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## A Message from the Director : Dr.WATANABE Yasuaki

Welcome to the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL).

This institute was founded in 1972. With its 50th anniversary next year, it has nearly for half a century contributed to Japanese literature studies and related fields. NIJL started its library services in July 1977. Sifting through my personal memories, I entered a university Japanese literature program the following year. Urged on by older students in my program, I visited this institute in Togoshi (Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo) at that time. I remember being amazed at the fact that I could easily view books and materials I had struggled to get my hands on and that the library staff would even make copies for me. In the 40-odd years since then, the range of materials that NIJL offers has dramatically expanded, and the quality of its services has also remarkably improved. All of its databases have been upgraded to an astonishing degree. COVID-19 has threatened our lives and activities, putting major limitations on our surveys and data collection since last year; in these conditions, the databases have more than ever demonstrated their effectiveness.



Of these databases, the Database of Premodern Japanese Works has been a centerpiece. It was developed from the “Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Premodern Japanese Texts” (NIJL-NW Project), which the institute has taken a leading role in promoting since 2014. In this project, research institutions in Japan and overseas collaborate to create data comprising 300,000 images while also promoting international collaborative research. Furthermore, as the successor to this project, preparations are steadily moving forward on the “Model Building in Humanities through Data-driven Problem-solving” Project, which was selected as a part of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Road Map 2020. The aim is to have different fields of study collaborate with each other and expand internationally through the use of the massive volumes of accumulated data. A major part of our work is building a network for researchers to connect with each other, irrespective of their locations, and promote collaborative research.

On November 1, 2020, we inaugurated the “Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship” with the participation of 58 organizations in Japan and overseas (as of March 31, 2021, there are 78 participating organizations). With this consortium, we aim to build a space for participating organizations to work together through online-based activities related to premodern Japanese texts, such as training human talent, sharing information, and exchanging opinions on databases.

Ultimately, all information, whatever its type, is there to be used by human beings. It is people who take it in and turn it into sustenance for their own intelligence. There is no point in wasting resources by husbanding them too closely. Classical texts are what originally teach us how not to drown in a sea of information and how best to live within diverse value systems. We will unearth unknown ancient materials and texts, restore them and make them available to the modern world by making them public, and show that it is possible to share their values. My hope is that we will take the lead in this mission, which is incumbent upon those involved with premodern texts.

# Overview

## The Goals of NIJL

This institute strives to serve researchers in the field of Japanese literature and those working in various other humanities fields by collecting a massive archive of materials related to Japanese literature from all corners of the country in one location. NIJL is a comprehensive research institute and functions as a foundation for the broader promotion of advanced collaborative research into Japanese literature. Building upon the achievements of nearly five decades of accumulated research into premodern Japanese literature, NIJL works in cooperation with other research institutes and researchers—both in Japan and overseas—to harness the rich intellectual resources of premodern Japanese texts, thereby pursuing the development of innovative research that cuts across traditional disciplinary boundaries.

## A Brief Chronology of NIJL

1966 December	The Science Council of Japan advises the Japanese government to establish a “Center for Research on Japanese Language and Literature” (provisional title).
1970 September	The Council for Science and Technology reports to the Minister of Education on its emergency establishment of a “Center for Research on Japanese Literature” (provisional title).
1971 April	Funding is allocated to the Ministry of Science, Education and Culture for investigations regarding the provision of a facility to house archival materials for Japanese literary study.
1972 May	The National Institute of Japanese Literature (official name) is established, consisting of a management division, a documents and materials division, and a research and information division.
1977 June	Inaugural ceremony is held.
1977 July	Library services commence.
1979 April	Library services division established.
1987 April	Online search services set up for the database of NIJL's Microfilm Materials catalog and Premodern Japanese Manuscripts catalog.
1992 April	Online search services made available for the catalog of research articles on Japanese Literature.
2002 November	Ceremony held in commemoration of NIJL's 30th anniversary.
2003 April	Department of Japanese Literature is established in the School of Cultural and Social Studies within the Graduate University for Advanced Studies as a foundational institution for research.
2004 April	Internal reorganization at NIJL after the incorporation of its parent institution, which is hereafter named the Institute for the Humanities of the Inter-University Research Institute Corporation.
2008 March	NIJL is moved to its current location in Midori-chō, Tachikawa City.
2013 April	The Center for a Premodern Japanese Texts Database is established.
2014 April	The Center for a Premodern Japanese Texts Database is renamed as the Center for Collaborative Research on Premodern Japanese Texts.
2019 February	Founding of the Tama Academic and Cultural Platform “Plat NIJL.”
2020 November	The Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship is established.

## About the Facility

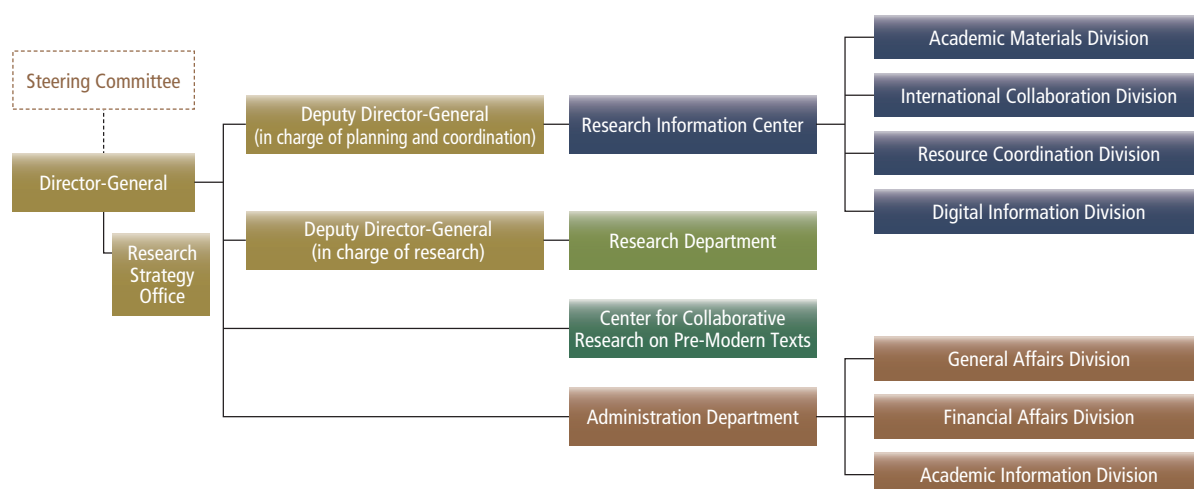
In August 1989 and again in June 1993, governmental meetings were held to discuss a proposal on relocating a number of national institutions to reduce the increasing congestion of people and the overconcentration of national resources in the center of Tokyo's metropolitan area. It was in accordance with decisions reached during these meetings that NIJL was moved in March 2008, from Shinagawa Ward to Tachikawa City, outside the central metropolitan area.

The facility was designed to be fully accessible, with visitor convenience in mind.

The reading and exhibition rooms are open to visitors. The reading room provides open access to all reference books and a relaxed, spacious atmosphere for reading. The exhibition room holds regular exhibits of premodern texts from NIJL's collection.



## Organization



## Steering Committee

### Non-NIJL Members

ADACHI Jun	Deputy Director General, National Institute of Informatics
IIKURA Yoichi	Professor, Osaka University Graduate School of Letters
OSUMI Noriko	Vice President and Chief Librarian, Tohoku University
OTANI Setsuko	Professor, Faculty of Arts and Literature, Seijo University
KIN Bunkyo	Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University
KONAGAYA Yuki	Inspector General, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
SASAKI Takahiro	Chair, Keio Institute of Oriental Classics
SUZUKI Toshiyuki	Professor, Chuo University Faculty of Letters
TAKAGISHI Akira	Associate Professor, University of Tokyo Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology
TAKANO Toshihiko	Professor Emeritus, Gakushuin University
TANI Tomoko	Professor, Ferris University Faculty of Letters
TOEDA Hirokazu	Professor, Waseda University Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences

### NIJL Members

IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Deputy Director General (Planning and Coordination)
UNNO Keisuke	Professor, Research Department (Head of Research)
OCHIAI Hiroshi	Professor, Research Department (Head of Research)
KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Deputy Director General (Research)
SAITO Maori	Professor, Research Department
FUJIZANE Kumiko	Professor, Research Department (Head of Research)
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Professor, Research Department (Head of Research)
WATANABE Koichi	Professor – Research Department

## Executive Staff

Director General	WATANABE Yasuaki
Deputy Director General (in charge of Planning and Coordination)	IRIGUCHI Atsushi
Deputy Director General (in charge of Research)	KANSAKU Ken'ichi

### Research Department

Head of Research	UNNO Keisuke
Head of Research	OCHIAI Hiroshi
Head of Research	NISHIMURA Shintaro
Head of Research	FUJIZANE Kumiko
Head of Research	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki

### Research Information Center

Director (dual post)	IRIGUCHI Atsushi
Manager of Academic Materials Division (dual post)	UNNO Keisuke
Manager of International Collaboration Division (dual post)	FUJIZANE Kumiko
Manager of Resource Coordination Division (dual post)	NISHIMURA Shintaro
Manager of Digital Information Division (dual post)	OCHIAI Hiroshi

### The Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI), School of Cultural and Social Studies

Chair of Major in Japanese Literature	SAITO Maori
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### Center for Collaborative Research on Premodern Texts

Director (dual post)	YAMAMOTO Kazuaki
General Manager (dual post)	KAWANO Hiroshi

### Administration Department

Director	YAMAMOTO Shin'ichi
Manager	KAWANO Hiroshi
Manager of General Affairs Division	IRIYAMA Hiroki
Manager of Financial Affairs Division	SHINDO Hikaru
Manager of Academic Information Division	HAYAKAWA Tomohiro

# Outline of Current Research Being Conducted at NIJL

NIJL, while providing a research infrastructure through its organization of archival materials related to Japanese literature, is also engaged in the following collaborative research projects, thus setting up joint research committee that include outside researchers, with the aim of promoting the further development of Japanese literary studies within Humanities as a whole.

## Core Research Projects

There are currently three core research projects in progress, each of which makes fundamental contributions to the fields of Japanese literary and archival studies and serves as a foundation for research in the future.

- **“Comprehensive Research on Regional Cultural Centers in the 19th Century: The case of the Hirose Family”** (2019–2023)  
Main Researcher: IRIGUCHI Atsushi (Professor at NIJL)
- **“Research on Establishing a System for Preserving and Using Archives through Regional Co-creation”** (2019–2021)  
Main Researcher: NISHIMURA Shintaro (Professor at NIJL)
- **“A Comprehensive Study of Searches on the Historical Japanese Books Database”** (2015–2023)  
Main Researcher: AIDA Mitsuru (Associate Professor at NIJL)

## Special Research Projects

There are four special projects being conducted to promote the study of Japanese literature. All projects were selected through a public application process.

### Public Research (General)

General public research projects, by making use of the various materials stored at NIJL (microfilm documents, original manuscripts, etc.), seek to offer new perspectives on Japanese literature and related disciplines that are both creative and broad in scope. These projects encourage the involvement of young researchers.

- **A Venture into Comprehensive Cataloging of Printed Editions Using Micro/Digital Materials in the NIJL Collections** (2021–2023)  
Main Researcher: TAKAGI Hiroaki, Adjunct Lecturer at KINDAI University (Visiting Researcher at NIJL)
- **Research and Material Preparation of Kamakura Period Texts of Medieval Stories: A Focus on the Tale of Sagoromo** (2021–2023)  
Main Researcher: MATSUMOTO Oki, Associate Professor at Kansai University

### Public Research (Projects)

Research project members are called on to conduct individual cutting-edge research under broad-ranging and overarching themes, with the aim of discovering new directions for research through exchanges between participants.

