English-Language Works by JAAS Members
1993–1994

The following citations and abstracts introduce recent publications and dissertations, written in English by the members of the Japanese Association for American Studies, on topics related to American Studies. The works are listed in the order of articles in journals, articles in books, books, and dissertations.

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS


Robert Kennedy’s role in the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962 is reappraised in the light of information that has recently become available. Kennedy proved to have been more hawkish than had been assumed, and his previously unknown secret correspondence with the Soviet Union is disclosed.


A study in the history of Japanese-American naval relations, this article shows how the conclusion of the naval treaty of the Washington Conference of 1921–22, which had been aimed at reducing tension between the two countries, actually provoked hostility toward the United States among Japanese navy men.

This article covers the three major naval conferences: at Washington in 1921–22, Geneva in 1927, and London in 1930 as well as interludes between them. Focusing on the Japanese navy's rising hostility toward the Washington system of naval limitation, the study traces Japan's side of the "Preface to Pearl Harbor."


Despite various changes caused by World War II, the middle class persisted to dominate the social structure of Berkeley. This article contrasts the change described by children's writings during the war with the continuity evidenced by the longitudinal study on the 1928–29 birth cohort in Berkeley.


John Updike's Rabbit tetralogy, published between 1960 and 1990, is an imaginary chronicle of a contemporary Middle American. Despite the differences in career, the working-class hero and the sophisticated author live the same historical moments as contemporaries and share common sentiments that are fundamentally conservative. This paper attempts to review Rabbit's three decades to see how the conservative streak in Rabbit/Updike evolves and endures with the times.


This article aims to revise the generally accepted reading of *The Wings of the Dove* in which the heroine's death is caused by tuberculosis. Pointing out several obvious or hidden contrasts, contradictions and ambiguities in the texts, it asserts that this novel was written from Henry James's experience of attending to his sister Alice who had died of cancer and shows how the dichotomy of tuberculosis and cancer influence the rhetoric and theme of this novel.


Here, the approach to the topic was confined within the field of literature, and the article focuses on two distinctive phenomena characterizing each period before and after the mid 1970s: the sudden remarkable development which came out of the 1960s, and the new wave through which works of women writers have kept bursting into translation since the latter half of the 1970s.

The article deals mainly with the modern trends of secularization of American colleges and universities, which were originally founded by denominational churches, and critically analyzes the question of how Christianity, which was a leading force in American higher education, became at most tolerated as a peripheral enterprise and often simply excluded from collegiate education.


After giving the reader a simple historical overview of Japanese ignorance of and prejudice toward the Southern part of the United States and the increasing academic interest in the South in Japan after World War II, this paper suggests some interesting research possibilities on the South, mostly from the viewpoint of comparative culture.


Although today’s Asian American community is comprised of many ethnicities and persons of all socioeconomic statuses, in American society there has been a tendency to see them as one group. One example to show such a tendency is the effect of so-called “Japan bashing.” This paper examines how recent “Japan bashing” has affected Japanese Americans and other Asian Americans, and whether Asian Americans have, in fact, come to identify themselves as “Asian Americans” in American society.


This is part of a study on the female characters in the short stories of Katherine Anne Porter. It shows how Sophia Jane and Nannie, the last of a generation when one’s identity was relatively easy to understand, eventually overcame their bondage to, respectively, a man and whites.


The Clinton administration’s three pillars for national security are economic security, democratic security and alliances with a forward military presence. The first element reflects the administration’s thinking that America’s economic renewal and amelioration of the U.S. federal deficit depends on opening the markets of the Asian economies. Thus, the Asia-Pacific region is considered more important for the administration than Europe. Democratic security means the promotion of democracy and protection of human rights. These principles are, however, related to the question of domestic legitimacy. Consequently, the administration faces the prospect of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries. This will be an important potential source of tension, particularly between the U.S. and China.

Introducing 19th-century Boston’s upper class, “the Brahmins,” this article proposes a method that can identify the members of this group, and investigates the extent to which they interacted with middle-class people in the public sphere. It concludes that such interaction was much more frequent and commonplace at the turn of the century than has been assumed in popular literature.


This article suggests that the experience of Japanese war brides can be viewed as a micro-cosm of Japan’s relationship with the United States in the postwar era, and finds in their experiences attitudes toward foreign countries that seem to have been shared by most Japanese since the war ended.


This paper explores Sylvia Plath’s search for the sensual possibilities of life and her struggle for wholeness as a woman by focusing on her woman self divided into earth mother and spinster, which is expressed in “Two Sisters of Persephone” (1956) and her works thereafter.


This article discusses the theoretical background of the American Women’s Movement in comparison with its Japanese counterpart. It also discusses the issue of war and peace, emphasizing both American and Japanese feminists who placed nationalism over feminism and pacifism.


The aim of this paper is to clarify the roles and characteristics of *sogo shosha* investment and to explore the locations of their economic activities in Canada. *Sogo shosha* investment in Canada has focused on the three major sectors of the economy, and the primary purpose of their investment is to enhance their trading activities. *Sogo shosha* have located their offices in four strategic cities, yet their locational preferences are complex.

