

Gento Kato

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

Last Updated: April 15, 2021

53 Kabanbay Batyr Ave.. Nur-Sultan, 010000, Republic of Kazakhstan

E-mail: gento.kato@nu.edu.kz; gento.badger@gmail.com

Website: <https://gentok.github.io/>

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

Peer-reviewed Publications

- 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 (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.

Selected Working Papers

(Single Authored)

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>Independents and Social Network Environments</i> (In Japanese) | Apr. 2021 |
| <i>Local Bandwagoning and National Balancing:
How Uninformed Voters Respond to the Partisan Environment</i> | Sep. 2019 |
| <i>Explaining Uninformed Participation in Referendum Voting</i> | Apr. 2017 |
| <i>International News Coverage and Perception of Foreign States in Japan</i> | Nov. 2017 |
| <i>Alternative Measurements of Political Knowledge and Uncertainty</i> | Mar. 2015 |

(Co-authored)

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>Can a Constitutional Monarch Influence Democratic Preferences?</i> | |
| <i>The Regulation of Public Expression in Japan</i> | Apr. 2021 |
| <i>Under review. With Susumu Annaka</i> | |
| <i>In Japan, University Education Does Not Increase Support for Immigrant Integration</i> | Feb. 2021 |
| <i>Under review. With Fan Lu</i> | |
| <i>Towards a General Methodology of Bridging Ideological Spaces</i> | Aug. 2020 |
| <i>Under review. With Tzu-Ping Liu and Samuel Fuller</i> | |
| <i>Socioeconomic Inequality and COVID-19 Prevalence
Across Municipalities in Catalonia, Spain</i> | May 2020 |
| <i>With Ryohei Mogi and Susumu Annaka</i> | |
| <i>Territorial Threat, Motivated Reasoning, and Twitter Network</i> | Aug. 2017 |
| <i>With Takanori Fujiwara, Christian Collet, Tetsuro Kobayashi, and Takafumi Suzuki</i> | |

Honors & Awards

<i>Merk Prospectus Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$4,000)</i>	2019
<i>Provost's Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Studies, UC Davis (\$43,200)</i>	2019-20
<i>Dissertation Improvement Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$2,500)</i>	2019
<i>Summer Collaborative Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$5,000)</i>	Summer 2018
<i>With Professor Adrienne Hosek</i>	
<i>Travel Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$500)</i>	Spring and Fall 2017, 2019
<i>Graduate Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students, Japan Student Services Organization</i>	2015-20
<i>Ijima Award, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>The Best Master Thesis Award, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>Azusa Ono Memorial Award, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>Okuma Memorial Scholarship, Waseda University</i>	2014
<i>125th Anniversary Scholarship, Waseda University</i>	2013

Conference and Workshop Presentations

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

*Proposal accepted.

Research Assistance

<i>Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis</i>	2019
<i>Research assistant for Professors Lauren Peritz and Adrienne Hosek</i>	
<i>EGAP Metaketa Initiative</i>	2019-20
<i>Member of third-party experiment replication team</i>	
<i>Institute of Applied Social Psychology + connect, Osaka, Japan</i>	2012-13, 2016
<i>Assistant researcher</i>	
<i>Waseda Institute of Advanced Study, Tokyo, Japan</i>	2014-15
<i>Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno</i>	
<i>Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan</i>	2012
<i>Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet</i>	

Teaching

(Graduate Level, Instructor)

<i>PLS516: Experimental Political Science, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS515: Maximum Likelihood Models, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020

(Undergraduate Level, Instructor)

<i>PLS416: Experimental Political Science, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS211: Quantitative Methods, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS415: Maximum Likelihood Models, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020
<i>PLS312: Public Opinion and Elections, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020
<i>POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2018

(Graduate Level, Teaching Assistant)

<i>POL213: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science II, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2019
<i>POL212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science, UC Davis</i>	Winter 2019
<i>POL211: Research Methods in Political Science, UC Davis</i>	Fall 2018
<i>Empirical Methodology Summer Seminar, Waseda University</i>	Summer 2014

(Undergraduate Level, Teaching Assistant)

<i>POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis</i>	, Winter 2017 Fall 2018
<i>POL155: Judicial Process and Behavior, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2017, Winter 2018
<i>POL100: Local Government and Politics, UC Davis</i>	Fall 2016
<i>POL148B: Government and Politics in East Asia: Japan, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2016

<i>POL142C: Comparative Political Development: Democracy, UC Davis</i>	Winter 2016
<i>Undergraduate Research Seminar, Waseda University</i>	2014-15
<i>POL101: Introduction to Political Methodology, International Christian University</i>	Spring 2012

(Other)

<i>Online (Japanese) Academic Writing Course, Waseda University</i>	2013-15
<i>Academic writing adviser</i>	

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-

Professional Services

<i>Member, Master Program Admission Committee, Nazarbayev University</i>	2020-21
---	---------

Master Thesis Committee Member for:

*Ali Mukhambet (Nazarbayev University), Kamila Matzhanova (Nazarbayev University),
and Aigerim Aibassova (Nazarbayev University)*

Served as a Reviewer for:

Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, and Journal of Regional Studies

Other 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

Skills

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