- **“Basic Research on Documents on Loan from the Research Institute for Japanese Music Historiography, Ueno Gakuen University”** (2020–2022)  
Main Researcher: KANDA Kunihiko, Full-Time Lecturer at Hanazono University
- **Basic Research on the NIJL Saizō Kidō Collection** (2021)

# Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-Modern Japanese Texts

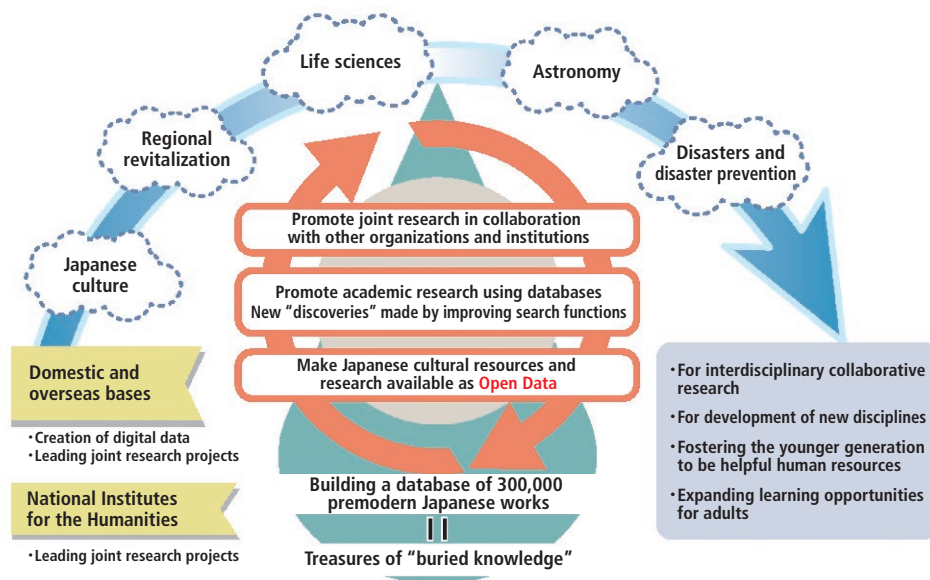
(abbreviation: NIJL-NW Project)

This project, headed by NIJL, is aimed at achieving the full digitization of approximately 300,000 volumes' worth of Japanese literary texts in collaboration with universities and other institutions both inside and outside of Japan. These images are then incorporated into NIJL's pre-existing bibliographical database to produce a foundation for further research "Database of Premodern Japanese Works," which allows free search of images, the use of which can contribute to the construction of an international collaborative research network.

Such digitization of premodern Japanese works is also helpful against the various dangers that valuable cultural properties face (damage and deterioration of original archival materials and loss through natural disaster), contributing thereby to their successful preservation for inheritance by future generations.

We will promote collaborative research under this project on an international scale, not only limiting it to humanities but extending it also to the natural sciences, by utilizing the database to promote a fusion of humanities and science approaches.

## NIJL-NW Project Summary



## Implementation Plan

The scheduled period for this overarching project spans 10 years, from FY2014 to FY2023. We are working in general to promote collaborative research projects at an international scale and expand the "Database of Premodern Japanese Works" in concert with the themes of such collaborative research projects.

Images of premodern Japanese works will be collected, classified by field, and progressively made available to the public.

### ① Construction of a database of premodern Japanese works

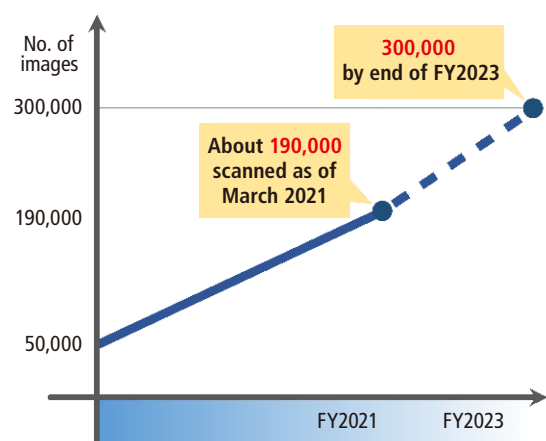
- ◆ Scanning 300,000 volumes of text
- ◆ Operating of the "Database of Premodern Japanese Works"
- ◆ Improvement of search functions/provision of multilingual functionality

### ② Establishment of an international collaborative research network

- ◆ Expansion of a network built on cross-disciplinary fusion

### ③ Promotion of international collaborative research

- ◆ Cultivation of research based on cross-disciplinary fusion
- ◆ Development of a field of "Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies"
- ◆ Promotion of research in the field of documentary tourism resources



Plan for creating data of 300,000 images

## Project Implementation Framework

For its partners in this project, NIJL is working with a number of other domestic organizations belonging to the National Institutes for the Humanities, and with bases at 20 public and private domestic universities, in addition to a number of research institutions in Japan and overseas, all alongside its cooperation with research institutions such as the National Institute of Informatics and the National Institute of Polar Research.

The Center for Collaborative Research on Premodern Japanese Texts is run by the Center's Steering Committee, the Network of Premodern Japanese Texts Committee, the International Collaborative Research Network Committee, the Base Cooperation Committee, and the Joint Council on Reporting on the Use of Materials, while drawing upon the opinions of experienced academic figures and the larger research community. A NW Project Implementation Committee was established at NIJL, under the direction of the Center's Steering Committee, to facilitate the understanding of all faculty members regarding this project as a whole and clarify their roles and responsibilities.

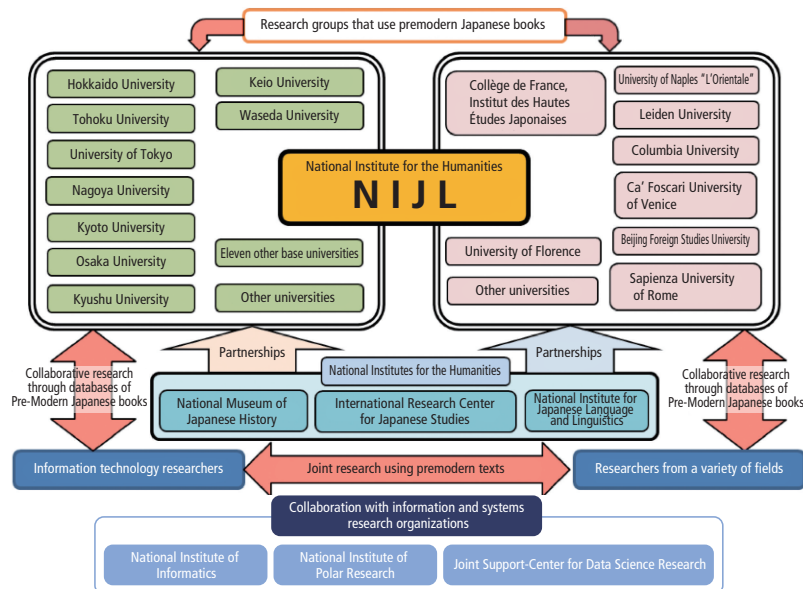


Diagram of the International Collaborative Research Network

## FY2020 Digitalization Progress (Approximately 38,000 Items in Total)

### ● Base Universities: Digital Image Production

Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, University of Tsukuba, Ochanomizu University, Keio University, University of Tokyo, Nagoya University, Otani University, Kyoto University, Doshisha University, Osaka University, Kansai University, Kobe University, Hiroshima University, and Kyushu University

### ● Base Universities: Digital Image Production (on-site)

Tohoku University, University of Tsukuba, Nagoya University, Kyoto University, and Kyushu University

### ● Field-specific Highly Specialized Information Collection: Digital Image Production

Hirosaki City Public Library, Ibaraki University, Jissen Women's University, Seijo University Institute of Folklore Studies, Senshu University, Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Tokyo Gakugei University, Nippon Sport Science University, Yokohama National University, Mukogawa Women's University, Kyoto Institute Library and Archives, Nara Prefectural Library and Information Center, and Seiko Saigon-ji Temple

### ● Field-specific Highly Specialized Information Collection: Digital Image Production (on-site)

Miyagi University of Education, Ken'ikai Library, Senshu University, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Hitotsubashi University, Hosei University, Seiko Saigon-ji Temple, Mukogawa Women's University, Ehime University, Nakatsu History Museum, and NIJL

### ● Digitization of Microfilm

Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, University of Tokyo, Nagoya University, Osaka University, Kansai University, and NIJL

### ● Provision of Existing Digital Images

Akita University, Ibaraki University, Chiba University, Ochanomizu University, National Archives of Japan, National Diet Library, Tokyo Gakugei University, Keio University Institute of Oriental Classics, Toyota City Library, Kogakkan University, Kyoto University, Kyoto Institute Library and Archives, Osaka University, Tottori Board of Education Culture Division Center for Ancient Culture, University of the Ryukyus, and Freer Gallery of Art



# The Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works

The “Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works,” which is the basis for the NIJL-NW Project, was made available to the public in 2017. This database not only includes works of literature but also premodern documents related to medicine and science, as well as various other fields. It can therefore serve as a basis for interdisciplinary research with researchers from outside humanities through collaboration with universities in Japan and other countries. This database will ultimately be expanded to include as many as 300,000 works.

**Website:**  
<https://kotenseki.nijl.ac.jp/>



## Summary and Features of the Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works

As the only portal site for premodern Japanese works, this database can be used to view the abundant bibliographic data that has been accumulated over the years by NIJL, as well as to browse digital images of premodern Japanese works in the collections of various organizations both in Japan and overseas.

### Point 1: Easy to Search

In addition to searches using titles or keywords, a number of different searches are possible, for example, image tags, full texts, recommended keywords, and highlighted contents.



Search Top Page

<https://kotenseki.nijl.ac.jp/>

### Point 2: Easy to Cite

Adoption of the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) system, which attaches unique international identifiers to each electronic data record, guarantees permanent access and allows for easy citation in publications such as research articles.

**DOI**

<https://doi.org/10.20730/200021913>

Conversion

**新日本古典籍  
総合データベース**

<http://kotenseki.nijl.ac.jp/biblio/200021913>

Even if the database's URL changes, the DOI stays the same, ensuring no broken links.

<https://www.doi.org/>

### Point 3: Easy to Use

Use of IIF (International Image Interoperability Framework), a new digital archive standard, facilitates easy sharing and reuse of images even between different digital archives.



Image Viewer

<http://iif.io/>



The following pamphlet is provided for reference when using the database:  
“Pamphlet for the Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works (with quick guide)”  
Available at:  
<http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/>

This QR code leads to a PDF file of the pamphlet.



## Image Sample from the Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works



*Taishokan* (Nara *ehon*/Data Unknown)

One of the “Nara *ehon*,” a group of illustrated books made from the late Muromachi period to the early Edo period. This image depicts the story of Fujiwara no Kamatari, making generous use of colors such as gold, silver, and vermillion.

● DOI : <https://doi.org/10.20730/200016463>

# Working toward an Open Data Archive

For premodern Japanese works to be studied and used more freely, we are working toward making our materials more available on an open data basis. To this end, the following three data sets have been made available to the public on the website of the Center for Open Data in Humanities (CODH) at the Joint Support Center for Data Science Research, as a part of our collaboration with CODH and the National Institute of Informatics, both within the Research Organization of Information and Systems.

All three data sets are made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike (CC BY-SA) license, making these data accessible to anyone who agrees to the conditions of that license.

NIJL open data website: [http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/data\\_set\\_list.html](http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/data_set_list.html)

## ● Data set of Pre-Modern Japanese Text (PMJT)

Size: 3,126 items (as of March 2020)

In addition to Japanese literary texts, such as important cultural properties and other rare books, this set includes all kinds of premodern Japanese books in the collections of NIJL on, e.g., medicine, science, and industry, as well as books digitized by NIJL from the collections of the Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture, such as cook books.

Contents: (1) Digital images of premodern Japanese books (2) Bibliographical data (3) Textual data (4) Tag data  
Website: <http://codh.rois.ac.jp/pmjt/>

## ● Kuzushi-ji Data set (formerly the Data set of PMJT Character Shapes)

Size: Character types: 4,645, Characters: 684,165 (as of January 2019)

Data on character shapes have been gathered from 28 different texts, the collections of both NIJL, and the Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture.

Contents: (1) Corrected digital images of original texts (2) Character coordinate data (3) Character image data (4) Work reports

Website: <http://codh.rois.ac.jp/char-shape/>

## ● Data set of Edo Cooking Recipes

Size: 107 items

There are modern Japanese translations for 43 items, 34 of which have modern recipe data included.

Contents: (1) Digital images of original texts (2) Transliterated textual data (3) Modern Japanese translation data (4) Modern recipe data

Website: <http://codh.rois.ac.jp/edo-cooking/>

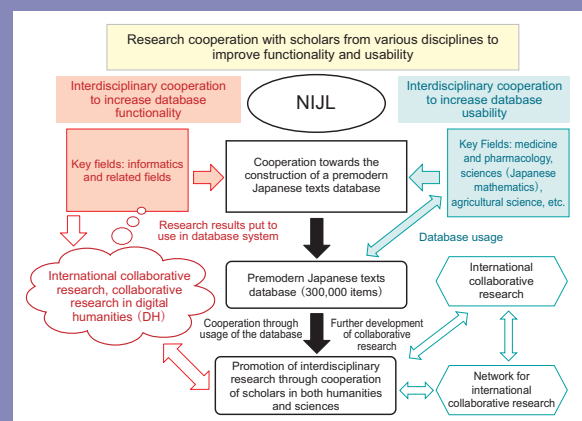
The data set is also available on the website of “Cookpad Edo Dishes.”

# Collaborative Research

The main objective of this project is to bring to life the vast collection of premodern Japanese works housed at NIJL and other institutions. This aspect will be achieved through the construction of a research network that connects researchers from various disciplines, both in Japan and overseas. To realize such a goal, this project seeks to construct, in cooperation with a number of domestic universities, a database of 300,000 fully digitized texts spanning the full variety of fields. In addition, we will pursue advanced collaborative research projects that involve the participation of scholars from a broad diversity of disciplines.