The story of Willie Stark, who became governor of Louisiana and was shot to death, is told by Jack Burden, who awakens to the sense of moral responsibility as he tells Willie's acquisition of power to realize ideals and his resultant corruption.


Edited from her manuscript and dedicated to the memory of her granddaughter who passed away in 1993, these opening sections of Mrs. Ernest F. Fenollosa's journals reveal an American couple's passionate response to European galleries and other sights during their "Grand Tour."


Janice Mirikitani is a third-generation Japanese American poet, writer and activist. In this paper, the author—a "Kibei Sansei"—gives her observations on the intergenerational relationships depicted in Mirikitani's literary work and expressed in interviews she has given.


This is an attempt to explore the relationship of the Issei to the American Dream from the perspective of intellectual history or a history of ideas. The dream of freedom also brought many of them to despair and the realization of the American Dream was left to their descendants.


This paper examines the negative effects of the African American community and family on the psychological development of two African American girls, Pecola Breedlove and Claudia MacTeer, in *The Bluest Eye.*

The essay describes how American women at the turn of the century thought about marriage and the family and careers. The focus is on the two kinds of "advanced" woman: suffragists who strove to bring about the equality of men and women through the symbolic political right to vote, and the younger generation of "feminists" who differed from them over suffrage as well as marriage and the family.


Japan has two important tasks in facing the problems of refugees. First, as a world economic power, it should contribute to solving the problems that bring about refugees. Second, it should offer tangible financial support and proper treatment under the terms of the Refugees Convention.


This paper discusses the idea of Amish education as it relates to Amish faith and life. The paper deals with the older and broader Mennonite tradition and history, followed by the Amish division, and ending with the theme of Amish education and how it undergirds the Amish faith.


This article aims at exploring the influence of Japanese arts upon Amy Lowell's poetry and her Imagism. In her poems such as "Lacquer Prints" in *The Pictures of the Floating World* and "Guns as Keys" in *Can Grande's Castle*, her source of imagination can be clearly detected in ukiyoe woodblock prints. Japanese artifacts sent by her brother Percival, thus, contributed to her forming a new style of poetry.


This article analyzes congressional involvement in the decision making on covert action and clarifies the role Congress as a representative body should play. The focus is on the political and statutory reforms since the 1970s regarding policy alternatives and accountability.

The article introduces the life of Agnes Smedley, who fought for the oppressed in China in the 1930s. Included is the translation of the author's essay written for a biography of Smedley.


The article traces the process in which residential segregation resulting from housing discrimination against African Americans led to the emergence of the "second ghetto" in Newark, New Jersey, after World War II. It argues that the creation of the second ghetto was the product of conscious human decisions and the operation of institutional racism.


This article, originally read at the International Conference of the Emily Dickinson International Society, points out that one of the difficulties of Dickinson's poetry for non-Christian Japanese readers is the fact that they do not share Dickinson's Christian vision of soul. A few outstanding criticisms of Japanese Dickinson scholars are mentioned.


This historical survey details the credit and payment terms granted by American firms from early in the twentieth century until 1931, showing that the credit policy of the cash discount open account had deep historical origins and that the selection of a term of credit and payment in export trade depended on many factors.


In this article, the characteristics of Joseph Dorfman's study of the history of American economic thought and an outline of studies in the history of American economic thought in Japan are discussed. It also includes a brief bibliography of studies in the history of American economic thought in Japan and a complete bibliography of Dorfman's writings.


In the 1960s "metafiction" made us aware that what fiction can tell us is not reality itself but a narrative version of reality. But in the 1980s, in the post-Foucauldian "cyber-
punkish” age our contemporary lives are all ideological versions of reality, with us as characters within narratives. Keenly conscious of the limit of hyperrealist-hyperconsumerist society, the authors locate in the strategy of “avant-pop” the way to criticize radically what the avant-garde and pop culture are.


This is a comparative literary study of Kobo Abe, Paul Auster, Masahiko Shimada, Steve Erickson, and Shozo Numa from the “avant-pop” perspective. Their works help us understand the sadomasochistic metaphors lurking not only within postmodern literature but also within international politics generally—and especially within the Japan-U.S. relationship. Exposure to hyperconsumerism has led both nations to deconstruct the difference between creation (writing) and consumption (reading), thereby opening up the possibility of becoming creative and masochistic at once.


This article reinterprets the famous film of the 1960s, *2001: A Space Odyssey* (Arthur C. Clarke and Stanley Kubrick, 1965–1968), as a cyberspace travelogue. A close reading of Clarke’s careful description of Captain David Bowman’s mysterious experience in the catastrophe reveals that this is neither a phantasmagoric, drug-induced product nor one of religious transcendence; rather, it is simply the effect of the monolith-as-the-ultimate computer matrix radically sampling, remixing, and cutting up Bowman and his bio-history.

Tsuchiya, Hiroshi. “American Fiction and Film from Melville to Dreiser.” *Fleur-de-lis* (Shirayuri College) 30 (December 1994): 73–114.

