

Romeo Marcantuoni

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Personal Statement

A **political scientist** and **Japan scholar** researching the politics of parties, emotions, conspiracy beliefs with a focus on Japan. Extensive experience in teaching at Japanese universities, including on topics of historical remembrance, political economy, sociology, and international relations.

Education

- 2020/09 – 2026/03 **Ph.D. in International Studies (expected)**, Graduate University of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University
Dissertation title: *A Thwarted Democracy: The Emotional Politics of Japan's Opposition in the Abe Era*
Advisor: Prof. David Leheny
- 2019/04 – 2020/09 **Research Student**, Graduate University of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University
- 2014/09 – 2016/09 **Master of Language and Area Studies: Japanese Studies**, KU Leuven, Belgium
- 2010/09 – 2014/09 **Bachelor of Language and Area Studies: Japanese Studies**, KU Leuven, Belgium

Teaching Experience

- 2025/09 – ... **Adjunct Instructor** Asian Studies, Temple University Japan
Classes: *Japan in a Changing World*
- 2024/04 – ... **Part-time Lecturer**, Exchange Students from Overseas Program, Hosei University
Classes: *War and Memory in Modern Japan*
Teaching international and Japanese students about Japan's modern history of war and its effects on contemporary remembrance (90 mins/week, spring semester only).
- 2024/09 – ... **Part-time Lecturer**, Global Studies in English, Kyōritsu University
Classes: *Theories of International Relations II, English Writing*
Developed a syllabus for third and fourth-year Japanese undergraduate students introducing the basic theories of international relations such as realism, liberalism, constructivism, and Marxism in the context of concrete examples involving Japan and the rest of the world. I also teach English essay writing to first-year students (100 mins/class x 3).
- 2024/09 – 2025/03 **Part-time Lecturer**, Sociology Department, Daitō Bunka University
Classes: *Current Events in English*
Temporarily filled in for one semester. Teaching second and third-year Japanese students current events in society through the lens of sociology (90 mins/class x 1–2).
- 2024/09 – 2024/12 **Part-time Lecturer**, IES Abroad, Kanda University of International Studies
Classes: *The Contemporary Economy of Japan*
Temporarily filled in for one semester. I designed and taught a new syllabus introducing the basic history and contemporary elements of Japan's political economy. Alongside lectures, readings, and guest speakers coursework, I organized two field trips related to the history of globalization and state-led innovation (3 hrs/class x 1).
- 2019/09 – 2025/02 **Teaching Assistant (Academic Writing Tutor)**, Global Education Center, Waseda University
- 2023/09 – 2024/03 **Part-time lecturer (English Discussion)**, Tokyo Women's Christian University
- 2023/04 – 2024/03 **Teaching Assistant (Professor Glenda Roberts)**, Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University

Research Experience



- 2025/05 – ... **Research Assistant**, Professor Jeffrey Hall
JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 21K13429 (PI: Jeffrey Hall)
- 2023/09 – 2025/03 **Research Assistant**, Waseda Institute of Advanced Studies, Waseda University
Researching the political role of conspiracy theories and beliefs in Japanese politics
JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 24K04730 (PI: Robert A. Fahey)
- 2020/09 – 2020/10 **Research Assistant**, Professor Jeffrey Hall
Preparing book manuscripts, editing, fact checking
- 2020/04 – 2020/06 **Research Intern**, Asia Pacific Initiative
Preparing book manuscripts, editing, fact checking

Professional Experience


- 2016/06 – 2019/03 **Translator (Japanese to English)**, Freelance (Belgium & France)
- 2016/09 – 2017/05 **Business Analyst**, SBI BITS (Tokyo)

Publications and Presentations

Journal Articles

- R. Marcantuoni and R. A. Fahey, “Fighting the cabal from the diet: Sanseitō and the role of conspiracy as political ideology,” *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus*,
- R. A. Fahey and R. Marcantuoni, “From conspiracy theory movement to challenger party: The case of Japan’s Sanseito,” *WIAS Discussion Paper*, vol. 2024, no. 1, pp. 1–28, Jan. 23, 2025. Accessed: Apr. 27, 2025.  URL: <https://waseda.repo.nii.ac.jp/records/2005608>.
- R. Marcantuoni, “The Melancholy of Japan’s Liberal Opposition: Politician-penned Books and Their Narratives of Redemption,” *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus*, vol. 22, no. 1, Jan. 23, 2024.  URL: <https://apjif.org/2024/1/Marcantuoni.html>.

Book Reviews


- R. Marcantuoni, *Sengo nihon no ‘kakushin’ seiryoku—teikō to suibō no seijishi (Reformists in Postwar Japan: A Postwar History of Opposition and Decline)*, *Social Science Japan Journal*, vol. 26, 2, pp. 259–262, Oct. 11, 2023.  DOI: 10.1093/ssjj/jyad006.


Conference Presentations and Papers

- R. Marcantuoni and R. A. Fahey, “Fringe Politics, Alternative Media Ecosystems, and the Rise of the “Influencer Party” in Japan,” Seoul, South Korea, 18th World Congress of Political Science July 12–16, 2025 (Accepted).
- R. A. Fahey and R. Marcantuoni, “From conspiracy theory movement to challenger party: Why the case of Japan’s Sanseito isn’t more widely replicated,” presented at the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference, Dublin, Ireland, Aug. 13, 2024.  URL: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/383282223_From_conspiracy_theory_movement_to_challenger_party_why_the_case_of_Japan's_Sanseito_isn't_more_widely_replicated.
- R. Marcantuoni, “Reassuring Radicals: Dispelling Fear and Loathing of the Japanese Communist Party,” presented at the JSA-ASEAN Conference (Chiang Mai, Thailand), Dec. 21, 2023.
- R. Marcantuoni, “The Liberal Melodrama of Japan’s Opposition,” presented at the European Association of Japanese Studies Conference (Ghent, Belgium), Aug. 28, 2021.


Non-peer Reviewed Publications


R. Marcantuoni. "Look Who's Back: The CDP Leadership Race," Tokyo Review.  URL: <https://www.tokyoreview.net/2024/09/look-whos-back-the-cdp-leadership-race/>.

R. Marcantuoni. "Japan's Opposition: Is This the Year?" Tokyo Review.  URL: <https://www.tokyoreview.net/2021/10/japans-opposition-is-this-the-year/>.

R. Marcantuoni. "What's Next for Japan's Opposition?" Tokyo Review.  URL: <https://www.tokyoreview.net/2021/11/whats-next-for-japans-opposition/>.

Podcasts

Rigorous Research, Real Impact, *Unlocking the Rise of Conspiracy Movements in Japan*, Feb. 18, 2025.  URL: <https://www.waseda.jp/top/en/news/83437>.

Japan on the Record, *Japanese Opposition Politics on the Record with Roméo Marcantuoni (Waseda)*, Oct. 20, 2021.  URL: <https://jotr.transistor.fm/48>.

Miscellaneous Experience

2024/07 **Writing Workshop**
Writing Personal Essays for Study Abroad Applications
Global Leaders Program, Hitotsubashi University


Skills

Languages English, Japanese, Dutch, French.

Research Editing, L^AT_EX typesetting, bibliography management tools

References


David Leheny

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Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies
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Robert A. Fahey

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Waseda Institute for Advanced Studies
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Japanese Studies
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Sadoshima Saori

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Waseda University
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