Since 2014, collaborative research projects of a variety of types have been conducted, including (1) “International Collaborative Research” projects that make use of premodern Japanese texts in broad perspective, engaging primarily with scholars overseas on research topics that allow Japanese culture to be examined as a whole; (2) “Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research” projects conducted with, e.g., scientific researchers with the aim of making use of information scattered throughout premodern Japanese texts from a variety of genres; (3) “Inter-institutional Collaborative Research” projects conducted in concert with peer institutions among the National Institutes for the Humanities—the National Museum of Japanese History, the National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, and the International Research Center for Japanese Studies; and Collaborative Research Projects for Further Research Development” to promote, e.g., advances in search functionality.

Special consideration has been made in all these collaborative research projects to encourage the participation of young or female scholars, as well as scholars from overseas, and several of these projects have won international acclaim, involving researchers from over 40 different fields.



## 《FY2021 Collaborative Research Projects》

### International Collaborative Research

#### ● Joint Research on Generating Metadata Linked to Images (2021–2023)

Unit A: Research on Generating Content Metadata (including its use as teaching material)

Unit B: Forming Digital-based Research Methods and Building International Information Bases

### Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research

#### ● 4D Meteorite Project (on meteorites) (2020–2023)

Collaborating organization: National Institute of Polar Research and others

#### ● Enhancing Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities and Sciences to Utilize Historical Records for the Reduction of Disaster-based Damage and Adaptation to Climate Change (2020–2023)

Collaborating organization: Ibaraki University Global and Local Environment Co-creation Institute and others

#### ● Research on the Revival and Usage of Cooking Methods and Seasonings (2016–2021)

Collaborating organization: Ritsumeikan University

#### ● Developing Educational Programs Using ICT Based on Images of Premodern Texts (2020–2023)

Collaborating organization: Shinshu University

#### ● Developing Educational Tools Using ICT Based on Images of Premodern Texts (2020–2023)

Collaborating organization: Toyota Technical College

#### ● Building the Foundations of Education and HR Training Programs on Digital Humanities and Arts (2021–2023)

Collaborating organization: International Institute for Digital Humanities and others

#### ● Rediscovering Japanese Culture Based on Writings (Food and Clothing) (2021–2023)

Collaborating organization: Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture and others

In addition, the Institute plans to develop collaborative research in new fields such as zymology, infectious diseases, and marine resources.

### Inter-institutional Collaborative Research

#### ● Development of a Field of Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective

Representative: FUJIZANE Kumiko (Professor, National Institute of Japanese Literature)

Individual Research Units:

- “Multidisciplinary Research on the Engi-shiki: Japan’s Ancient Encyclopedia”

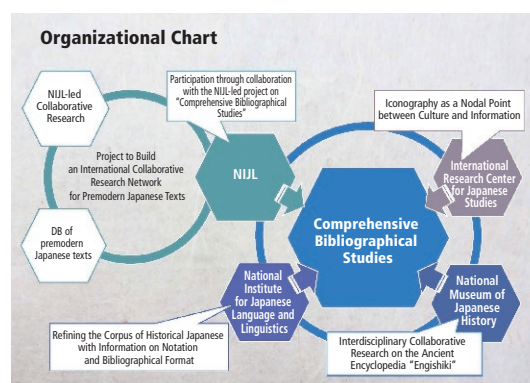
Representative: OGURA Shigeji (Associate Professor, National Museum of Japanese History)

- “Refining the Corpus of Historical Japanese with Information on Notation and Bibliographical Form”

Representative: TAKADA Tomokazu (Associate Professor, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics)

- “Visual Images as the Intersection of Culture and Information”

Representative: YAMADA Shoji (Professor, International Research Center for Japanese Studies)



### Collaborative Research Projects for Research & Development

NIJL conducts collaborative research for development to promote improved search functions

- Collaborative Research on Converting Images into Text (Toppan)
- Extracting Non-text Keywords Using Word-spotting and Other Methods (Future University Hakodate)
- Comprehensive Research on AI-to-Text Solutions (National Institute of Informatics, Center for Open Data in the Humanities)
- Research on Improving Search Functions and Applying Research on Pre-Modern Works (National Institute of Informatics, Center for Open Data in the Humanities)
- Developmental Research on Text Encoding Initiative (International Institute for Digital Humanities, Hokkaido Gakuen University, and others)
- Applied Research on Information Processing of Books as Materials with High-dimensional Processing of Multidimensional Optical Information (Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Jissen Women's University Bungei Material Laboratory)
- Collaborative Research on Improving Algorithms in Digital Image Production and Cataloging (British Library, Shirayuri Women's College)
- Research on Improving Digital Images (Colorizing, Improving Image Quality, etc.) (University of Tokyo Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies)
- Survey Research on Metadata Structuralizing (RDF Creation)
- Research on Next Release IIIF Viewer (University of Tokyo Historiographical Institute, International Institute for Digital Humanities)
- Developing Tools for Assisting in Bibliographics (Keio Institute of Oriental Classics, Joint Support Center for Data Science Research, and others)
- Studies on Research Tools Using Character Form Data (Nara National Research Institute of Culture Properties, National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics, and others)
- Preparatory Research on AI Translations into Modern Language (National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics and others)

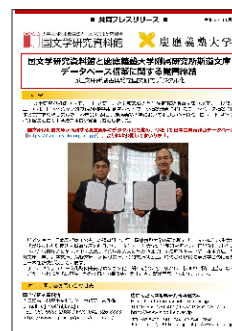
# Dissemination of Research Results and Public Relations Activities

To increase public awareness of these various projects, we are conducting press releases and live stream broadcasts of international conferences, in addition to promoting projects through activities that involve the participation of the public.

## Press Releases Conducted in 2020

We are actively conducting press releases about our own research results and the results of various collaborative research projects.

- April 6 (Mon), 2020 Digital publication of Index of Japanese Literature, a collection of information on pre-Edo period works
- June 17 (Wed), 2020 Digital publication of haiku collection materials by Kakegawa haiku poet Kakizono Rangyu (Rangyu Museum)
- July 9 (Thu), 2020 National Institute of Japanese Literature and the Pola Research Institute of Beauty and Culture collaborate and coordinate to publish cosmetic culture materials online (Pola Research Institute of Beauty and Culture)
- Sept 24 (Thu), 2020 Digital publication of the Tohoku University Kano Collection, “an encyclopedia of the classics, a treasure trove of Edo studies” (Tohoku University)
- Nov 24 (Tue), 2020 National Institute of Japanese Literature and Keio Institute of Oriental Classics sign a memorandum on building databases (Keio University)
- March 9 (Tue), 2021 Digital publication of valuable texts and premodern works conveying rare books on SENDAI local history and the Date clan



Released November 24



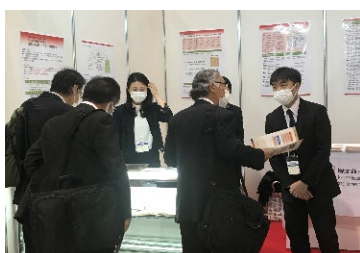
## NIJL-sponsored Symposia

- The 6th International Conference on Pre-Modern Japanese Texts  
The conference was held on Saturday, November 7, 2020, and was broadcasted live online again this year. Afterward, archival videos were posted on a special page on the center's website:  
[https:// www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/sympo2020.html](https://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/sympo2020.html)

## Other Activities

- At the 2020 Society for Japanese Linguistics Conference, a workshop entitled “Using NIJL’s Information Resources for Research in Japanese Linguistics” was held. (Sat/Sun October 24–25, 2020)

- At the 5th Kansai Educational ICT Exhibition, held in Osaka, NIJL had a booth with demonstrations of the Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works. There was also a lecture entitled “What’s Old is New Again: Learning the Wisdom of Our Ancestors”. (Thu/Fri, October 29–30, 2020)



5th Kansai Educational ICT Exhibition

- At the 22nd Library Fair & Forum, held online, NIJL presented content on the Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works, and introduced the topic of digital image production. (Sun–Mon, November 1–30, 2020)
- At the Tohoku University Kano Collection Digital Archive Symposium “Learning from Edo, Playing with Edo,” held online by Tohoku University, a panel discussion was held on the NIJL-NW Project. (Sun, December 20, 2020)

- At the “Pre-Modern Works through the Lens of Paper” Symposium held at Jissen Women's University, there was a speech on “The Future NIJL is Aiming For.” (Sat/Sun, March 13–14, 2021)

- At the international symposium “Environment Building and its Challenges in Promoting the Digital Humanities” held at Kansai University, Director Yamamoto of NIJL gave a lecture titled “Model Building in the Humanities through Data-driven Problem-solving.” (Sat, February 27, 2021)

- Volume 4 of “Studies in Japanese Literature and Culture,” an English-language online journal for sharing the results of international collaborative research projects, was published in March 2021.  
URL: <https://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/sjlc.html>

- Two issues (Nos. 14 and 15) of the newsletter “Fumi,” dedicated to introducing the NIJL-NW Project, were published. These issues are available from our website in the form of pdf files. URL:  
[http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/newsletter\\_fumi\\_new.html](http://www.nijl.ac.jp/pages/cijproject/newsletter_fumi_new.html)

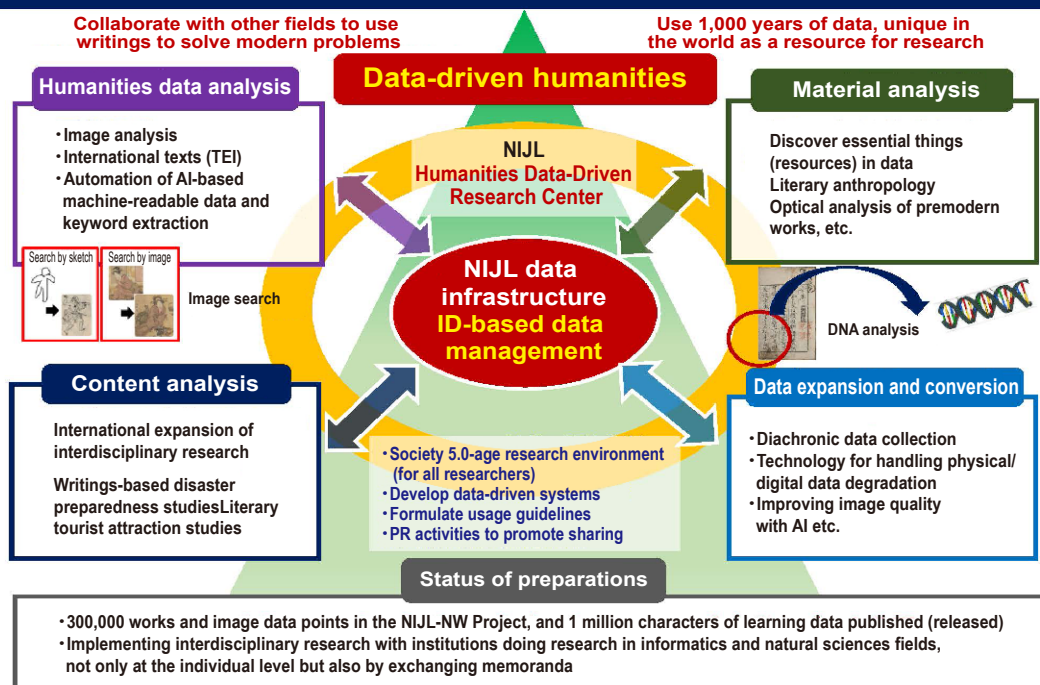


# Model Building in the Humanities through Data-driven Problem-solving

As the successor to the “Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Pre-Modern Japanese Texts,” the current Large-Scale Academic Frontiers Project, we are drafting plans to create and manage a data-driven problem-solving humanities research environment with historical texts at its core. This environment will make information recorded in historical texts and formerly locked away in humanities fields, as well as material information on these works, more widely available to researchers in natural and social sciences.

Along with expanding the scope to include the Meiji period, our goal is to organize the historical works data in a machine-readable format, build a circulatory structure in which joint research findings by researchers in other fields such as the natural and social sciences will be collected in a data infrastructure, and create data-driven model building for problem-solving in humanities that can fully contribute to resolving various issues in modern society by having humanities researchers cooperate and independently work on these issues with other fields. This plan was formulated in the “2020 Basic Conceptual Road Map to Promote Large-Scale Projects in Academic Research” (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, September 24, 2020), and we intend to continue to work toward the project's fruition.

## Achieving a sustainable society with humanities for problem-solving based on writing



## Improving Data-driven Solutions

We aim to advance the machine reading and structuralization of data and improve data-driven solutions on the basis of 300,000 pieces of image data of historical works in the Japanese language. With AI-based machine reading technology and data analysis methods developed through the research process, along with model cases including writings-based disaster preparedness studies, literary tourist attraction studies, and literary anthropology, we are creating methods and fields for model building in humanities through data-driven problem-solving as a data science.

