

Curriculum Vitae of
Naemi McPherson
Department of East Asian Studies
Brown University
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Professional Appointments:

Brown University	Providence, RI	
Assistant Teaching Professor of East Asian Studies, Department of East Asian Studies		2021 - Present
Visiting Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies		2018 - 2021
International Christian University	Tokyo, Japan	
Summer Course Instructor		2019
University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA	
Lecturer, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations		2016 - 2018
University of Hawaii at Mānoa	Honolulu, HI	
Instructor, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures		2013 - 2016
Boston University	Boston, MA	
Adjunct Lecturer, Department of World Languages & Literatures		2011 – 2013, Summer of 2016, 2017
Boston College	Chestnut Hill, MA	
Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Eastern, Slavic, and German Studies		Spring 2009, 2011 – 2013
Wheaton College	Norton, MA	
Adjunct Lecturer of Japanese, Program coordinator, Department of Asian Studies		
Established Japanese program		2006 - 2011
Assistant Director/Study Abroad Advisor, Center for Global Education		2005 - 2008
Japanese Language School of Greater Boston	Medford, MA	
Japanese instructor for children (11-17 years old)		2006 - 2013
Third-grade teacher		2004 - 2006

Teaching:

Brown University	
JAPN0100, 0200	Basic Japanese (JAPN0100 Course Director, Fall 2021-Fall 2024; JAPN0200 Course Director, Summer 2021, Spring 2022)
JAPN0300, 0400	Intermediate Japanese (Course Director, Fall 2018-Spring 21)

JAPN0500, 0600	Advanced Japanese I (JAPN0600 Course Director, Spring 2024)
JAPN0700, 800	Advanced Japanese II (Course Director, Fall 2025-present)
JAPN0812	Japanese Language and Society through Contemporary Film [RPP course] (Spring, 2023, 2025)
JAPN0920D	Japanese Language and Society through Contemporary Film [New course, Race, Power, Privilege (RPP) course], (Spring 2021)
EAST0413	Explore Japan: Multicultural/ethnic Communities [New: Summer Global Course]
Honors Thesis Advisor	COLT 1990 (Fall 2023-Spring 2024)

International Christian University

Summer Course in Japanese C7 (Advanced Japanese)

University of Pennsylvania

JPAN 011	Beginning Japanese I
JPAN 111, 112	Beginning Japanese III, IV
JPAN 211, 212	Intermediate Japanese I, II (Course Coordinator)
Launched and organized Japanese Language Table (2017-2018)	

University of Hawaii at Manoa

JPN 101, 102	Elementary Japanese
JPN 201, 202	Intermediate Japanese
JPN 212	Intermediate Japanese for Oral Communication II
JPAN 301	Third-Year Japanese I
JPN 308	Special Japanese Reading and Writing (for bilingual speakers) (Course Coordinator)
JPN 402	Fourth-Year Japanese II (Course Coordinator)
JPN 403	Fourth-Year Japanese for Advanced Speakers I (for bilingual speakers) (Course Coordinator)
Advising	Japanese major students

Boston University

LJ111, 112	Elementary Japanese
LJ211, 212	Intermediate Japanese
LJ386	Translation course (Assistant)

Boston College

SL024	Elementary Japanese
SL063	Intermediate Japanese
SL167, 168	Third-Year Japanese (Course Coordinator)
SL257, 258	Advanced Japanese (Course Coordinator)

Wheaton College

JPN101A, B	Elementary Japanese (Course Coordinator)
JPN201A, B	Intermediate Japanese (Course Coordinator)
JPN298A, B	Independent Study

Education:

University of Hawaii at Mānoa

Honolulu, HI

Advanced Graduate Certificate (AGC) 2016
Certificate program in Second Language Studies

Columbia University

NY, NY

Master of Arts in Japanese Pedagogy 2011

Mount Mary College

Milwaukee, WI

Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration 1990

Training:

ACTFL OPI Assessment Workshop

Wellesley College, MA

2012

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

Japanese Teacher Training Workshop 2006

Research Interests:

- Critical pedagogy
- Multiliteracies
- Multilingual/multicultural education
- Heritage language education
- Extensive reading
- Translation in second language learning

Publications:

- “Sense of Belonging among Japanese Language Teachers and Its Influence on Teaching Practice: Insights from a Professional Learning Community,” [*Proceedings of the 32nd Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum*](#). 171-180. (2026).
- “Language Education for Co-Creating the Future: The Power of Community and Vision.” With Kazuko Saito, et al. [*Proceedings of the 31st Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum*](#). 237-247. (2025).
- “Anti-racist Pedagogy in Advanced Japanese Language Course.” [*Proceedings of the 30th Central Association of Teachers of Japanese Conference*](#), Chicago, IL. (2025)
- “Leveraging Online Professional Learning Communities to Address the Challenges in Japanese Language Education: The Case of the Boston x New York Study Group.” With Saito, Kazuko, et al. WorldCALL [*Official Conference Proceedings*](#). DOI: [10.22492/issn.2759-1182.2023.12](#). (2023)
- “Japanese Language Education: toward Social Justice.” [*Proceedings of the 28th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum*](#). 258-268. (2022).
- “Zainichi Koreans and Japan as a Diverse Society: Learning and Identity in an Intermediate Japanese Course.” [*Proceedings of the 27th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum*](#). 212-225. (2021).

