Application Information

The Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture is now accepting applications for the Fifth Nanzan Seminar on Japanese Religions to be held on 11–12 January 2020 at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. For the third consecutive year, the Seminar will be conducted in collaboration with the JSPS Core-to-Core Program at Nagoya University.

Conditions for Participation

1. Applicants should be graduate students (recently graduated post-docs may be considered) enrolled in a PhD program outside of Japan, who are currently conducting dissertation research on Japanese religions.

2. Applicants must be non-native speakers of Japanese with sufficient language training to present their research and engage in academic discussion in Japanese. All presentations and discussion will be conducted in Japanese.

3. Participants must attend and participate in the entire program of the Seminar.

4. Travel expenses and lodging will be provided for participants in the Seminar. The program will cover the cost of domestic travel to and from Nanzan University as well as economy-class round-trip airfare for those traveling from abroad. However, please note that some restrictions may apply to the length of stay in Japan prior to or following the Seminar. Also, the number of applications accepted may rely on overall travel expenses.

5. An excursion may be held immediately following the Seminar as part of the JSPS Core-to-Core Program. All participants are encouraged to attend and make travel arrangements accordingly.

Application Procedures

1. Applicants should fill out the application form (download here from the Institute homepage). Please submit an English-language abstract (250–350 words) and a summary in Japanese (600–900 characters) of your research presentation by 30 September 2019. Please send completed applications as an attachment by e-mail to nirc-office@ic.nanzan-u.ac.jp with the title “Nanzan Seminar Application.”

2. The chosen applicants will be notified by 15 October.

3. Participants must submit a full paper either in English (under 8,000 words) or in Japanese (under 12,000 characters) by 1 December. If papers are not submitted on time, acceptance may be revoked. Discussants and staff will read the papers in advance in order to prepare comments and discussion, so the presentation should follow the content of the prepared paper.
Seminar Schedule (Example)

10 January (Fri): arrive in Nagoya by evening and check in to hotel

11 January (Sat): arrive at the Nanzan Institute after lunch
   13:00  opening ceremony
   13:10–14:30 opening lecture
   14:45–16:15 seminar presentation 1
   16:30–18:00 seminar presentation 2
   18:30  welcoming party

12 January (Sun): second day of presentations at Nanzan Institute
   9:30–11:00 presentation 3
   11:15–12:45 presentation 4
   Lunch
   14:00–15:30 presentation 5
   15:45–17:00 final discussion
   17:30  closing dinner

13 January (Mon): excursion

14 January (Tues): leave Nagoya

Advisers

Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture
James Heisig (Philosophy of Religion, Japanese Philosophy)
Kim Seung Chul (Theology, Interreligious Dialogue)
Okuyama Michiaki (Religious Studies, History of Religion)
Paul Swanson (Buddhist Studies, Religious Studies)
Matthew McMullen (Buddhist Studies, Esoteric Buddhism)
Saitō Takashi (Religious Studies, Religious Popular Literature)
Tim Graf (Religious Studies, Documentarian)

Discussants

Abe Yasuro, Nagoya University
Iwata Fumiaki, Osaka University of Education
Kobayashi Naoko, Aichi Gakuin University
Yoshida Kazuhiko, Nagoya City University
Chikamoto Kensuke, Nagoya University

Academic Staff

Fukahori Ayaka (Religion and Musicology)
Gotō Haruko (Religion and Ethnography)