## Solving Issues in Modern Society

The challenge that modern science must address with solidarity is that of building sustainable, diverse, and inclusive societies. To that end, we propose a concept of problem-solving research with the participation of humanities fields that have advanced studies on the wisdom, recollections, and experiences of our ancestors, and with the collaboration of other fields. We promote the development of humanities into a set of academic disciplines that are data-driven and oriented toward solving the problems of modern society. This initiative will lead to more academic fusion beyond the boundaries of each field in humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.

## Fostering New Researchers

Through data-driven humanities research oriented toward problem-solving and through the fields of humanities, natural sciences, and above all informatics, we are fostering new researchers with a deep knowledge of these methods. In this way, we are fostering interpreters and communicators with highly specialized knowledge linking their research fields with actual society, thus working to ensure that their research results will return as contributions to the society.

# Activities Overview

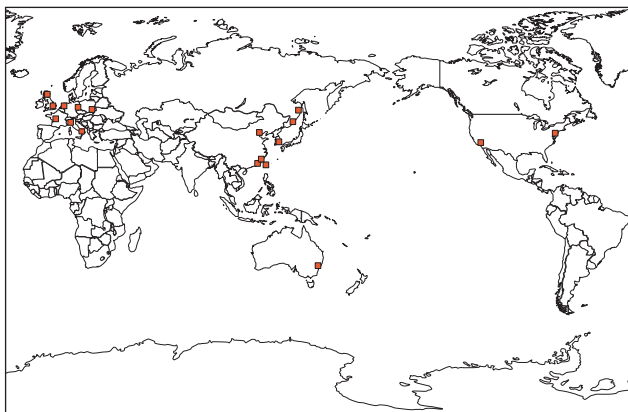
## Aims of the Work undertaken by NIJL

This institute performs specialized surveys and research on documents of Japanese literature and related fields housed at institutions both in Japan and overseas. It also seeks to expand its own collection of original materials and photographic facsimiles, organize and preserve information gathered on such materials' location and bibliography, and provide a foundation for the study of Japanese literature and related fields. It also makes its materials available in various ways to users in Japan and abroad, while contributing back to the society through initiatives such as exhibits and lecture meetings.

### 1 Surveying and Collecting

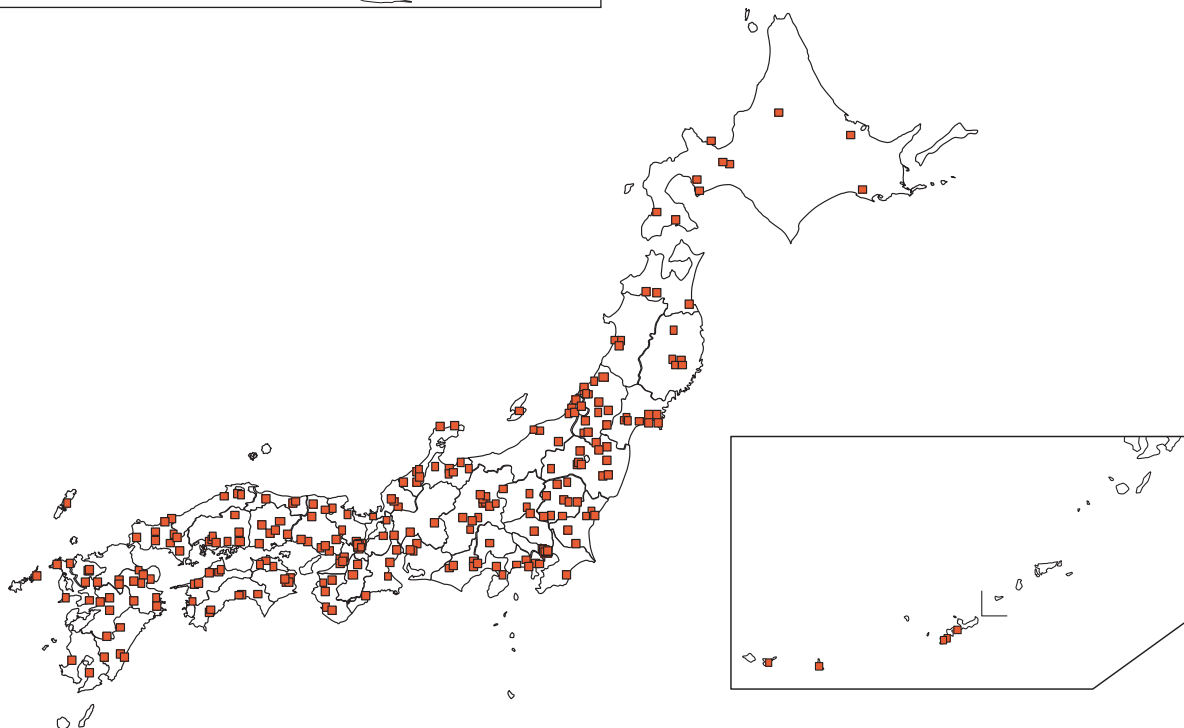
In collaboration with researchers from universities throughout Japan, institute personnel travel to the sites of collection of original documents—such as manuscripts and printed editions—related to Japanese literature and engage in research with a bibliographical focus.

In conjunction with such research, original materials stored in libraries and archives throughout Japan are added to NIJL's own collections through full-volume photography by means of microfilm or digital images and thereby made available to the general public.



Items Surveyed or Collected to Date

Surveyed	Japan	1,035 locations	423,532 items
	Overseas	67 locations	16,367 items
	Total	1,102 locations	439,899 items
Collected	Japan	390 locations	214,489 items
	Overseas	13 locations	1,518 items
	Total	402 locations	216,007 items



## ■ List of Locations Surveyed in 2020

### Kanto Region

The Imperial Household Agency,  
Archives and Mausolea Department

### Chugoku / Shikoku Region

Tottori Prefectural Museum  
(Kyusho Kaku Library, Shotokukan Library)

Tezen Museum

Masamune Bunko

Hikari City Cultural Center

Ozu City Library

### Kyushu/Okinawa Region

Yutoku Inari Shrine  
(Nakagawa Bunko)

Suwa Shrine (Suwa Bunko)

Oita Prefecture Ancient Sages  
Historical Archives

### Modern Materials

Ad Museum Tokyo

Yamada Shunji

## ■ List of Locations Collected in 2020

### Hokkaido / Tohoku Region

Miyagi Prefectural Library

### Kanto Region

The Imperial Household Agency,  
Archives and Mausolea Department

### Chubu Region

Toyama City Public Library  
(Yamada Yoshio Bunko)

Hamamatsu City Kamono Mabuchi  
Memorial Hall

### Kinki Region

Zuikō-ji Temple

### Chugoku / Shikoku Region

Tottori Prefectural Library

Tezen Museum

Masamune Bunko

Hikari City Cultural Center

Sohonzan Zentsuji Temple

Ehime University Library  
(Suzuka Bunko)

Yasuda Women's University Library  
(Inaga Bunko)

Ozu City Library

Kochi Castle Museum of History

### Kyushu / Okinawa Region

Yutoku Inari Shrine  
(Nakagawa Bunko)

Suwa Shrine (Suwa Bunko)

Hizen Shimabara Matsudaira Bunko

Matsura Historical Museum

### Modern Materials

Yamada Shunji

### Other Archive

EGAWA-bunko

Sanada Treasures Museum  
(Sanada Family Collection)

\*Honorific titles of owners  
have been omitted.

## 2 Public Access to NIJL's Collections

The institute's library allows the perusal of documents and provides various copy services. It is also possible for users in remote locations to access documents and copy services through the interlibrary loan system. Those not affiliated with any university can request copies directly by post, fax, or email. In addition, collections inquiries by telephone and reference questions submitted by post, fax, or email are also accepted.



Library

### Library Services Guide

Service Hours	Hours of Operation	Weekdays	9:30–18:00 (Historical documents and valuable materials are available only between 9:30–17:30)
		Saturdays	9:30–17:00 (Historical documents and valuable materials are available only between 9:30–16:30)
	Closed Stack Requests	Weekdays	9:30–17:00
		Saturdays	9:30–16:00
Copy Services		9:30–16:00	
Closed			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sundays and public holidays</li> <li>• 4th Wednesdays of every month</li> <li>• Summer holiday (August 12–16)</li> <li>• New Year holiday (December 27–January 5)</li> <li>• Annual collections inspection period (February 21–26)</li> </ul> (In addition, the institute may be close for other reasons. Please check posted signs and the institute's web page.)
Services Offered	Collections		Microfilm, Japanese rare books (manuscripts and print editions), historical documents, printed books, photographic facsimiles, books on local history from across the country, and periodicals. (On Saturdays, historical documents, rare books, special collections, and books on loan to the library can only be viewed by prior appointment.)
	Photo duplication Services		Electronic photocopying (including photocopying using a reader printer) and positive films (excluding historical documents)
	Photography		Historical documents and other such materials excluded from electronic photocopying
	Lending		Overnight lending of printed-out facsimile copies (some books excluded)
	Lending for Exhibitions		Lending for exhibitions at libraries, archives, museums, etc.
	Reference Research		Accepting and responding to questions and requests for document searches
	Interlibrary Loan		Photocopying and lending through the interlibrary loan system (ILL)
Inquiries	Phone	Usage in General : 050-5533-2926, Information Services Section Interlibrary Loan (ILL): 050-5533-2926, " Historical documents: 050-5533-2930, " Use in Publications: 050-5533-2930, "	
	F A X	042-526-8607	
	E-mail	etsuran@nijl.ac.jp	



## Materials in NIJL's Collections

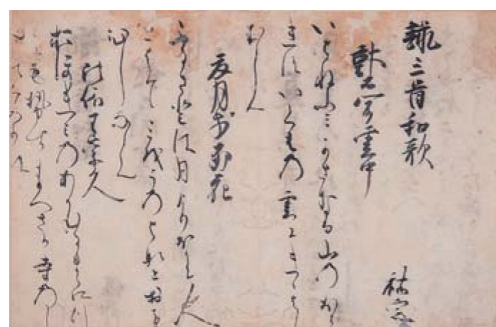
Types of Materials		No. of Items, etc.	No. of Volumes, etc.
Microfilm Materials	Microfilm	Japanese Literature	195,097 items
		History	202 items
	Microfiche	Japanese Literature	16,667 items
	Printed Photographic Facsimiles	Japanese Literature	—
History		—	
Books	Manuscripts and print editions		19,220 items
	Printed books, printed-out photographic facsimile copies, etc.		—
	Periodicals		9,387 publications
Historical Documents		502 items	about 520,000 items
Historical Documents and Other Materials on Loan to the Library	Japanese Literature		13 items
	History		17 items

## Representative Collection Materials

### Materials Related to Japanese Literature

#### Rare Books

*Kasuga Kaishi* (Important Cultural Property), a 1682 Aratoya edition of *Koushoku Ichidai Otoko*, an illustrated old moveable-type edition of *Soga Monogatari*, a Kamakura-era manuscript of *Shin Kokin Wakashu*, a Nara ehon edition of *Utsuho Monogatari*, the *Shin Kokin Wakashu Senka Soko*, and a Kamakura period manuscript of *The Tale of Genji* (16 chapters) (208 items in all)



Kasuga kaishi  
(National Institute of Japanese Literature collections)

#### Special Collections

*Kokin Wakashu* (Collection of Ancient and Modern Poetry) and related works formerly owned by Kyoichi Nishishita (*Hatsukari Collection*); anthologies of Chinese poetry from the Edo and Meiji periods formerly owned by author Shinichiro Nakamura (*Japanese Chinese Poetry Collection*); *Essays in Idleness* and other works (*Isao Kojo Collection*); a collection centered on the *Shin Kokin Wakashu* (*New Collection of Ancient and Modern Poetry*) (*Kaifu Rogetsu Collection*); diaries, records, and documents related to court lore, literature, and the performing arts from the Tayasu Tokugawa family (Tayasu Tokugawa family materials (Denpan Bunko)); Meiji era politician Ikujiro Ukai's collection (*Ukai Bunko*); a collection including works by Soko Yamaga (*Yamaga Bunko*); a collection centered on *The Tales of Ise* and related works (*Tesshinsai Bunko*); and 24 others.



Closed Stacks

#### Materials on Loan to the Library

Materials from 13 collections, including, among others, six items from the collection of KANEKO Motoomi, 145 items from the ancient manuscript fragment collection of SAKATA Yasuyoshi, and 50 boxes containing 6,690 pages of documents from the Masuda Collection.

#### Historical Documentary Materials

The Historical Materials collection focuses on the early modern and modern periods and contains over 520,000 items, covering nearly every region of Japan.