Some works in American fiction from Herman Melville to Theodore Dreiser are discussed in juxtaposition with their movie versions. Although filmmakers cram the fiction into limited film time, the mythic qualities of the original fiction are still retained in some movies because of the enduring cultural values that leap over the boundaries dividing one medium from another.


The Civil Information and Education Section of the Allied occupation forces undertook various information dissemination programs on how to “democratize the Japanese family.” These programs partly derived from the Section’s origin as a propaganda agency, but they developed into a joint effort of American and Japanese women for women’s rights.

This reviews the mystical aspect of American Transcendentalism which has a deep root in nature. One of definitions of "mysticism" is found in the *Oxford English Dictionary*: "belief in the possibility of the union with the Divine nature by means of ecstatic contemplation." A mystical experience may be attained in nature, as is the case with American Transcendentalism.


This is a review of what signifies the complexity of Herman Melville's fictive world. One response to it may be considered to be Melville's affliction toward the elusiveness of truth, that is the complexity of the real world itself. This complexity is represented in his works, an example being the "'ndian-Hating" chapters of *The Confidence-Man*. The relation between "natural" and "fictive" expression is also discussed.

ARTICLES IN BOOKS


This paper examines the sociocultural meaning of Tokyo Disneyland in the contexts of the post-World-War-II Americanization of Japanese lifestyles, economic growth, and changing work ethic. The continuing popularity of the Disney theme park and the rush to build other simulated worlds may be seen as reflections of Japan's new consumer culture and postmodern creation of its own self-image.


In the early years of the twentieth century, the traditional approach to the study of international law emphasized the rights of sovereign states and did not question the legality of war. However, a group of international lawyers began to emerge and their views became distinct after World War I. This group advocated changes in international law in order to deal with international organizations and to prohibit war.
Shinohara, Hatsue. “Toward a More Ambitious International Law: Ameri-
can Academic Discussions in the 1920s.” Keisen Jogakuen College, Bulletin 6
(January 1994): 133–162.

After World War I a new group of international lawyers such as Quincy Wright, Man-
ley O. Hudson, and Charles G. Fenwick attempted to reform international law. They
argued that the notion of law had to be enlarged to deal with political questions. They
created such a new concept of law in the Covenant of the League of Nations as well as
in the Nine-Power Treaty.

Tsubaki, Kiyofumi. “Dynamism in Billy Budd.” In Melville and Melville Stu-
dies in Japan, 195–219, edited by Kenzaburo Ohashi. Westport, Conn.: Green-

This paper was written as an antithesis to Kingsley Widmer’s calling the novella “a stat-
ic story” in The Ways of Nihilism: Herman Melville’s Short Novels. It pays attention
to the various dynamic elements of the work which are sometimes hidden under the sur-
face and tries to show that Billy Budd is actually a “dynamic” and “dramatic” novella,
though of quite an original type.


Edgar Allan Poe’s fiction can be regarded as “minor literature” according to Gilles
Deleuze and Felix Guattari’s definition. Poe’s fiction is characterized by (1) deterrior-
ialized language, (2) collective enunciation, and (3) politicalness. Poe’s writing is far from
authentic or genteel, but revolutionary, that is his writing has something novel which
can destroy traditional literary values.

Uno, Hiroko. “Kumasaka.” In A Guide to Ezra Pound and Ernest Fenol-
losa’s “Classic Noh Theatre of Japan,” 53–62, edited by Akiko Miyake, Sane-
hide Kodama, and Nicholas Teele. Orono, Maine: The National Poetry Founda-
tion (The University of Maine) 1994.

The relevant pieces are the “Source,” “Notes for Readers,” and “Glossary” for Ezra
Pound and Ernest Fenollosa’s English translation of the noh play “Kumasaka,” as
well as the commentary “Kumasaka and the Cantos” and the transcription of
Pounds’s commentary on “Kumasaka.”
BOOKS


The Japanese government employed a group of American experts to develop the northern frontier, Hokkaido, in the 1870s. In spite of their shared goal, cooperation between Americans and Japanese was often accompanied by friction. The study deals with their experience as a case of interaction between different cultures.


This includes an annotated commentary on the *Classic Noh Theatre of Japan*, with Fenollosa’s manuscript, and it is a contribution to scholarship on Ezra Pound by members of the Japanese Ezra Pound Society to celebrate the Pound’s one hundredth birthday.

DISSEMINATIONS


My discussion of works of fiction by women writers from Britain, Canada, and the United States focuses on the link between the female body, architecture and language, which is evaluated in the context of the house as the maternal body, women-only space, and space and bi/multilingualism.


This study focuses on the historical development of how American social and behavioral scientists heavily influenced the way UNESCO identified the “problem” of illiteracy, the educational intervention strategy (functional literacy) to solve the problem of illiteracy, and the forming of an index to measure the effects of literacy training. It argues that the final cross-national Experimental World Literacy Program evaluation studies are merely a product of a view shared by national and international policy-makers of what should constitute literacy training and education in general at the time EWLP was under way.