- “Diversity and Inclusion in Material Development.” [*Proceedings of the 2020 SEATJ Conference*](#). 29-48. (2020).
- “Diversity and Inclusion for Japanese Education: What We Can Learn from a Negotiated Syllabus for a Course Designed for Japanese Heritage Language Learners.” [*Proceedings of the 25th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum*](#). 304-318. (2019).

Forthcoming:

- *Social Justice in Japanese Language Teaching*. With Sugimori, N., Miyagi-Lusthaus, H. Pelgrave Macmillan.

Conference/Workshop Presentations:

- “Sense of Belonging among Japanese Language Teachers and Its Influence on Teaching Practice: Insights from a Professional Learning Community,” The 32nd Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ, May 2026.
- “Reflaming Learning through Translation: Fostering Critical Thinking and Awareness of Diversity in Advanced Japanese Education in the Age of AI,” presentation, The AATJ 2026 Annual Spring Conference, Vancouver, BC, Canada, March 2026.
- “Learning Japanese, Teaching Japanese: From Learners to Educators,” **Moderator** for panel discussion of the Boston x NY Joint Study Group’s 4th Anniversary event *From Learners to Teachers: Diversifying Perspectives & Fostering Connections within the Teachers’ Community*, hosted online, supported by Japan Foundation Los Angeles, January 2026.
- “SOFLA in Action: Professional Growth for Educators,” panel presentation (Saito, K., Sperbeck, M., Takahashi, A.), 2025 Global Learning for an Open World (GLOW) Conference, hosted online, November 2025.
- “Language Education for Co-Creating the Future: The Power of Community and Vision,” poster presentation (Saito, K., Sperbeck, M., Takahashi, A., Hiramatsu S.), The 31 st Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ, May 2025.
- “Engagement of Boston-New York Study Group (BNYSG): Education with Vision,” online BNYSG group presentation hosted by Commemorative Lecture for the Retirement of Dr. Yasuhiko Tosaku of UC San Diego, September 2024.
- “Human Library in Japanese Language Education: To become educators who can effectively engage with diverse students.” **Interactive Workshop**, main organizer, (Asakura, N., Saito, K., Takahashi, A.), The 2024 International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE), Madison, WI, August 2024.
- “*Jibunrashiku*: Inclusive pedagogy centering the diverse identities of Japanese language learners.” **Interactive Workshop**, organizing member (Hanaoka, V, Hoshi, S), The 2024 International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE), Madison, WI, August 2024.
- “Anti-racist Pedagogy: Case of Advanced Japanese Course *Japanese Language and Society through Contemporary Film*” The 30th Central Association of Teachers of Japanese Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2024.
- “Beyond Textbook-learning: Global Talk for Beginning Japanese Learners,” panel presentation “Fostering Empathy and Diverse Mindset through International Exchanges (Okubo, N., Yoo, E., Nakajima, Y., Graham, T.),” The Ninth International Conference on

the Development and Assessment of Intercultural Competence, hosted online by The University of Arizona, AZ, February 2024.