The early modern materials consist for the most part of town- and village-level documents (such as the Owari no Kuni Nagoya Moto Zaimokucho Inuyamaya Kandoke documents, and the Shinano no Kuni Takaigun Higashi Ebemura Yamada Shozaemonke documents), but they also contain warrior-class documents (such as the Shinano no Kuni Matsushiro Sanadake documents, the Awa no Kuni Tokushima Hachisuka documents, and the Yamashiro no Kuni Yodo Inabake documents), court-family documents (such as the Yamashiro no Kuni Kyoto Sanjōnishi documents), and documents from religious institutions (such as the Yamashiro no Kuni Kadonogun Saga Tenryūji Tacchū Rinsenji documents).

The modern collections contain documents dealing with prefectural, municipal, and village-level government (such as the Aichi Prefectural Office documents and the Okayama, Hiroshima, and Tottori Prefectural and Municipal documents).

## 3 Community Outreach Activities

NIJL contributes to the society by widely publicizing the results of its research via exhibitions, lectures, symposia, and various seminars.

### Exhibitions

The institute hosts exhibitions in its first-floor exhibition room to showcase the results of its documentary surveys and other collaborative research projects.

#### Planned Exhibitions for FY2021

##### Special Exhibition:

##### “NIJL Arts Initiative Exhibition: Unfolding the Sheaves of Time: Art and Translation Born Out of Premodern Texts”

held from February 15 to May 31, 2021

This exhibition gathers the current results of the NIJL Arts Initiative (see p. 20) into a single space, including works by the Artists-in-Residence (AIR) and Translator-in-Residence (TIR), as well as the results of workshops and researchers' findings.

This exhibition visualizes the results of the NIJL Arts Initiative, generating new cultural value from premodern works. It also aims to allow visitors to access premodern works in their own ways and show that these cultural resources can be linked to a variety of activities.



Exhibition room

##### Special Exhibition:

##### “Local cultures assisting revitalization: 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake”

Planned for a period from early August to late September, 2021

This exhibit will display the essence of the special exhibition held at the National Museum of Ethnology, thus exploring how local areas aim to recover from the Great East Japan Earthquake and nuclear disaster, and the role that local culture plays in this recovery.

##### Special Section

During regular exhibitions, part of the exhibition space is devoted to a special section that showcases recent acquisitions from the institute's collections.

### Lecture Series

#### (1) Archives College

Long- and short-term courses are offered for the purpose of cultivating staff specialized in tasks such as archival record preservation and the provision of user services.

The long-term lecture course will be held over a total of six weeks from Monday, July 26 to Friday, August 6, and from Tuesday, August 17 to Friday, September 10. The short-term course is planned for the period from Monday, November 8 to Saturday, November 13.



2020 Archives College Short-Term Course

## (2) Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books

This workshop, held in cooperation with the National Diet Library, seeks to impart to librarians from Japan and abroad who deal with premodern Japanese books the requisite basic knowledge about such books and their handling.

Planned to be held online (Zoom) in FY2021 from Tuesday, July 6 to Thursday, July 8.



Workshop on Pre-Modern Japanese Books (2019)

## A List of Major Publications

### Publications Introducing NIJL

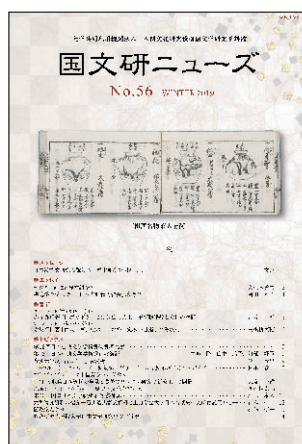
- Overview of the National Institute of Japanese Literature
- NIJL News (issued twice a year) \*online only

### Publications Presenting Research Results

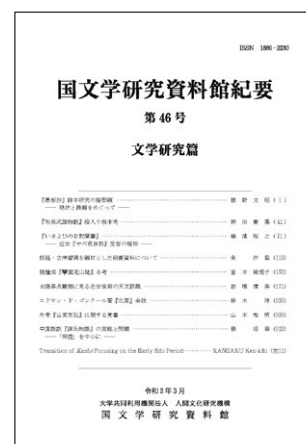
- Bulletin of the National Institute of Japanese Literature \*online only
  - Studies in Japanese Literature Series
  - Archive Studies Series
- Reports on the Results of Collaborative Research Projects

### Project-related Publications

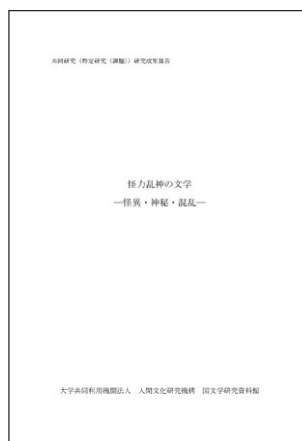
- Report on Investigation and Research \*online only
- The catalogue of historical collections \*online only
- Exhibition Catalogs



NIJL News



Bulletin of the National Institute of Japanese Literature: Studies in Japanese Literature Series



Report on the Results of the Collaborative Research Project  
“Kairiki ranshin no Bungaku:  
Kai-i, Shinpi, Konran”  
“Literature of the Supernatural  
Strangeness, Mystery and  
Confusion”

# NIJL Arts Initiative: Exploring Japanese Literature through Art and Translation

Our institute is currently implementing the project “NIJL Arts Initiative: Innovation through the Legacy of Japanese Literature” on a medium-to-long-term basis from October 2017. The goal of this project is to make proactive use of the cultural resources waiting to be found in considerable amounts in premodern Japanese texts held at NIJL, in accordance with the needs of the modern-day society. As such, artists from a variety of fields have been invited to NIJL to engage in creative activities through a special residence program with the aim of collectively giving birth to new artistic values.

In particular, this involves holding workshops that bring researchers and artists together to promote creative activities, while simultaneously bolstering cooperation between local governments and associations and private enterprises, and organizing events to publicize the Initiative's results. Moreover, details about the project will be broadcast through, e.g., online media, to globally highlight and promote the charms of Japanese culture, as well as such new ways of making use of premodern Japanese texts.

## ● There are three components supporting the initiative:

### ■ Artists-in-Residence (AIR)

Past AIR include celebrated novelist and winner of the Akutagawa Prize and the Purple Ribbon Medal of Honor KAWAKAMI Hiromi; playwright, director, and actor NAGATSUKA Keishi; the globally active animator YAMAMURA Kōji, likewise a Medal of Honor recipient; Japanese-style painter MATSUDAIRA Rina; and contemporary artist Liang Yaxuan. All of these artists have engaged in lively and diverse creative activities at NIJL. This year, two new artists have been invited. With workshops held together with NIJL and researchers, AIR are able to access the cultural inheritance of the many premodern documents housed at NIJL, in mutually stimulating exchanges that take place up close in the presence of actual materials. This aspect promotes creative activities that go beyond the pre-existing frameworks of literary study.

### ■ Translator-in-Residence (TIR)

As “TIR,” we invited Peter MacMillan starting in 2017, who through collaboration and workshops with expert researchers, produced a full translation of the 66 waka poems contained in a pair of texts from NIJL's own collections known as *Ōgi no sōshi*. With the goal of disseminating Japanese culture internationally, the program strives for translations responsive to the needs of the readers from a number of language backgrounds beyond the Anglosphere alone and seeks to actively publicize these translations overseas.

### ■ The Classics Interpreter

We assign a “classics interpreter,” a person with both expertise in Japanese classical literature and also abilities in PR, whose task is to provide support for co-creative activities involving the AIR, TIR, and specialized researchers. In addition, the classics interpreter engages in various activities to promote these projects throughout society, via events, lectures, and the media. In this way, the interpreter encourages the extensive use of such texts through cooperative activities not only with universities and other research institutions but also with private companies, local governments, and other organizations. Information on these activities is regularly posted on this project's website and various social media accounts.

## ● Key Activities in 2020 (Implemented as “2020 Japan Cultural Expo Innovative Projects”)

### (1) Special Exhibition

#### NIJL Arts Initiative Exhibition: Unfolding the Sheaves of Time: Art and Translation Born Out of Premodern Texts

As the culmination of our activities since the start of this project, a special exhibition was held (February 15–May 31, 2021). Diverse works created as the result of collaborations between vanguard creators and researchers were displayed alongside the premodern texts that were their source of inspiration, thereby demonstrating that these academic resource texts are also capable of becoming the wellspring of new cultural and artistic values.



Special Exhibition Hall

## Special Exhibition Participating Creators: Overview

- KAWAKAMI Hiromi (novelist): Writing the romance novel *Sandome no koi* (*Third Time in Love*) based on *Ise monogatari* (*The Tales of Ise*)
- NAGATSUKA Keishi (playwright, director, and actor): Completing the new one-act play *KYODEN'S WOMAN: Dreams of Anachronism* and staging a reading of the work, which draws on *Santō Kyōden* and his *kibyōshi* genre works
- MATSUDAIRA Rina (Japanese-style painter): Expressing through a painting the “classic works” inside herself, which she mastered by reproducing model paintings and other works
- YAMAMURA Kōji (animator): Creating a short animation, *Dreams into Drawing*, based on motifs drawn from Kuwagata Keisai's *Ryakugashiki* and Ueda Akinari's *Muou no rigyo* from *Ugetsu monogatari*
- Liang Yaxuan (contemporary artist): Creating installation pieces and drawings based on picture scrolls
- Peter J. MacMillan (translator): Conveying the aesthetic of Japan based on realizations found in the English translation of *Ogi no soshi* waka poetry
- YAMADA Takuji (diorama artist): Creating dioramas of an Edo period picture book that imagines the 53 stations of the Tōkaidō highway as potted plants
- WOW (visual design studio): Creating film productions loosely connecting each creator's world viewpoint to the power of knowledge of premodern texts

## (2) Talk Series

Considering the spread of COVID-19, these talks were broadcast live and recorded to distribute edited footage at a later date.

- KAWAKAMI Hiromi with Robert Campbell
- YAMAMURA Kōji with Robert Campbell
- Digital talk: Journeys in Japanese Books “Voyage to the Unknown: Liang Yaxuan, MATSUDAIRA Rina, KIGOSHI Shunsuke”
- Digital talk: Journeys in Japanese Books “Playfulness and Artistic Taste: Translating Japan's Sense of Beauty”



KAWAKAMI Hiromi with Robert Campbell,  
October 31, 2020



YAMAMURA Kōji with Robert Campbell,  
February 6, 2021



Voyage to the Unknown  
December 18, 2020



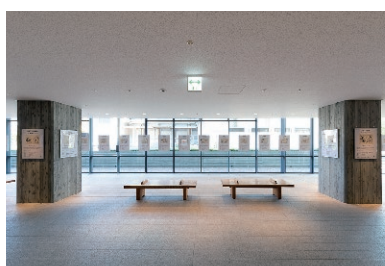
Playfulness and Artistic Taste,  
February 13, 2021

## (3) Performances, Exhibitions

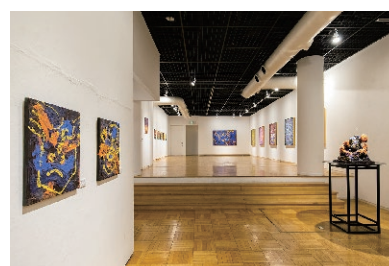
- Staged reading of NAGATSUKA Keishi's new play *KYODEN'S WOMAN: Dreams of Anachronism*
- MATSUDAIRA Rina Exhibit “Utsushi no narahi: Painting and Digital Archives”  
During the exhibit, a workshop was held (and broadcast live) on reproducing premodern works in the digital archives entitled “Which Master Will You Apprentice Under? The Birth of Digital Reproductions.”
- Liang Yaxuan Exhibit “Inheriting and recreating the classics”  
A workshop was held (and recorded) on making masks using motifs of digital data of premodern works titled “Turning ‘Funny Faces’ in Premodern Works into Masks!.”



