

## Robin M. LeBlanc

### Education and Training:

Ph.D. in Political Science, with Distinction. University of Oklahoma. August 1994.

B.A. in English. Berry College, Rome, Georgia. June 1988. Summa Cum Laude.

Japanese Intensive Summer Language Study, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. 1989, 1991.

Intensive Italian Language Study, Cultura Italiana, Bologna, Italy, August 20 – October 20, 2012.

### Professional Appointments:

Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 2008 – present.

Head, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Washington and Lee University. July 2013 – June 2017.

Holder of Cannan Term Professorship, Williams School of Commerce, Economics, and Politics, Washington and Lee University, 2012 – 2014.

Acting Head, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Washington and Lee University. July 2011 – December 2012 and July 2008 – June 2009.

Associate Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 2002 – 2008.

Assistant Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 1998 – June 2002.

Assistant Professor of Politics. Division of History and Politics, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia. September 1994 – June 1998.

### Publications

#### Books:

*The Art of the Gut: Manhood, Power, and Ethics in Japanese Politics* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010). Short listed (top 5) for the 2010 International Convention of Asia Scholars Social Science Book Prize.

*Bicycle Citizenship: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife* (Berkeley: University of California, 1999). A Choice Outstanding Academic Title of 1999.

#### Articles/Book Chapters:

“Tariru o shiru randosukēpu poriteikusu” (The Landscape Politics of Enough). in *Ranosukēpu kenkyū* (Landscape Research). *Tokushū: pousto seichōshakai ni okeru randosukēpu no hōkō “degrowth” no kanōsei* (Special Edition: the direction of landscapes in a post-growth society, possibilities for degrowth) 83: 1 (April 2019) 35-36.

“Translation from the Japanese of Igarashi Akio, “Gender and Japanese Politics Transformation by Women.” *Contemporary Japanese Politics*. New York: Routledge, 156-175. (8383 words). [Originally “Jendā to nihon seiji: josei ni yoru henkaku,” in *Nihon seijiron* (Theories of Japanese Politics) (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten, 2010), 165 – 188.]

Designing a Beautifully Poor Public: Postgrowth Community in Italy and Japan.” *Journal of Political Ecology* 24: 2017, 439-461.

“What Highrise Living Means for Tokyo Civic Life: Changing Residential Architecture and the Specter of Rising Privacy.” In *Journal of Japanese Studies*. 42:2 (Summer 2016).

“The Role of American Racism in the Subprime Mortgage Crisis and its Aftermath.” In *Atti del seminario Povera Casa*. Edited by Laura Fregolent, Marco Guerzoni e Rossana Torri. (Venezia: IUAV), 2015.