- “Japanese Language and Society through Contemporary Film,” panel presentation (Sugimori N., Miyagi-Lusthaus, H.) titled “Social Justice through Multimedia: Beyond Diversity and Inclusion,” The ACTFL 2023 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2023.
- “Leveraging Online Professional Learning Communities to Address the Challenges in Japanese Language Education: The Case of the Boston x New York Study Group,” online presentation with BNYSG, WorldCALL 2023 Conference, Chiang Mai, Thailand, November 2023.
- “Incorporating Dialects into Japanese Language Education: Why and How?” The 7th Boston-New York Study Group Workshop - Five-minute Spotlights, NECTJ End of Summer Workshop 2023, hosted online, August 2023.
- “Exploring the Benefits of ‘Tiny *Tadoku*’: Practical Insights from Seven Schools across the Northeastern United States,” panel presentation (Saito, K., Sperbeck, M., Takahashi, A.), The 36th JLTANE Conference, Trinity College, CT, May 2023.
- “Inclusive Teaching through the Lens of Social Justice: Microaggressions in Everyday Conversations,” Brown Center for Languages Studies Spring 2022 Showcase, May 2022.
- “Japanese Language Education toward Social Justice.” The 28th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ, April 2022.
- “Japanese Language Education from the Perspective of Diversity and Inclusion,” panel presentation (Yamazaki, C., Kobuchi-Philip, M.), ASIANetwork 29th Annual Conference, April 2022.
- “Promoting Anti-racism in Japanese Language Education: Microaggressions in Everyday Conversation,” Modern Languages Conference ’22 Cross-Talk: Conversation on Race & Language, Center for Language Education, Brown University, February 2022.
- “*Zainichi* Koreans and Japan as a Diverse Society: Learning and Identity in an Intermediate Japanese Course,” The 27th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ, May 2021.
- “Efforts to incorporate social justice topics into elementary/intermediate Japanese courses: outcomes, challenges, and future plans,” panel presentation (Sugimori N., Miyagi Lusthaus, H.), The 67th Annual Northeast Conference of the Teaching of Foreign Languages, April 2021.
- “Japanese language education through the lens of social justice using *Zainichi* Korean Children’s Story,” panel presentation (Sugimori N., Miyagi Lusthaus, H.) titled “How to approach social justice topics in elementary and intermediate Japanese courses,” The American Association Teachers of Japanese 2021 Virtual Spring Conference, March 2021.
- “Efforts to Develop Social Justice Themes in Japanese Language Education,” The ACTFL 2020 Virtual Conference, November 2020.
- “Issues of diversity and inclusion in material development,” The 35th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Teachers of Japanese, Memphis, TN, February 2020.
- “How to incorporate social justice topics into elementary/intermediate courses,” Panel presentation titled “Teaching Language for Social Justice in Globalized Japan (Sugimori N., Miyagi Lusthaus, H.),” The International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019:

Perspectives Conference, Purdue University Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN, November 2019.

- “Diversity and Inclusion for Japanese Education: What we can learn from a negotiated syllabus for a course designed for Japanese heritage language learners,” The 25th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum, Princeton, NJ, May 2019.
- “Integrating Social Justice Topics into Elementary and Intermediate Japanese Language Courses: Toward a Deeper Understanding of Contemporary Japanese Culture and Society,” panel presentation titled “Towards an Understanding of the Increasingly Diverse Japanese Society: Why Cover Social Justice Topics in Japanese Language Education? How should they be incorporated? (Sugimori N., Miyagi Lusthaus, H.),” The AATJ 2019 Annual Spring Conference, Denver, CO, March 2019.
- “Why do we still avoid taboo topics in Japanese class? – Social justice: essential content for Japanese language education in the 21st century,” The 28th Annual Conference of the Japanese Language Teachers Association of New England, Dartmouth College, MA, August 2018.
- “Time for Change: How can we approach and integrate social justice topics in the Japanese language classroom?” panel presentation titled “Leaving Our ‘Comfort Zone’: Incorporating Social Justice in Japanese Language Classes (Sugimori N., Miyagi Lusthaus, H.),” The Association for Asian Studies 2018 Annual Conference, Washington, DC, March 2018.
- “Negotiated Syllabus for Teaching Japanese Heritage Language Learners,” The ACTFL 2016 Annual Conference, Boston, MA, November 2016.
- “A Negotiated Syllabus for Japanese Heritage Language Learners: An attempt to motivate JHL learners to develop reading and writing skills in Japanese,” The AATJ 2016 Spring Conference, Seattle, WA, March 2016.
- “Writing Task for Elementary Learners as a Communication Activity Using Blogs,” The AATJ 2015 Spring Conference, Chicago, IL, March 2015.
- “Searching for the Third Space through Japanese Language/Transnational Literature: What the New Genre Can Offer to Japanese Language Learners,” panel presentation titled “Linguistic, Cultural, and Identity Diversity in Japanese Language Education (Kabe, Y., Kuo, S.),” The AATJ 2014 Spring Conference, Philadelphia, PA, March 2014.
- “Critical pedagogy and the use of *Nihongo Bungaku*: Transnational literature in Japanese Language education – An experiment in an advanced Japanese course,” The AATJ 2013 Spring Conference, San Diego, CA, March 2013.
- “Between JHL and JFL Courses.” The 12th Northeast Council of Teachers of Japanese Japanese Heritage Language Conference, New York, NY, August 2012.
- “Use of Japanese Language Literature/Transnational Literature in Advanced Japanese Course,” The 12th JLTANE Conference, Trinity College, CT, June 2012.
- “Bilingual Writing Proficiency Research –the Case of the Boston Japanese Language School,” The 2011 Mother Tongue, Heritage Language, and Bilingual Education (MHB) Research Conference, Kyoto, August 2011.
- “Pilot Research for Launching ‘*Hosyūkō* Teachers Support Group’,” The 2011 Mother Tongue, Heritage Language, and Bilingual Education (MHB) Research Conference, Kyoto, August 2011.