KYODEN'S WOMAN  
August 30, 2020  
at the NIJL reading room



MATSUDAIRA Rina Exhibit  
January 16–22, 2020  
at Rohm Theatre Kyoto

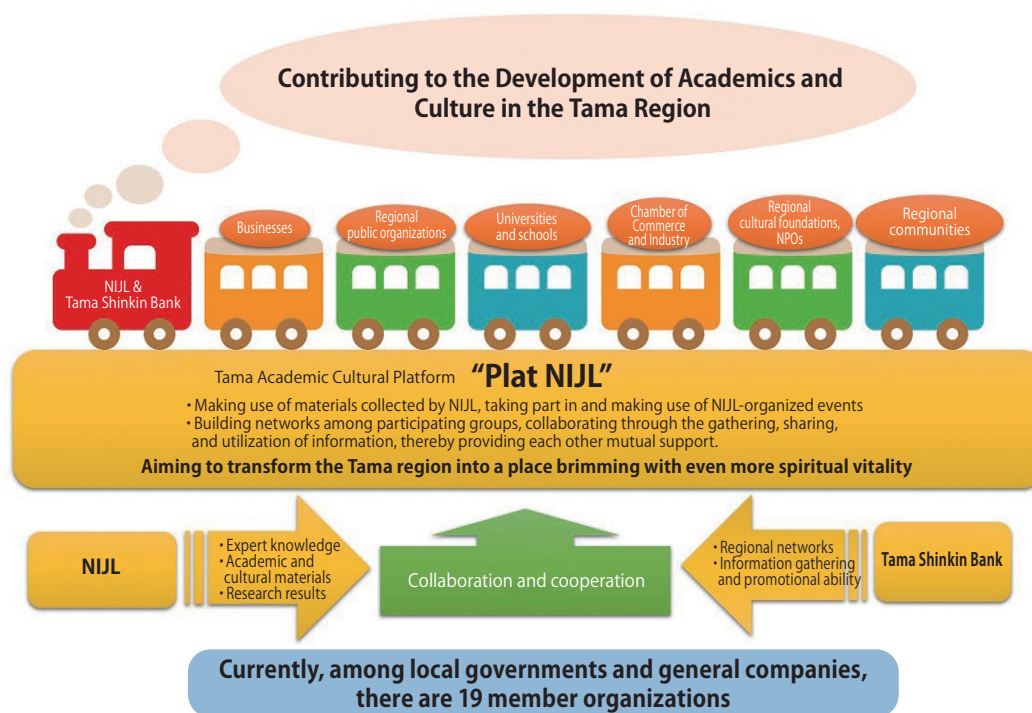


Liang Yaxuan Exhibit  
January 18–23, 2021  
at the Bumpodo Gallery

# The Tama Academic Cultural Platform “Plat NIJL”

NIJL concluded an agreement with Tama Shinkin Bank to establish the Tama Academic Cultural Platform “Plat NIJL,” to be constituted with NIJL at its core, by various businesses, local government bodies, universities, and other groups as a platform to ensure the continual implementation of projects promoting academic research and cultural activities in the Tama Region.

“Plat NIJL” projects will involve the holding of courses and lectures on academic research and cultural activities in the Tama Region, collaboration and cooperation with various groups to make use of NIJL materials and databases, and the promotion of industry–academy cooperation in general.



## Projects for FY2020

- NIJL Cafe
- Talk Series: Discussing Japan's Classics and the Modern Era with Creators
  - 4th session: MIYAMOTO Amon and Robert Campbell
  - 5th session: KAWAKAMI Hiromi and Robert Campbell
  - 6th session: MORINAGA Kunihiko and Robert Campbell
  - 7th session: YAMAMURA Kōji and Robert Campbell

こくぶんけんカフェ  
**病と立ち向かう江戸時代の人々**  
 —文学・歴史から学ぶこと—  
 【オンライン講座(Zoomを使用します。)]

こくぶんけんカフェとは?  
 当館の研究者が会話をしながら講座を行い、研究の概要に触れていただくイベントです。

NIJL Cafe

## Looking for New Members

“Plat NIJL” is always looking for new members. In collaboration with officially registered groups, we will engage in a number of activities given below:

- building networks between participating groups to gather, share, and make use of information;
- using the platform to engage in PR and publishing about NIJL;
- making plans and proposals, e.g., for lectures at NIJL; and
- providing groups with priority information about events.

Please address inquiries to Staff in charge of Plat NIJL, National Institute of Japanese Literature

Email: platform@nijl.ac.jp

# International Exchange

Japanese literature is a field of study pursued throughout the world. An important challenge facing Japanese literary research today is learning to perceive Japanese literature from a variety of different research viewpoints and methods. Based on such an awareness, NIJL has established the International Collaboration Division to revitalize activities of international exchange. As part of this, we have actively engaged in a number of activities in Japan and overseas, such as the hosting of various symposia, seminars, and conferences devoted to research on premodern Japanese texts.

Furthermore, NIJL's specialized Global Consortium for Japanese Textual Scholarship was established as a private organization on November 1, 2020, together with participating organizations in Japan and overseas, as a space for sharing limited resources among multiple organizations and for complementing one another's strengths in the study of Japanese classical literature. The secretariat for this consortium is at NIJL. As of the end of March 2021, there are 78 participating organizations (39 in Japan and 39 overseas). <https://kotenseki.org/>

## 1 Academic Exchange Agreements

As an international center for research on Japanese literature, NIJL is actively engaged in a variety of academic exchange projects with researchers and research institutions overseas. In particular, it is the conclusion of academic exchange agreements with overseas institutions that makes stable, ongoing research exchange possible.

Activities center on the exchange of researchers between institutions in Japan and overseas, as well as the hosting of international research symposia. They also include the implementation of joint surveys and joint research projects and extend to the hosting of graduate students for short-term training.

Presently, academic exchange agreements have been concluded with the following overseas institutions:

- Collège de France, Institute of Advanced Japanese Studies (France)
- Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Department of Asian and North African Studies (Italy)
- Orientale University of Naples (Italy)
- Sapienza University of Rome, Italian Institute of Oriental Studies (Italy)
- University of Florence, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Intercultural Studies (Italy)
- Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Center for Japanese Studies (China)
- Leiden University, Faculty of Humanities (The Netherlands)
- The University of British Columbia, Faculty of Arts, Department of Asian Studies (Canada)
- Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (the U.S.)
- Korea University, Global Institute for Japanese Studies (Republic of Korea)
- University of California, Berkeley, C.V. Starr East Asian Library (the U.S.)
- Berlin State Library (Germany)
- Vatican Apostolic Library (Vatican City State)
- University of Hawaii at Manoa, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (the U.S.)
- Heidelberg University, Institute of Japanese Studies (Germany)
- Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Faculty of Linguistics, Cultures, and Arts (Germany)
- British Library Board (the U.K.)
- The Smithsonian Institution (Freer Gallery of Art & Arthur M. Sackler Gallery) (the U.S.)

## 2 International Conference on Japanese Literature (ICJL)

This conference, devoted to the advancement of research on Japanese literature, has long been held annually to both nurture young specialists in the field and deepen exchanges between scholars of Japanese literature from Japan and overseas. Traditionally, it has taken place every year in the fall. To make it easier for students from overseas to participate, the conference schedule has been changed. The dates will be Saturday May 8 to Sunday May 9, 2021.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, the 44th conference will be held online.

### 3 International Conference on Japanese Literature Workshops (Materials Workshops)

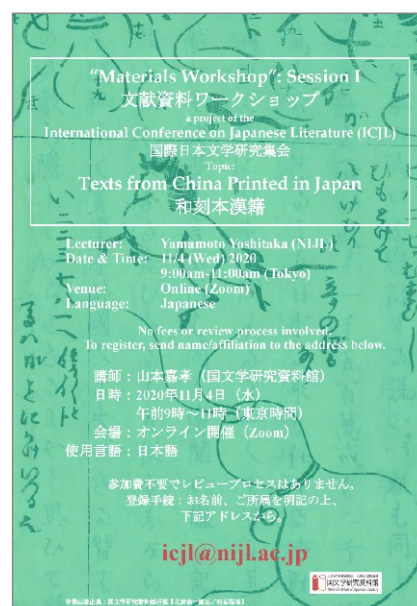
As the International Conference on Japanese Literature was rescheduled to May to allow more foreign exchange students to attend, three ICJL workshops were held in its stead in FY2020. Topics included practical guidance on research history and research topic outlines using premodern Japanese texts as a resource, handling premodern works, and using NIJL's databases. We plan to continue these workshops in 2021.

Dates: Session 1: November 4, 2020 (Wed)  
participants: 36

Session 2: November 26, 2020 (Thu)  
participants: 33

Session 3: December 16, 2020 (Wed)  
participants: 40

Location: Zoom sessions held online



### 4 Seminars on Premodern Japanese Books

We hold seminars focused on the bibliography and literary culture of premodern Japanese books, one of the foundations of Japanese culture, in collaboration with overseas researchers and research institutes.

6th Sept 6, 2018 University of California, Berkeley, C.V. Starr East Asian Library (the U.S.)

7th Feb 26, 2019 Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Center for Japanese Studies (China)

8th Mar 1, 2019 University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Honolulu Museum of Art (the U.S.)

9th Feb 27, 2021 Held online (jointly with the Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing Center for Japanese Studies)



The 7th Seminar on Premodern Japanese Books



The 8th Seminar on Premodern Japanese Books

### 5 Exchange with Overseas Researchers (Foreign and Outside Researchers)

To promote the internationalization of research on Japanese literature, we invite research fellow scholars from abroad who are active on the front lines of research into Japanese literature and other related fields, thus offering our institute as a site for the use of academic resources and exchanges of expertise.

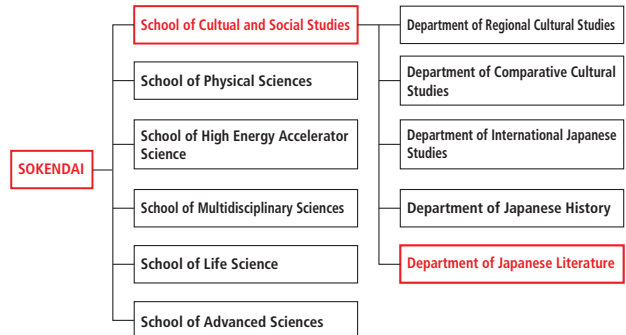


# Graduate Education

## Department of Japanese Literature within the School of Cultural and Social Studies at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI

This major's home institute is the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL), a pioneering organization of inter-university collaboration dedicated to the accumulation and study on a massive scale of academic information derived from the examination of original materials. Students in this major, taking advantage of the cultural resources housed at NIJL, receive an education centered on the development of deep specialized expertise in Japanese literature and related fields, in the course of which they acquire the skills necessary to survey relevant documentary materials and analyze them comprehensively.

In addition to a systematic curriculum of classes centered on Japanese literature yet cognizant of related fields, the major provides a system of research supervision based on the expert guidance of numerous teaching staff to foster researchers equipped with high-level specialized expertise and develop human talent capable of contributing to society through their research activities.



### ● Graduate Program Students (as of April 2021)

Quota	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	Total
3	1	2	5	8

### ● Degree Recipients of Past 5 Years

FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020
4	1	2	0	2

\*includes the number of those who were Ph. D. by way of Dissertation

### ● Careers of Degree Recipients

Aoyama Gakuin University Human Innovation Research Center, Kanazawa University, Keio University, Korea University, National Institute of Japanese Literature, Sichuan International Studies University, Shohoku College, Tsuru University, Tokyo Kasei University Junior and Senior High School, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Morioka University, Waseda University, Soiku Co., Ltd., and others.

## Advantages of the Major in Japanese Literary Research

### ● Guidance by Multiple Supervisors

Students are supported by about 20 expert instructors representing experience in a wide variety of educational and research fields. To provide a system of supervision responsive to the needs of individual student research projects, one main supervisor and two supporting supervisors are chosen for each student to supply finely customized guidance that draws on multiple perspectives.

### ● An Environment Conducive to Education and Research

In conducting their research, students will have access to the massive collection of materials housed at NIJL. Also available for use are a full range of facilities open to students majoring in the specialty, including a dedicated room for graduate students, lecture rooms, and a lounge.



### ● Financial Support

A comprehensive range of financial support is available, including support for travel expenses incurred in research activities such as on-site archival research domestically and overseas, as well as in attendance or presentation at scholarly conferences. Support is also provided through the active hiring of students as research assistants.

Furthermore, photocopying of materials within NIJL is free (up to a certain limit). The institute can also purchase books to make available in the library upon request.

## Special Inter-University Research Fellows

At the request of national, public, and private universities, in FY1979, the Graduate School Education Collaborative System was established to promote cooperation in graduate-level education and began accepting graduate students. The program later expanded participation in 1998 with the inauguration of the Special Inter-University Research Fellows Program.

Students currently studying Japanese literature, Japanese history, or related subjects in doctoral or master's programs at domestic national, public, and private universities are eligible for acceptance as Special Inter-University Research Fellows and provided at NIJL with the supervision they need. NIJL hosts around five fellows in total at a time, each as a general rule for a period of one year, beginning in April and ending the following March.

