

YU Jeongsoo
Dean, Graduate School of International Cultural Studies (GSICS)
Tohoku University

Application Information

1. Job type: Associate Professor (*junkyōju*)
2. Area of expertise: Modern and Contemporary Japanese Religion
3. Subjects to teach: Graduate-level courses, general education undergraduate courses (*zengaku kyōiku*)
4. Qualifications
 - 1) Applicants must be recognized as qualified to engage in education and research at this graduate school, and must hold a doctoral degree. They should also have at least three years of teaching experience as an associate professor or lecturer at a university (or in an equivalent position at a university outside Japan). Experience in graduate-level education is also desirable. However, in cases where an applicant demonstrates exceptional qualifications in other areas, the required number of years may be reduced.
 - 2) The applicant's area of specialization should be religion in modern and contemporary Japan. They must be able to relate to the historical approach employed by the current faculty members of the Department of Japanese Religion and Intellectual History, while also being capable of offering alternative perspectives (particularly through research based on fieldwork), and of providing instruction in such methods. Applicants must have published at least one scholarly monograph with an academic press and have a proven track record of peer-reviewed articles in internationally recognized journals in the field (e.g., Q1, top 10% in CiteScore rankings).
 - 3) Applicants must be aware of the duties related to educational and administrative operations at Japanese public universities (such as responsibilities related to entrance examinations and curriculum management), and must be capable of carrying out such duties appropriately as a faculty member of this graduate school. They should also be able to teach common subjects in the Division of Regional Cultural Studies, graduate-level courses, and general education undergraduate courses. In addition, as the candidate is also expected to be actively involved in Tohoku University's International Graduate Program in Japanese Studies and other international initiatives, a sound understanding of the broader field of Japanese Studies, along with a record of relevant scholarly or institutional contributions, would be an asset.
 - 4) There are no restrictions on nationality, but candidates must be proficient in both Japanese and English to perform the duties described above, including academic supervision of students.
 - 5) In principle, the appointment will be made under the tenure-track system as defined by the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. However, in cases where the candidate demonstrates exceptional qualifications and achievements, a tenured position (non-fixed term) may be offered from the outset. The standard tenure-track term is four years, and the tenure review will be conducted no later than two years before the end of the term.
5. Employment Conditions
 - 1) Tohoku University's discretionary labor system applies to this position.
 - 2) In principle, this is a four-year tenure-track appointment. A tenure review will be conducted by the end of the second year. Exceptionally qualified candidates may be granted tenure at the time of appointment. For details, please contact the Administration Office.

6. Starting date: April 1, 2026

7. Application materials

- 1) One copy of the applicant's CV with a photograph. (use the official university form, downloadable from the GSICS website: <https://www.intcul.tohoku.ac.jp/english/positions-available/>).
- 2) A list of research achievements, organized into the following categories: single-authored books, edited volumes, co-authored books, journal articles, research notes, book reviews, papers published in conference proceedings, doctoral dissertation, and others. For each item, indicate whether each publication was peer-reviewed, and if applicable, provide quantitative indicators such as citation counts, journal impact factors, or Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI).
- 3) Please submit copies (offprints or photocopies are acceptable) of all published research outputs. Among them, indicate five major works by marking them with a circle (○) on the list of research achievements. For each of these five works, include a summary (approximately 400 characters in Japanese or 200 words in English).
- 4) Submit the following two items in English or Japanese (approx. one A4 page each)—(a) a summary of your past research, its academic significance, and your future research plans; and (b) a description of your teaching experience, including details of courses taught, supervision of theses and dissertations, and involvement in the development and management of educational programs or curricula.
- 5) External Funding History (past 5 years)
- 6) Names, affiliations, and contact details of two individuals who can provide references for the applicant.

* Additional documents may be requested if deemed necessary.

8. Deadline for application: Tuesday, September 30, 2025. All application materials must arrive by this date.

9. Selection process: After an initial screening of documents, interviews (including a mock lecture) will be conducted. Please note that travel expenses for the interview will not be reimbursed. Depending on the situation regarding infectious diseases and other factors, the interview may be conducted online.

10. Postal address: Tohoku University Graduate School of International Cultural Studies
41 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8576 JAPAN
Attn: Dean, GSICS

*Please write "Application Documents Enclosed, Department of Japanese Religion and Intellectual History" in red on the envelope and send it by registered mail.

*Application materials will not be returned.

11. Contact: Tohoku University Graduate School of International Cultural Studies Administration Office
Tel: 022 (795) 7541
Fax: 022 (795) 7583
Email: int-som@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

School website:

<http://www.intcul.tohoku.ac.jp/>

12. Notes

- Tohoku University promotes **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** and welcomes applications from individuals of diverse backgrounds.
 - DEI Declaration page: <https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/about/>

- In accordance with Article 8 of the Act on Securing Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment, Tohoku University may give preference to qualified female applicants based on fair evaluation, as part of efforts to increase the number of women in academic positions.
- Tohoku University operates one of the largest on-campus childcare networks among Japanese national universities. This includes:
 - *Kawauchi Keyaki Nursery* (22 children)
 - *Aobayama Midori Nursery* (116 children)
 - *Hoshinoko Nursery* (120 children) on the Seiryō Campus
 - A sick-child care room operated by the university hospital
- For more information on childcare support, work-life balance, research assistance, and gender equity initiatives:
 - Center for Gender Equality Promotion:
<https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/about/policy/>
 - Work-Life Balance Support:
https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/consulting/for_family/
 - Human Resources and Planning Department website:
<https://c.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/jinji-top/external/a-4-kosodate/>