Grants and Awards:

- Community-Based Learning and Research Course Mini-Grant, \$82.5, Brown University, 2025
- Course Development Grant (Race, Power, and Privilege) \$880, Brown University, 2025.
- UTRA Award (Advanced course development: Translation of films “GO”, “昨日何食べた (What did you eat yesterday?)”, “焼肉ドラゴン (Yakiniku Dragon)”, Summer 2024
- UTRA Award (Advanced course material development: Translation of Nihongo Bungaku “開墾地 [A Cleaning]”, 2023-2024
- Remote-Accessible (REM) Course Development Funds, \$2,500, Sheridan Center, Brown University, 2023.
- Brown University Campus-Based Grants for a panel presentation, titled "Social Justice through Multimedia: Beyond Diversity and Inclusion," and a committee meeting on working projects (the Boston x New York Study Group, the Online Human Library for Japanese Teachers, and the Regional Dialects Collection for Material Development) at The ACTFL 2023 conference, \$1,400, Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, Brown University, 2023.
- The 2023 Problem-Solving Course Design Institute, \$1,000, Brown University, 2023.
- Course Development Grant (Documentary Film) \$2,230, Brown University, 2022.
- UTRA Award (Intermediate course material development), Summer 2020
- Course Development Grant (Documentary Film) \$2,000, Brown University, 2020.
- Japan Teaching Materials Purchase Grant \$1,000, Japanese Foundation, 2020.
- Engaged Course Development Mini-Grant for Community Engagement \$430, Brown University, 2020.
- Brown University Campus-Based Grants for a project "Toward Diversity and Inclusion: Incorporating Social Justice Topics into Japanese Language Teaching", \$1,800, Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, Brown University, 2019.
- Conference Travel Grant \$700, Center for East Asian Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2016, 2017.
- East Asian Languages and Literatures Department Travel Award \$1,000, University of Hawaii at Mānoa, 2016.
- College of Languages, Linguistics & Literature Faculty Development Award \$300, University of Hawaii at Mānoa for book purchase, 2016.
- Travel Award from University Research Council \$1,000, University of Hawaii at Mānoa, 2014, 2015.
- Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Summer Program \$3,000, Middlebury College, 2012.
- 2nd prize for essay “Between Different Cultures” for an essay contest sponsored by Hokubei Mainichi Newspaper, San Francisco, CA, 2003.

Service Activities:

Japanese Program

- Events Committee (Fall 2023-present)
- Inter-college Language Table Planning Committee (Fall 2020-present)
- Japan Week Committee, Brown University (Fall 2018-present)
- Brown Language Table (Fall 2018-present)
- Japanese Language Placement Test Committee, Brown University (Fall 2020-present)
- Japanese Extensive Reading Group organizer (Spring 2019-Fall 2020, Summer 2021)

Department/University

- A Day on College Hill Mock Teaching (Spring 2026)
- Roundtable Panelist: 'From Classroom to Community: Rethinking Learning Spaces,' Diversity and Inclusion Committee event (November 2025)
- EAS Language Pedagogy Colloquium, facilitator for a table discussion on 'Effective Integration of AI Tools in the Classroom' (April 2024)
- Center for Language Studies Consortium Committee (Spring 2024)
- Visiting Japanese Lecturer Search Committee (Summer 2022)
- Diversity and Inclusion Action Planning Committee (Fall 2021-present)
- Exploratory Advising: Freshmen, Sophomores, Transfer students (Fall 2021-present)

Profession

- NECTJ State Chapter Representative (February 2026-present)
- NECTJ Speech Contest volunteer judge for first evaluation (December 2025)
- NECTJ-Mynavi Door to Japan Planning Committee (Fall 2025-present)
- J-Path Network Collaborative Researcher (Spring 2024-present)
- Online Human Library for Japanese Teachers Organizing Committee (Spring 2023-present)
- Boston-NY Study Group Organizing Committee (Fall 2022-present)
- Japanese Dialect Project, ACTFL 22 Task Force, AATJ Booth, Boston (Fall 2022-present)
- Critical Language Scholarship Program for the 2023 overseas summer program application evaluator (December 2022, 2023)

Memberships:

- American Council on the Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ)
- AATJ SIG: Professional Development, Translating and Interpreting, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, Japanese Heritage Language
- Northeast Council of Teachers of Japanese (NECTJ)

(Updated May 31, 2026)