Fiscal Year	Total Active Fellows
2016	7
2017	2
2018	2
2019	6
2020	6

# Publicly Available Databases

The institute maintains various databases for purposes of research into Japanese literature and other related fields. The following databases are available from the database page of our web site:  
<https://www.nijl.ac.jp/search-find/#database>

<b>Book and Periodical Holding List (OPAC)</b>	A catalog of books and periodicals (serial publications) since the Meiji era held by the NIJL.
<b>Database of Research Theses in Japanese Literature</b>	A catalog of Japanese literature theses from 1888 (Meiji 21) to present.
<b>Database of Premodern Japanese Works</b>	Classical works database*1 constructed by "Historical and classical works NW Project."
<b>Union Catalog of Early Japanese Books</b>	Comprehensive catalog of both bibliography and holdings information about Japanese classics and literary works and authors (reference information).
<b>Catalog of Early Japanese Books at NIJL</b>	Catalog of early Japanese books in NIJL's collection.
<b>Database of the Texts of Selected Classical Works</b>	Enables full-text searches and image browsing of the Institute's collection of the following works: Nijuichi-dai Shu (Anthologies of the One and Twenty Reigns), E-iri Genji Monogatari (The Illustrated Tale of Genji), Azuma Kagami (Mirror of the East), and Rekishi Monogatari (Stories from History).
<b>Digital Image Database of Japanese Classics in Collaboration with Collection-owning Institutions</b>	NIJL cooperates and collaborates with organizations in possession of premodern materials to build this database allowing users to search for and browse images of premodern works on the NIJL website. Currently available items include those from the tokuhon collection of Hiroshima University Library, microfilm image data belonging to the Imperial Household Archives Agency, Archives and Mausolea Department, and the "Tsugaru Digital Fudoki."
<b>Inventory of Early Japanese Books</b>	Contains primary bibliographic information from the "literature and materials research cards" of manuscripts, editions, etc., held domestically and overseas that the NIJL has researched.
<b>Bibliographic and Image Database of Japanese Modern Times</b>	Public release of results of research and collection of literature materials centering on Japanese literature in and since the Meiji period.
<b>Archival Holdings on Japanese History</b>	Database of overview and catalog of the NIJL historical materials (archives), focused on historical materials from the old collections.
<b>The Kornicki Union Catalog of Early Japanese Books in Europe</b>	Database of bibliographic and location information on Japanese books held in libraries, museums, etc., in Europe.
<b>Publishing and Advertisement Database in Meiji Era</b>	With the aim of exploring publishing circumstances in modern Japan, it is a collection of publication advertisements printed in newspapers and magazines in the early Meiji period.
<b>Historical Figure Image</b>	Database of images of primarily classical characters up to the Meiji period from illustrated biographies contained in classical Japanese works. Biographies and bibliographical introductions are compiled as a database containing the contents of bibliographical introductions of biographies and the characters appearing in the books and microfilms owned by us.
<b>Renga-Ennou-Garaku Database</b>	Open database linked with a Renga and Ennou databases that included a newly produced Gagaku database.
<b>New Naraehon Database</b>	Open database of original text images for Naraehon (19 books) held by the NIJL (accompanies republication).
<b>Kojiruien Database</b>	Database that offers full-text and browsing of the Kojiruien (Dictionary of Historical Terms) that covers institutions, cultural assets, and society in Japan from ancient to early modern times.
<b>Biography Bibliography Database</b>	Database of biographical information related to the research of Japanese classics. Currently contains the Nihon Jinmei Jiten and Jigekaden.
<b>Fragmentary Manuscripts Database of Japan</b>	Database of printing information for ancient writing fragments since the Kohitsu-gire Teiyo.
<b>International Collaboration for Japanese Literary Studies</b>	A database of bibliographic information, images, translations, etc., for overseas research papers.
<b>Collectors' Seals Database</b>	Database of ownership stamp information derived from original copies with a focus on classic books held by the NIJL.
<b>Bibliographical Database of Archival Studies in Japan</b>	Database of research literature in Japan related to archival studies. Individual documents containing chapters are all entered in "Content."
<b>Database of the Location of Historical Materials</b>	This database provides essential information about the location and content of various collections of historical materials currently stored throughout Japan.
<b>Japan Museum of Business and Industry Collection Database</b>	Open database of materials information and images pertaining to pictorial art utensils and advertisements from the Establishment Office of the Japan Museum of Business and Industry.
<b>NIJL Database of Detailed Shrine Records</b>	Database of shrine names, locations, and structures prior to WWII taken from detailed shrine records throughout Japan.
<b>EGAWA Family Papers Database, Nirayama, the Province of Izu</b>	This database is a joint project with the Egawa Foundation for Preservation of Historic Properties and displays bibliographic information for old texts and literature held by the Foundation.
<b>Archival Location Information and Search System</b>	Database for location and overview of materials originating from different locations throughout Japan (user registration required for detailed version).
<b>Tajiro Masuda Advertisement Collection Database</b>	A database of publication information and images of advertisements collected by Tajiro Masuda.
<b>Early Modern Period Vocabulary Card Database</b>	Database of approx. 150,000 early modern vocabulary cards including Kabuki and Joruri.
<b>Directory of Overseas Collection of Old and Rare Japanese Books, Other Print Materials, and Manuscripts</b>	An English (with some Japanese) listing of the contact addresses, viewable collections, and so on for institutions outside Japan that hold Japanese Classics.
<b>Hanashibon taikai Database</b>	This database provides a searchable version of the full text of Hanashibon taikai (published by To-kyo-do).
<b>Nihonkotenbungaku taikai Database</b>	This database enables the user to search the full text of the former version of the Nihonkotenbungaku taikai (Japanese Classics) (available to higher educational institutions such as universities and junior colleges).
<b>Database of the Fondo Mario Marega</b>	Public release of documents related to Christianity and catalog/images of materials on Marega gathered by Mario Marega.

\*1: See Page 9 for the Database of Premodern Japanese Works.

\*2: See the website for the academic information repository: <https://kokubunken.repo.nii.ac.jp>

(as of April 1, 2021)

# Researchers (as of April 1, 2021)

## Director General

Name	Research Interests
WATANABE Yasuaki	History of waka

## Research Department

Name	Position	Research Interests
IRIGUCHI Atsushi	Professor, Deputy Director General (in charge of planning and coordination)	Early modern literature
KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Professor, Deputy Director General (in charge of research)	Early modern Japanese literature, particularly the history of waka and the arts
UNNO Keisuke	Professor (Director)	Medieval literature, waka literature and the history of classical scholarship, with a focus on the Imperial Court
OCHIAI Hiroshi	Professor (Director)	Medieval literature, medieval performing arts and the bibliographical study of Japanese classics
NISHIMURA Shintaro	Professor (Director)	Preservation and utilization of privately held historical documents
FUJIZANE Kumiko	Professor (Director)	Political culture of early modern and restoration era Japan and the establishment of documentary book studies
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Professor (Director)	19th century literature
SAITO Maori	Professor, *Director of the Department of Japanese Literature (SOKENDAI)	Medieval literature
WATANABE Koichi	Professor	Early modern Japanese urban history and archives studies
AIDA Mitsuru	Associate Professor	Japanese literature of the Heian and medieval periods; Study of scholarship and commentary, with a focus on children's educational texts; and setsuwa literature; humanities information studies
AOKI Mutsumi	Associate Professor	Historical materials preservation
AOTA Sumi	Associate Professor	Modern Japanese literature, particularly criticism and novels of the Meiji and Taishō eras
OTA Naohiro	Associate Professor	Regional government in early modern Japan and early-modern archives studies
KATO Kiyofumi	Associate Professor	Relations between East Asia and Japan since the beginning of the modern era
KIGOSHI Shunsuke	Associate Professor	Early modern Japanese literature, particularly the history of the novel
DAVIN Didier	Associate Professor	Medieval Buddhism and literature
TADA Kurahito	Associate Professor	"Citations" in modern Japanese literature
NOMOTO Tadashi	Associate Professor	Advance of information usage in the study of Japanese literature
MATSUDA Kuninori	Associate Professor	Utilization of computing technology in the humanities
YAMAMOTO Yoshitaka	Associate Professor	Japanese literature in Classical Chinese, particularly of the Edo and Meiji periods
HONDA Keisuke	Specially appointed Associate Professor	Indicators of evaluation in the humanities and social sciences

Name	Position	Research Interests
EDO Hideo	Assistant Professor	Heian-era literature, narratology
KNOTT Jeffrey	Assistant Professor	Classical studies and the reception of classical literature in medieval Japan
KUME Shiori	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Japanese oral performance literature ( <i>kōwakamai</i> , <i>sekkyō</i> , <i>ko-jōruri</i> ) from the end of the medieval to the beginning of the early modern period
KOU Iku	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Medieval Japanese literature, comparative literature of Japan and China, with a focus on comparative studies of Japanese and Chinese narratives

## Center for Collaborative Research on Premodern Texts

Name	Position	Research Interests
YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Director (dual post)	19th century literature
KITAMURA Keiko	Associate Professor	Theory of information science in relation to humanities
MATSUDA Kuninori	Associate Professor (dual post)	Utilization of computing technology in humanities
IGURO Kahoko	Specially appointed Assistant Professor	Picture scrolls and picture books from the medieval to the beginning of the early modern period

# Reference Data

## Staff, Budget, and Facilities (FY 2021)

Staff	(Unit: persons)	Budget	(Unit: 1,000 Yen)	Facilities	(Unit: m <sup>2</sup> )
Director General	1	Income	1,287,869	Total floor area	13,002
Professor	9	Administrative cost subsidies	1,283,484	This includes :	
Associate Professor	12	Non-subsidized income	4,385	Reading room	1,584
Assistant Professor	2	Expenses	1,287,869	Stack room / storage	2,416
Specially-appointed Associate Professor	1	Education and research cost	736,790	Exhibition room	355
Specially-appointed Assistant Professor	1	Administrative overhead	551,079		
Administrative Staff	42				
Total	68				

## Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research < KAKENHI > (FY 2021)

Research Categories	Review Classification	Principal Investigator	Research Project Title	Research period
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)	General	IMANISHI Yuichiro	Advanced research on notational information science in Japanese classical literature	2015–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)	General	AIDA Mitsuru	To build a research infrastructure linked to the study of “living creatures memorial service” and “anything memorial service” in Japan	2016–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A)	General	KATO Kiyofumi	Research into building the foundations for restoring “regional power” and sustainable societies using archives	2019–2022
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	WATANABE Koichi	History of urban disasters in early modern period: The interaction between nature and humans	2018–2022
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	UNNO Keisuke	Research into exchanges of religious knowledge and building collections of books in the Middle Ages of Japan based on surveys of the sacred teachings at Mani-in of Kongoji Temple	2019–2022
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	SAITO Maori	Comprehensive research on the reception and development of Ming period publishing culture in Japanese medieval and early modern painting topics	2020–2022
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B)	General	FUJIZANE Kumiko	Promoting interdisciplinary research and open science on woodblock-press publications during the restoration's time in power	2020–2023
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Fundamental research into picture and illustrated books during the Edo period, centered on books of poems	2019–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	TAKEI Kyozo	Research into Hirosaki Hanchō Nikki, a record of plays that were performed: Elucidation of “zashiki (sitting room)” plays during the Kyōho period	2019–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	YAMASHITA Noriko	Research into the arts of the middle early modern period as observed in the kabuki works of Tsuruya Nanboku: Possibilities for interdisciplinary fusion and contributions to the society	2020–2024
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	KIGOSHI Shunsuke	The restructuring and reception of 19th-century style “knowledge” as observed in local gazetteers and in stories of the fantastic	2020–2023
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	KOBAYASHI Kenji	A survey of and research on pictorial materials based on Noh and kyōgen of the early to mid-Edo period	2020–2023
Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	General	DAVIN Didier	Works related to the early Daitō Kokushi School	2021–2023
Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering)		AOTA Sumi	Expansion of information for high-order use of the database on ownership stamps and development of a seal script character learning interface	2018–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering)		WATANABE Koichi	Examining nationwide surveys of regional archives during the social transition periods and developing new methods	2020–2023
Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory)		AIDA Mitsuru	Common use of the Kōji ruien and fundamental research toward an analysis of modern classical studies	2019–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		YAMAMOTO Yoshitaka	The reception of High Tang poetry in the Sinitic poems by Kinoshita Jun'an	2018–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		TATENO Fumiaki	Research on creation and development of secret books of waka poetics and poetry knowledge that centers on consideration of Usagi forgeries of waka poetics	2018–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		YU Huang	Comparative study on viewpoints about animals between Japan and China that can be seen in narrative literature—“Taiping Guangji,” “Yijianzhi,” and “Ikenshi wage”	2018–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		TADA Kurahito	Historical overview of the reception and expression of Edo culture in modern Japanese literature	2019–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		IGURO Kahoko	Border transgression between species and gender as observed in “Tamamizu Monogatari”	2019–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KUME Shiori	Fundamental research on the narrative of Hoganmono: Elucidation of the influence of kowakamai, sekkyō and kojōruri	2019–2022
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		IKUURA Hiroyuki	The early modern reception and formation of the image of Nun Abutsu	2020–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Early-Career Scientists		KNOTT Jeffrey	Basic research on the history of classical studies in the Sengoku period, with a focus on the Genji studies of renga masters	2021–2025
Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up		TAKAGI Madoka	Studies on prostitution in the medieval/early modern transition period based on sexually transmitted infection information in medical texts and diaries	2020–2021
Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows		UEDA Tetsuji	Research into Ainu historical figures as preparative foundation for the construction of an Ainu history: Focusing on the first period of Shōgunal dominion in Ezo	2020–2022
Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research (Fostering Joint International Research (B))		KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Research on survey researches and educational use of Premodern Japanese literature in the U.S. (Richard Lane Collection)	2018–2021
Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research (Fostering Joint International Research (B))		KATO Kiyofumi	The Russo–Japanese joint research to construct the archival system of Soviet–Japanese War	2018–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Scientific Literature)		OKA Masahiko	A timeline of early Edo period publishing (1658–1688)	2020–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Scientific Literature)		YAMAMOTO Yoshitaka	Poetry and governance: Confucian vassals of the 18th-century bakufu	2021
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Databases)		AOTA Sumi	Publishing and Advertisement Database of the Meiji first period	2017–2021
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Databases)		KANSAKU Ken'ichi	Union Catalogue of Early Japanese Books	2020–2024
Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (Databases)		YAMAMOTO Kazuaki	Database of Pre-Modern Japanese Works	2021

(as of April 5, 2021)



**Inter-University Research Institute Corporation  
National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU)**  
<https://www.nihu.jp/en>

NIHU carries out research on the human sciences and aims to create new value systems that will genuinely enrich our lives.