- “Lessons from the Ghost of Salaryman Past: The Global Costs of the Breadwinner Imaginary.” *Journal of Asian Studies* 71: 4 (November 2012) 857-871.
- “The Politics of Gender in Japan.” In *Handbook of Japanese Culture and Society*. Edited by Theodore and Victoria Bestor. (New York: Routledge, 2011), 116-128.
- “Teaching to Spite the Body.” In *Feminist Activism in Academia*. Edited by Ellen Mayock and Domnica Radulescu. (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, 2010), 45 - 60.
- “Masculinity as a Constraint on Electoral Rationality in Politics and Political Science.” *Extensions* (Summer 2010), 4 – 7.
- “The Potential and Limits of Anti-Party Electoral Movements in Japanese Local Politics.” In *Democratic Reform in Japan: Assessing the Impact*. Edited by Gill Steel and Sherry Martin. Lynne Reiner Publishers, 2008.
- “Japan’s Low Fertility: What Have Men Got to Do with It?” In *Asia Program Special Report No. 141: Japan’s Declining Population: Clearly a Problem, But What’s the Solution?* Edited by Mark Mohr. Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, July 2008.
- “Seeking the Empire of Women with Tom Wolfe.” *Shenandoah* 57: 1 (Spring 2007), 148 - 165.
- “Why Women are Representing Men in a Japanese Town Assembly: A Little Tale About Gender Politics.” *Kokusai jendā gakkai shi* [Japanese Journal of the International Society for Gender Studies]. 2 (2004), 35 – 70. (Peer reviewed.)
- “Reconceiving Community: Pedaling and Peddling Democracy Among Japanese Housewives.” In *Social Structures, Social Capital, and Personal Freedom*. Edited by Peter Lawler and Dale McConkey (Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers, 2000), 31 – 42. (Peer reviewed.)
- “What Every Political Scientist Should Know About Housewives: Notes from the Japanese Case.” *The Journal of Pacific Asia*, 5 (Spring 1999). [In both Japanese and English.] (Invited.)
- Translation from the Japanese. Osawa Mari, “Will the Japanese-Style System Change? Employment, Gender and the Welfare State,” *The Journal of Pacific Asia* (1996: 3) [Published by the Committee for Research on Pacific Asia, Rikkyo University, Faculty of Law and Politics]. (Invited.)
- “Politics in Japan: The Art of Connection,” *Mangajin: Japanese Pop Culture and Language Learning* (September 1996), 12-15. (Invited.)
- “*Nihon no toshi ni okeru shufu no seiji ishiki to seiji gaku no arikata*, (The Political Consciousness of Urban Japanese Housewives and the Nature of Political Science)” *Seigakuin daigaku soogoo kenkyuujo newsletter* [Newsletter of the General Research Center of Seigakuin University] (January 1996). (Invited lecture text.)
- "Conference Committees: The Congressional Context," *Canadian Parliamentary Review*, Autumn 1991, Vol. 14, No. 3, 24-28. September 2, 1990.

### Recent Book Reviews:

- Review of *The Empire of Hope: The Sentimental Politics of Japanese Decline*. By David Leheny. Cornell University Press, 2018. *Perspectives on Politics* 18 (1): 285-286.
- Review of *Beyond the Gender Gap*. Edited by Gill Steel. University of Michigan Press, 2019. *Social Science Japan Journal*, forthcoming (available online as of 2 December 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ssjj/jyaa031>)
- Review of *The Life We Longed For: Danchi Housing and the Middle Class Dream in Postwar Japan*. By Laura Nietzel. MerwinAsia, 2016. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 44: 1 (2018), 234-237.
- Review of *Building Resilience: Social Capital in Post-disaster Recovery*. By Daniel P. Aldrich. University of Chicago Press, 2012. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 41: 1 (2015), 190 – 194.
- Review of Ōyama Nao and Kunihiro Yōko. *Chiiki shakai ni okeru josei to seiji* (Women and Politics in Local Society) Hadano-shi, Kanagawa: Tokai Daigaku Shuppankai, 2010. *Social Science Japan Journal* 15: 1 (Winter 2012), 129-132.

Review of Gerteis, Christopher. *Gender Struggles: Wage-Earning Women and Male-Dominated Unions in Postwar Japan*. Harvard East Asian Monographs, 2009. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 37: 2 (Summer 2011).

Review of Kazuki Iwanaga. *Women's Political Participation and Representation in Asia*. Copenhagen: NIAS Press, 2008. *Pacific Affairs* 82:4 (January 2010).

### **Grants, Awards, Honors**

North East Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies Short-term Travel Grant, 2017

Fulbright Research Fellowship, Italy, 2012-2013

Washington and Lee University Lenfest Sabbatical Extension Grant, 2012 – 2014

Rikkyo University Invitee Research Associate, Summer 2010, Tokyo

*International Christian University Foundation Visiting Professor of Political Science at*

*International Christian University in Tokyo, Fall Term 2007*

Washington and Lee University Class of '62 Grant to Extend Sabbatical, 2007 – 2008

Fulbright Research Fellowship in Japan, Fall 2002

College in Asia Summer Institute. Sponsored by ASIANetwork / Freeman Foundation. June 2000.

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Grant for Post-Doctoral Study, 1999.

*Georgia Trend Magazine's* "Forty Under Forty" Leaders in Business, Politics and Academics, 1997.

Summer Institute on Korean Culture and Society: Sponsored by the University of Hawaii Center for Korean Studies, the East-West Center and a Grant from the Korea Foundation. July 1997.

