and the World, Yale University Co-teaching with Professor Frances Rosenbluth	Fall 2021 (Expected) [†]
PLS416/516: Experimental Political Science, Nazarbayev University	Spring 2021 [†]
PLS211: Quantitative Methods, Nazarbayev University	Spring 2021
PLS415/515: Maximum Likelihood Models, Nazarbayev University	Fall 2020 [†]
PLS312: Public Opinion and Elections, Nazarbayev University	Fall 2020
POL 051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis	Spring 2018

[†]Courses that are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

(Teaching Assistant, Graduate Level)

POL213: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science II, UC Davis	Spring 2019 [‡]
POL212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science, UC Davis	Winter 2019 [‡]
POL211: Research Methods in Political Science, UC Davis	Fall 2018 [‡]
Empirical Methodology Summer Seminar, Waseda University (In Japanese)	Summer 2014

(Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Level)

POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis	Winter 2017 Fall 2018 [‡]
POL155: Judicial Process and Behavior, UC Davis	Spring 2017, Winter 2018 [‡]
POL100: Local Government and Politics, UC Davis	Fall 2016 [‡]
POL148B: Government and Politics in East Asia: Japan, UC Davis	Spring 2016 [‡]
POL142C: Comparative Political Development: Democracy, UC Davis	Winter 2016 [‡]
Undergraduate Research Seminar, Waseda University (In Japanese) For Professor Aiji Tanaka	2014-15
POL101: Introduction to Political Methodology, International Christian University	Spring 2012

(Other Teaching Assistance)

Online Academic Writing Course, Waseda University (In Japanese) Academic writing adviser	2013-15 [‡]
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[‡]Teaching assistance works that involve grading and/or independent TA sessions.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, American Political Science Association	2014-
Member, Midwest Political Science Association	2014-
Member, Japanese Political Science Association	2019-
Member, Japanese Association of Electoral Studies	2014-

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Member, Master Program Admission Committee, Nazarbayev University	2020-
Master Thesis Committee Member for: <i>Ali Mukhambet (Nazarbayev University), Kamila Matzhanova (Nazarbayev University), Aigerim Aibassova (Nazarbayev University) and Aisulu Makhtayeva (Nazarbayev University)</i>	2020-
Journal Reviewer <i>The Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, and Journal of Regional Research</i>	2020-
Discussant <i>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</i>	2019-

OTHER SERVICES

Associate Researcher, Waseda Institute of Political Economy, Waseda University	2021-
Assistant Coordinator, Political Science Research Workshop, UC Davis	2019-20
Mentor, First Friends Program, UC Davis	2016-17

SKILLS

Computing: *R, Stata, SPSS, Python (including oTree) and \LaTeX*

Languages: *Japanese (native) and English (highly proficient)*