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USC Dornsife

East Asian Studies Center

January 13, 2025

Welcome Back EASC Community

EASC is thinking of our Los Angeles community and we hope you all stay safe. Should there be any changes regarding our programming, we will be sure to let you know. [Visit the USC emergency page](#) for more information, including the latest update from university leadership on operational and safety issues. The EASC office has resumed our usual office hours, Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.



East Asia Career Panel

Wednesday, January 29 | 5:00PM - 6:30PM | SOS B40 | Flyer | [RSVP](#)

Please join us for the 10th [East Asia Career Panel](#)! The [East Asia Career Panel](#) is open to all undergraduate and graduate students interested in using their East Asian language and area studies skills in their future professions and learning about the different career options available. Our impressive alumni panelists come from professions in fields such as law, art, entertainment, and government. The panel will be followed by a Q&A and networking opportunity.



Ayaka Kimura

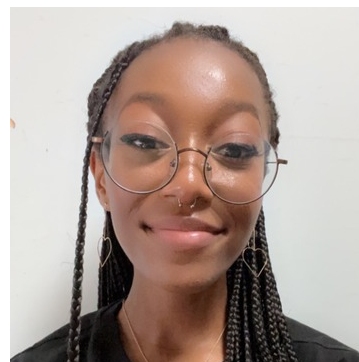
Ayaka is a second-year law student at LMU Loyola Law School with a passion for art restitution, cultural heritage, and the intersection of law and art. Last summer, she externed for the Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and will be a summer associate at a Honolulu law firm. Before law school, she interned at LACMA and L.A. Louver Gallery. During her time at USC, Ayaka double-majored in Law,

History and Culture and East Asian Area Studies, writing her honors thesis on ūman

ribu, the Japanese radical feminist movement. Fluent in Japanese, she has also interned at a law firm in Osaka.

Dionee Simmons

Dionee Simmons is a junior researcher at Interpret, specializing in qualitative research on video games and technology through focus groups, interviews, and playtests. A QuestBridge Scholar, Dionee majored in East Asian Area Studies and Global Studies, was a two-time Korean Studies Undergraduate Research Fellow, co-founder of the [Student Journal of Asian Studies](#), and a Research Gateway Scholar! She produced research on Korean cinema, webtoons, and boys' love fandom. She also studied at Yonsei University in Seoul, advancing her Korean language skills.



Rochelle Wong

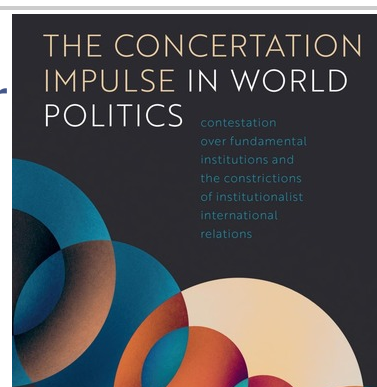
Rochelle Wong is an Assistant Special Agent in Charge for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations. She leads a team who investigates fraud, waste, and abuse in federal healthcare programs. Prior to joining HHS-OIG, Rochelle worked as a paralegal at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Central District of California, in the major frauds unit.

Before that, she was a pharmaceutical representative. Rochelle received a bachelor's degree in International Relations and East Asian Languages and Cultures.

EASC Guest Speaker Series **Informal Institutions and Challenges for International Relations: Asian Perspectives**

Thu, Jan 30 | 12:00PM–1:00PM | SOS B40 | [RSVP](#)

Prof. **Saori Katada** invites the wider community to an event with Prof. **Andrew Cooper** (*University of Waterloo*) to discuss his forthcoming book, *The Concertation Impulse in World Politics: Contestation over Fundamental Institutions and the Constrictions of Institutional International Relations* (Oxford University Press, 2024). He explores the central role of contestation over international institutions, particularly informal concertation as a competitor to formal multilateralism. Drawing on Hedley Bull's work, Cooper identifies two models of concertation: one based on pluralism (e.g., G20) and another on solidarity (e.g., G7, BRICS). The talk highlights how these dynamics, especially China's dual strategy within the G20 and BRICS, affect institutional choices and global governance, with significant implications for East Asia and beyond.



The event is co-sponsored by the USC *Center for International Studies* and *Department of Political Science and International Relations*.

Spring 2025 Events

Please see below to RSVP and save-the-date for some of our upcoming events this Spring!