National Endowment for the Humanities Grant for Participation in an Asian Studies Development Program Workshop on Confucianism and Chinese Culture sponsored jointly by the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii and Colorado College, March 1996.

Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies Travel Grant, Summer 1995.

American Political Science Association Women and Politics Section Award for the Best Dissertation on Women and Politics Written in 1994.

Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics, 1994, Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, Iowa State University.

Fulbright Graduate Research Fellowship, 1991-1993, Japan.

### **Public Lectures Since 2006:**

Japanese Studies from the Perspective of a Scholar of Medium Privilege. Keynote Address. Annual Meeting of the Association of Japanese Literary Studies, Atlanta, Georgia, January 24, 2020.

Making Voices, Taking Spaces: The Aesthetics of Being an Alternate Choice. The Inaugural Unendowed Professor Lecture, Washington and Lee University, May 2, 2018

"Doing an Ethnography of Residential Space in Public Life in Italy and Japan," a presentation the *Community and Mobility* taught by Leonard Schoppa and Shige Oishi at the University of Virginia, October 20, 2016.

"The Art of the Gut as Methodology and Finding." Presented to the East Asian Studies Core Seminar through the Center for East Asian Studies at Stanford University, November 12, 2010.

"*Josei no seiji sanko wo manabu koto*" (The Study of Women's Political Participation). Presented in Japanese to the Gender and Politics Seminar, Rikkyo University Faculty of Law, June 28, 2010.

"*Jendaa shiten kara seiji bunseki*" (Analyzing Politics from a Gender Perspective). Presented in Japanese to the Faculty and Graduate Student Seminar of the Rikkyo University Faculty of Law, June 29, 2010.

"*Josei no seiji shinshutsu no imi – nihon no seiji ha dou kawarunoka*" (The Meaning of Women's Political Advancement: How Will Japan's Politics Change?) Delivered in Japanese at

- Rikkyo University on behalf of the Ichikawa Fusae Memorial Association and the Research Collaborative for Designing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Society, July 9, 2010.
- “*Josei gaku saikou – dansei ni yoru seiji no seisan wo tegakari ni*” (Reconsidering Women’s Studies – Working from an Examination of the Politics Men Do). Presented in Japanese at Rikkyo University to the Peace and Community Research Group and the Gender Forum, July 14, 2010.
- “The Art of the Gut: Manhood and Ethics in Japanese Politics.” Presented at Johns Hopkins University, April 14, 2010.
- “The Art of the Gut: Manhood and Ethics in Japanese Politics.” Presented at Cornell University Law School as part of the 2009 Colloquium Series of the Clarke Program in East Asian Law and Culture, September 23, 2009.
- “*Nihon no seiji ni okeru otokorashisa* (Masculinity in Japanese Politics).” Presented at International Christian University, October 18, 2007. (Conducted in Japanese.)
- “Cheating as a Democratic Practice: Dismantling the Constraints of Masculine Trust Networks in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented to the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale University, April 9, 2007.

