

# GENTO KATO

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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**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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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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

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- 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] (temporal title)*, Tokyo: Yuhikaku. (In Japanese)

## SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

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### (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)

- 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 (In Japanese)** 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

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- 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) Summer 2018  
*With Professor Adrienne Hosek.*

<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, 2019-21*
<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, 2021
<b>Japan Association of Political Economy Annual Conference</b>	2014, 2015
<b>Asian Network for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference</b>	2013, 2014
<b>Asian Politics Online Seminar Series</b>	Sep. 2021*
<b>New Data for the New Challenges of Population and Society</b> , University of Padua, Padua, Italy	Sep. 2021*
<b>Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series</b>	Oct. 2020
<b>PSIR Faculty Lecture Series</b> , Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan	Sep. 2020
<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> , Davis, CA 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, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan</b> Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno	2014-15
<b>Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan</b> Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet	2012

## TEACHING

### (Instructor, Undergraduate/Graduate Level)

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

<sup>†</sup>Courses that are open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

### (Teaching Assistant, Graduate Level)

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

### (Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Level)

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

### (Other Teaching Assistance)

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

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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

## OTHER SERVICES

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

## SKILLS

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

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