Global East Asia 2025 Orientation Fri, Feb 7 | 2:00PM – 3:00PM | DMC 150

This mandatory orientation session for the Tokyo Maymester program will cover travel-related requirements, health and safety, and provide an opportunity to meet the course faculty, staff, and fellow classmates.

For registered students of EASC 360 only.



EASC Guest Speaker Series: China's Relations with Central Asia: Why Should Americans Care? Fri, Feb 14 | 4:00PM – 5:30PM | THH 202

Historian Morris Rossabi will explore China's relations with Central Asia and discuss their significance for American foreign policy and global affairs.

RSVP



"Flower Bird Wind Moon" (Kachō Fūgetsu) Sat, Mar 1 | 2:00PM – 5:00PM | Scene Dock Theatre

Attend a staged reading of Velina Hasu Houston's play "Flower Bird Wind Moon," which delves into themes of cultural identity and personal transformation.

RSVP



Spring 2025 EASC Undergraduate Mixer Fri, Mar 7 | 2:00PM – 3:30PM | CAS 100

Meet fellow East Asian area studies and Korean studies majors and minors, enjoy refreshments, and learn about upcoming opportunities. Open to USC undergraduates only.

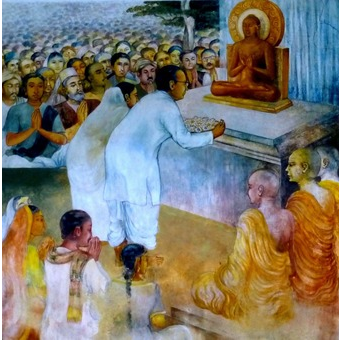
RSVP

Spring 2025 EASC Grad Mixer Tue, Mar 25 | 4:00PM – 5:30PM | CAS 100

Enjoy food, drinks, and conversation with fellow students across USC. Graduate students from any field are welcome, providing an opportunity to meet peers with East Asia-related research topics and interests. Open to USC graduate students only.



RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series: Dr. Ambedkar and Navayana Buddhism: Opening New Forms and Approaches to Liberation

Tue, April 1 | 12:00PM – 1:20PM | Zoom

Join us for an insightful talk by Dr. Santosh Raut from Harvard Divinity School on Dr. Ambedkar's political and social ideals within Buddhist philosophy. The talk will delve into Ambedkar's vision of the Buddha-Dharma as a tool for personal and societal transformation.

RSVP



EASC Guest Speaker Series: By the Women, For the Revolution: Gendered Struggle of Navayana Buddhism

Wed, Apr 2 | 12:00PM – 1:20PM | Zoom

Harsha Gautam from the University of Texas at Austin will share her research on the grassroots efforts of Navayāna nuns with oppressed communities. This talk will explore the innovative strategies the nuns employ to introduce Buddhism to unfamiliar audiences.

RSVP



Spring 2025 EASC Faculty Luncheon

Tue, Apr 15 | 11:30AM – 1:30PM | University Club Scriptorium

EASC hosts its annual Faculty Luncheon! We look forward to having the opportunity to share recent developments and reconnect with each other.

Open to EASC affiliated faculty only.

OPPORTUNITIES

Final Call

Student Journal of Asian Studies

There is still time to apply to be a peer editor for the USC Student Journal of Asian Studies! The USC Student Journal for Asian Studies (SJAS@USC) is a student-run journal created to publish undergraduate and graduate work in various disciplines surrounding Asian Studies from around the world. Peer Reviewers can gain

experience in publication, peer review, project management, and teamwork. They will be working with student authors from around the world, global universities, and the USC East Asian Studies Center to attract new readers – from high schoolers to current professors. *All interested applicants MUST be a current USC student.*



Peer Editor Applications are OPEN! **Apply here** ➤



U.S.-ROK-Japan Young Trilateral Leaders Summit

Deadline: Sunday, January 19

The U.S.-ROK-Japan Young Trilateral Leaders Summit aims to strengthen trilateral ties between the U.S., the Republic of Korea, and Japan while equipping 50 youth participants (ages 18-35) from these nations and the Indo-Pacific region with the tools and expertise to address global challenges. Through leadership development, strategic collaboration, and innovation, participants will actively contribute to shaping the region's future. Participants will receive full funding to attend the 3-day summit in Osaka, Japan.

For more information and application details, **please see the website** ➤

Support EASC



Comments? Questions? Promotion requests?
easc@dornsife.usc.edu

For more news and information about the USC East Asian Studies Center visit usc.edu/easc

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