### **Conference Presentations Since 2006:**

- “A Possessing Commons: Re-visioning Democracy for Post-Growth Society.” Prepared for presentation to the 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Boston, Massachusetts, August 30 – September 2.
- “There’s a Ditch on Both Sides of the Road: Immigration and Urban Space in Aging Societies.” Prepared for presentation to the Spaces & Flows: 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies, at Heidelberg University, October 24-26, 2018.
- “Designing a Beautifully Poor Public: Architectural Discourses of Post-Growth Community in Italy and Japan.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, in Denver, Colorado, November 19, 2015.
- “Architects, Planners, and Anarchists: Reimagining Urbanity for Communities in Decline.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, at the London School of Economics and Political Science, July 3, 2015.
- “The Social and Political Challenges of Declining Homeownership in the Post-Crisis United States.” Presented at the international conference *Povera Casa*, sponsored by the Università Iuav di Venezia, Venezia, June 12 – 13, 2014.
- “Gardening as a Political Statement: Re-visioning Participation in Democratic Community as an Aesthetic Practice.” Presented at Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, Manchester, United Kingdom, April 14 – 16, 2014.
- “What Do We Do When the Young Don’t Party? Examining Barriers to Satisfactory Youth Engagement in Politics in Japan and Italy.” Presented at the International Symposium on Civil Society, Political Participation and Happiness, sponsored by the German Institute for Japanese Studies of Tokyo, in Bad Homburg, Germany, May 23 – 25, 2013
- “What the Condominium Autolock Means for Democracy: Demographic Change, the Rise of Privacy, and Japanese Politics.” Presented at the Washington-Southeast Japan Seminar, Washington, D.C., April 28, 2012.
- “Housing the Polity: The Changing Architecture of Community in an Aging Society.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics in Madrid, June 23 - 25, 2011.
- A dramatic performance based on my essay “Teaching to Spite the Body” as part of the panel “Feminist Activism in Academia: Staging and Performing Dissent.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Theater in Higher Education in Chicago, August 13-14, 2011.
- “Japanese Democracy: The Community Dilemma.” Remarks as a member of the “Presidential Roundtable on Democracy and Pluralism in Asia.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in Honolulu, March 31 – April 3, 2011.
- “Cheating as a Democratic Practice: The Connection Between Masculine Identity and Political Power in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Anthropology of Japan in Japan, in Tokyo, November 17 – 18, 2007.
- “The Art of the Gut: How Power Constrains the Political Voices of Japanese Men.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Francisco, April 6 – 9, 2006.

### **Courses Taught Since 2006:**

*American Politics*: American National Government (Winter 2011); see also courses in Women’s and Gender Studies.

*Comparative Politics*: Comparative Government (Winter 2006), East Asian Politics (Fall 2004, Fall 2006, Fall 2009, Winter 2012), Global Politics (Winter 2009, Winter 2010, Winter and Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016) Japanese Political System (Winter 2009), Nuclear

Japan (Fall 2011), Food, Shelter, Space, Voice: Movements for Democratic Renewal (Winter 2014, Fall 2015)

*Political Theory Courses:* Introduction to Political Philosophy (nearly every year), Theories of Power (Fall 2011), See also theory courses in Women's and Gender Studies.

*Women's and Gender Studies:* Feminist Legal Philosophy Seminar (at the Washington and Lee University Law School, Fall 2010), Gender and Political Theory (Fall 2009), Gender and Politics (Fall 2008, Winter 2012, Fall 2013, Winter 2017), Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies (Spring 2009, Winter 2010), Politics of Masculine Power (Spring 2007, Fall 2007 at I.C.U.), Gender and Citizenship Theory in the Western Tradition (Fall 2007 at I.C.U.), The Art of Democracy and the Politics of Marriage (Spring 2011), The Politics of Race and Gender in *Mad Men* (Spring 2015, 2017)

#### **Administrative Experience:**

Program Head, Women's and Gender Studies, Washington and Lee University, 2013 - 2017

Acting Program Head, Women's and Gender Studies, Washington and Lee University, Fall 2011 and 2008 – 2009

Founder and Chair, Committee for Science, Society, and the Arts, a biennial, campus-wide student conference involving several hundred students, faculty, and staff, Washington and Lee University, 2003 – 2007.

#### **Service to the Profession:**

Member, advisory board for Hong Kong University Press book series, *Transnational Asian Masculinities*.

Member, annual meeting program committee, Association for Asian Studies, 2009 – 2011.

Member, advisory board, North-American Coordinating Council for Japanese Studies Resources (NCC) 2006 - 2009; Co-Chair of the NCC's Image Use Protocol Task Force (examining the process for getting copyright permissions on Japanese-owned images) 2006-2008; Member of NCC's Executive Committee, 2008 - 2009.

Member, advisory board, Japan Political Studies Group. (2007 – 2013)

Member of the selection committee for the Association for Asian Studies John Whitney Hall Prize for the best book published in Japanese or Korean Studies in 2006.

Referee for wide range of journals and book presses including but not limited to: *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, *Social Politics*, Routledge Press, Oxford University Press, Cornell University Press.