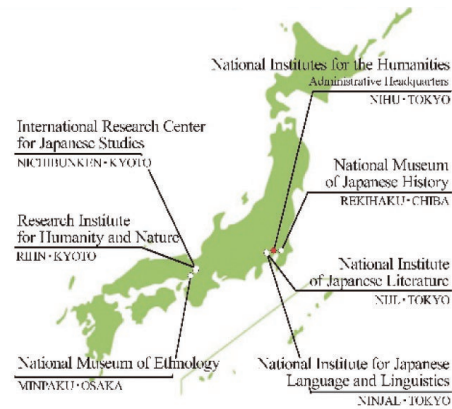
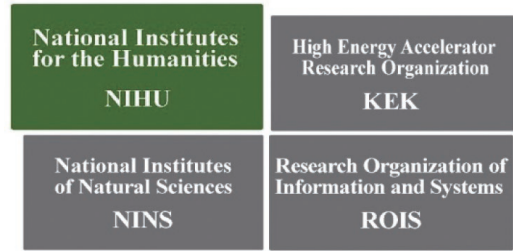
NIHU is one of the four inter-university research institute corporations in Japan. It consists of six inter-university research institutes that specialize in humanities research. Each of the institutes is deeply involved in foundational research in their field as both a domestic and international research center. The six institutes interact in a complementary fashion and carry out research that transcends the frameworks of traditional disciplines. They also cooperate with other research organizations domestically and internationally in their attempt to identify and solve modern day issues.

**Research and Communications**

In 2016, two new centers, the Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI) and the Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP) were established to improve governance at NIHU.

The two Centers promote international collaborative research by building a research network around the six institutes. At the same time, the Centers communicate their research globally and are committed to developing next generation scholars.

Four inter-university research institute corporations, and six inter-university research institutes specializing in humanities.



**Center for Transdisciplinary Innovation (CTI)**

CTI strengthens mutual cooperation between the six institutes and leads NIHU's Transdisciplinary Projects that collaborate with universities and research institutions in Japan and overseas.

**Center for Information and Public Relations (CIP)**

CIP consolidates data related to human cultures by gathering information and research results from researchers affiliated with NIHU, and important documents and materials from the archives of the six institutes. The materials are made available to the public.

**NIHU Transdisciplinary Projects**

Institute-based Projects	REKIHAKU: Constructing Integrated Studies of Cultural and Research Resources, and Renovating Sharing Infrastructures of Research Resources in Japanese History and Cultures
	NIJL: Project to Build an International Collaborative Research Network for Premodern Japanese Texts
	NINJAL: A New Integration of Japanese Language Studies based on Diverse Language Resources
	NICHIBUNKEN: Historical and International Research into Popular Culture to Pursue New Images of Japan
	RIHN: Transformation towards Sustainable Futures in Complex Human-Nature Systems in Asia
	MINPAKU: Info-Forum Museum for Cultural Resources of the World
Multidisciplinary Collaborative Projects	Change of Local Communities and Reconstruction of Community Cultures after Disasters in Japanese Archipelago
	Rethinking Eco-health in Asia
	Development of a Field of Comprehensive Bibliographical Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective
Network-based Projects	NIHU Area Studies Northeast Asia    Modern Middle East    South Asia
	Japan-related Documents and Artifacts Held Overseas: NIHU International Collaborative Research and Utilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insights into Japan-related Overseas Artifacts and Documents from 19th-century Europe, Research and Use: Developing the Foundation for International</li> <li>Collaboration in Transmitting Japanese Culture</li> <li>Research, Conservation and Utilization of the Marega Collection Preserved in the Vatican Library</li> <li>A Survey, Study and Use of the Japan-related Documents and Artifacts in North America: Socio-historical Approach to 'Modern Overseas Material Informatics'</li> <li>Coordination between Projects to Make Effective Use of Research Results</li> </ul>

**Public Information Activities**

Advanced Collaboration Systems nihuNT <a href="https://int.nihu.jp/?lang=en">https://int.nihu.jp/?lang=en</a> Comprehensive search engine for databases operated by the six NIHU institutes as well as other organizations.
Research Resource Databases and Publications NIHU Repository Cloud-based NIHU repository giving users comprehensive access to research papers from the six NIHU institutes. Researcher's Profile <a href="https://nrd.nihu.jp/search?m=home&amp;l=en">https://nrd.nihu.jp/search?m=home&amp;l=en</a> Comprehensive database containing information on researchers throughout NIHU. Portal site for Japanese Studies <a href="https://guides2.nihu.jp/">https://guides2.nihu.jp/</a> English Resource Guide for Japanese Studies and Humanities in Japan. NIHU Magazine <a href="https://www.nihu.jp/en/publication/nihu_magazine">https://www.nihu.jp/en/publication/nihu_magazine</a> A bilingual (Japanese and English-language) publication that covers topics such as the latest research trends, results and activities at NIHU.
NIHU Symposiums NIHU organizes symposiums for the general public in order to share the comprehensive human culture related research resources and results it has accumulated.
Industry-Academia Collaborations NIHU collaborates with industry and other partners to give back its fruits of research to society. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint symposium with Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture - "Food sustainability: Exploring the nature of diet geared to the future" (recorded)</li> <li>Joint lecture with Otemachi Academia</li> <li>Joint symposium with the Japan Forum for the Cultivation of Insight from the Humanities</li> </ul>

## Inter-University Research Institute Network Project to Preserve and Succeed Historical and Cultural Resources

We promote document survey and data recording, the establishment of a wide support system, historical and cultural materials conservation projects that preserve materials and study preservation methodologies. Furthermore, we aim to inherit and build historical cultures within local communities by making use of materials, developing educational programs, and disseminating information in Japan and overseas. This program is run by NIHU (lead organization, Rekihaku), Tohoku University, Kobe University at the core, and in cooperation with “Shiryō Net,” a university based research activity to preserve old historical documents.

## NIHU Interactive Communication Initiative

We aim to pioneer a “visualization and advancement cycle of cutting-edge research at museums and exhibits”; which is about visualizing state-of-the-art research on human culture in museum contexts and exhibits and promoting research through the cooperation of multiple fields, academia and society. This program is run by NIHU's six institutes in collaboration with universities and research institutions across Japan.

## Liberal Arts Communicator Training Program

In the 2017 academic year, we have started a training program for humanities researchers that fosters their skills to communicate humanities research to a lay audience and become specialists that will be able to incorporate and address societal needs in their research. Our liberal arts communicators will utilize various resources and outlets to bridge between academia and society. Through this program we hope to develop talented researchers who will contribute to the advancement of humanities, foster industry-academia relations and raise the visibility of our research activities.



Liberal Arts Communicators participating in the online annual symposium held by the inter-university research institutes.

## Industry-Academia Collaborations

We collaborate with industry and other partners to give back the fruits of research to society. In the 2020 academic year, we jointly organized an online lecture with YOMIURI RESEARCH ORGANIZATION (recording is available from NIHU's YouTube), an online symposium with the Japan Forum for the Cultivation of Insight from the Humanities and a symposium with Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture titled “Food sustainability: Exploring the nature of diet geared to the future” (recorded and available from NIHU's YouTube).



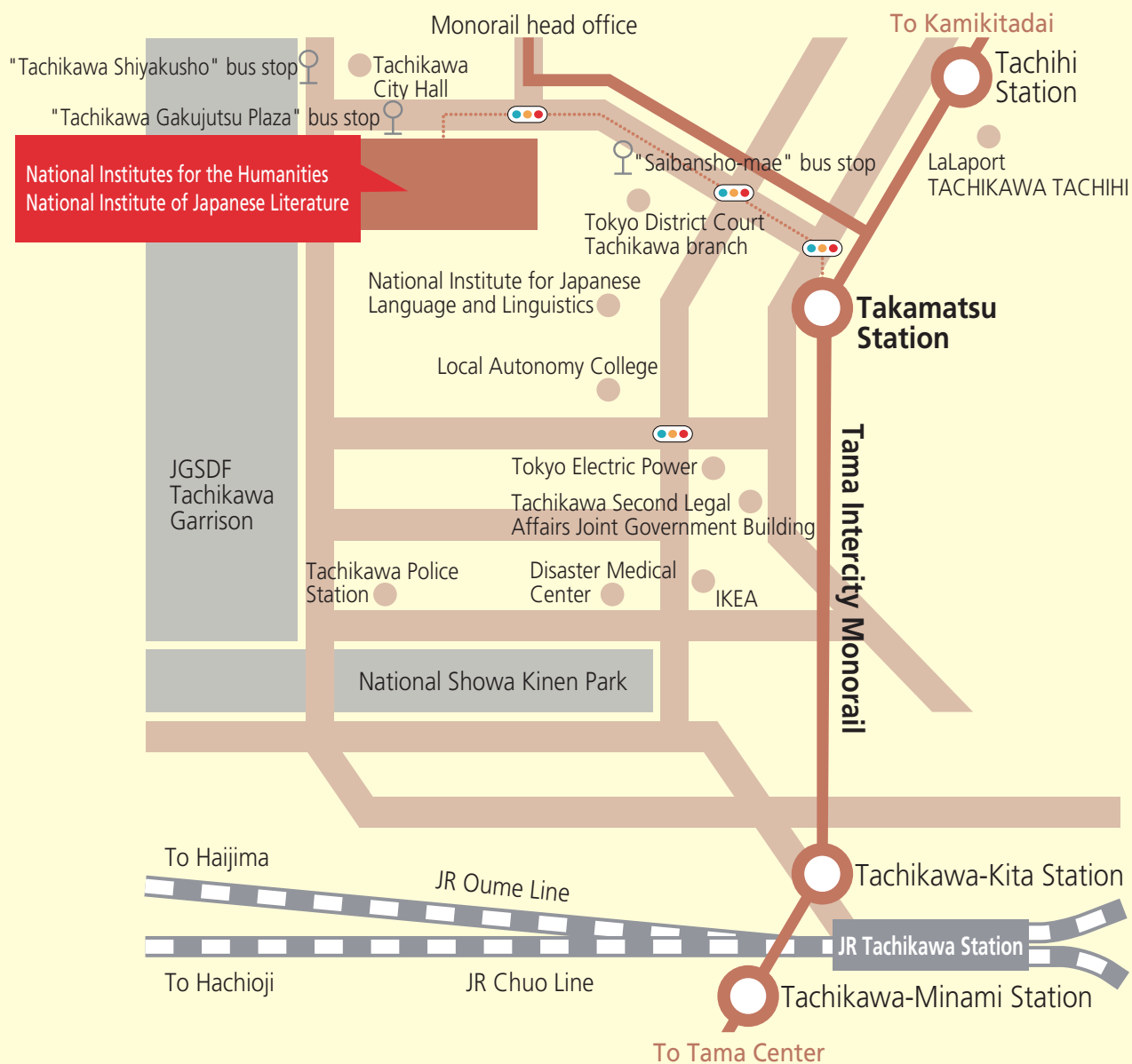
A symposium with Ajinomoto Foundation for Dietary Culture (Photo: YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/c/NihuJP>).

## Graduate School Education

NIHU's four humanities research institutes offer courses at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sokendai). The five graduate (doctoral) courses are designed to take advantage of the institutes' resources and provide an array of specialized training for researchers.

### Courses offered at Sokendai

- Department of Regional Studies
- Department of Comparative Studies
- Department of Japanese Studies
- Department of Japanese History
- Department of Japanese Literature



## Directions

### By Tama Intercity Monorail:

Get off at JR Tachikawa Station, make switch to Tama Monorail Tachikawa-Kita Station, get off at Takamatsu Station, and walk 10 minutes.

### By Tachikawa bus:

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ②, get off at "Tachikawa Gakujutsu Plaza," and walk 1 minutes.

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ①, get off at "Tachikawa Shiyakusho," and walk 3 minutes.

From JR Tachikawa Station's north entrance, board bus at boarding area ②, get off at "Saibansho-mae," and walk 5 minutes.

### On foot:

From JR Tachikawa Station, walk about 25 minutes.

### By car:

From Chuo Expressway's "Kunitachi Fuchu IC," drive about 15 minutes.  
\*Free parking available

大学共同利用機関法人 人間文化研究機構

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