

Junichi Yamasaki

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Current Appointment

- **2024-10–present**: Associate Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University
- **2020-03–present**: Visiting Researcher, TDB-CAREE, Hitotsubashi University

Published Works

- “Railroads and Technology Adoption in Meiji Japan”, *Explorations in Economic History*, vol. 97 (2025-07). DOI: 10.1016/j.eeh.2025.101683
- “Barriers to Saving for Retirement: Evidence from a Public Pension Program in Mongolia” with Tomoaki Tanaka, Yasuyuki Sawada, Khaliun Dovchinsuren, *Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics*, vol. 3, no. 2 (2025-05-01). DOI: 10.1086/732811
- “Time Horizon of Government and Public Goods Investment: Evidence from Japan”, *Journal of Development Economics*, vol. 146 (2020-09). DOI: 10.1016/j.jdeveco.2020.102518

Working Papers

- “From Samurai to Skyscrapers: How Transaction Costs Shape Tokyo” with Kentaro Nakajima, Kensuke Teshima, TDB-CAREE Discussion Paper Series
- “Regime Change and Local Industrialization: Evidence from Meiji Restoration” with Masahiro Kubo, Ken Miura, Michihiro Nakamura
- “Public Goods Provision, Community, and Tax Morale” with Jun Goto, Bolor Sharkhuu

Work in Progress

- “Geography of Business Interactions: Evidence from Business Card Exchange Data” with Shinnosuke Kikuchi, Shota Komatsu, Juan Nelson Martínez Dahbura, Kentaro Nakajima, Takanori Nishida, Kensuke Teshima
- “Transforming Samurai into Bureaucrats” with Yasuo Takatsuki, Katsuya Takii

Education

- **2013-09–2018-02**: PhD Economics. Advisors: Prof Robin Burgess, Dr Greg Fischer, London School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Economics
- **2011-09–2013-07**: MRes Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Economics
- **2009-04–2011-03**: M.A. Economics, The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Economics
- **2005-04–2009-03**: B.A. Economics, The University of Tokyo, Faculty of Economics

Past Appointments

- **2021-04–2024-09**: Associate Professor (Koshi), Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University
- **2017-03–2021-03**: Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Kobe University (Tenure-track; Project Assistant Professor (Tokumei Jokyo) during 2017/Mar-2018/Mar)

Teaching Experience

- **2023–present**: Historical Economics, Kyoto University. Graduate level, in Japanese
- **2023–present**: Urban Economics, Kyoto University. Undergrad level, in Japanese
- **2013–2016**: Introductory Econometrics (Teaching Assistant to Prof Steve Pischke), London School of Economics. Undergraduate-level Econometrics. Nominated for LSESU Student-Led Teaching Excellence Awards 2016.
- **2010–2011**: Topics on Econometrics (Teaching Assistant to Prof Hidehiko Ichimura), The University of Tokyo. Graduate-level program evaluation.

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

- **2023-04**: The Third Hayami Award, Japanese Association for Development Economics (From Samurai to Skyscrapers: How Transaction Costs Shape Tokyo)
- **2021-07**: Homer Hoyt Institute Best Paper Award, 2021 Virtual Joint Real Estate Conference by AsRES (Asian Real Estate Society), GCREC(The Global Chinese Real Estate Congress), and AREUEA (American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association) 2021. (“From Samurai to Skyscrapers: How Historical Lot Fragmentation Shapes Tokyo”)
- **2016-12**: 2018 Moriguchi Prize by the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Osaka University, the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Osaka University (Railroads, Technology Adoption, and Modern Economic Development: Evidence from New Data in the Late 19th - Early 20th Centuries Japan)
- **2016**: Nominated for LSESU Student-Led Teaching Excellence Awards, LSE Students Union (Introductory Econometrics TA)
- **2013**: LSE Scholarship, London School of Economics
- **2011**: The Nakajima Foundation Scholarship for Studying Abroad, The Nakajima Foundation
- **2011**: JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Grants

- **2025–2026**: Nomura Foundation (970,000 JPY)
- **2024–2025**: Zengin Foundation for Studies on Economics and Finance (1,100,000 JPY) with Masahiro Kubo, Ken Miura
- **2023–2027**: Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (18,720,000 JPY). “Persistence of Political Institutions and Urban Structure in Japan Using Long-run Historical Big Data”
- **2019–2023**: Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (4,160,000 JPY). “Empirical Analysis of Barriers to Land Development: A Natural Experiment Using the Edo-period Land System”
- **2019–2021**: The Foundation of Kinoshita Memorial Enterprise (2,500,000 JPY) with Jun Goto
- **2018–2019**: Japan Center for Economic Research (850,000 JPY) with Kentaro Nakajima, Kensuke Teshima
- **2018–2019**: Zengin Foundation for Studies on Economics and Finance (950,000 JPY) with Bolor Sharkhuu
- **2018–2019**: Nomura Foundation (500,000 JPY) with Kentaro Nakajima, Kensuke Teshima
- **2018–2019**: Nomura Foundation (420,000 JPY) with Jun Goto, Yuko Matsumiya
- **2018–2019**: The Kikawada Foundation (2,400,000 JPY) with Kentaro Nakajima, Kensuke Teshima
- **2018–2019**: Suntory Research Grant for Young Researcher, Suntory Foundation (1,000,000 JPY)
- **2018–2019**: Research Grant, The Murata Science Foundation (1,900,000 JPY) with Tomoaki Tanaka, Yasuyuki Sawada
- **2018–2019**: The Foundation of Kinoshita Memorial Enterprise (500,000 JPY) with Jun Goto
- **2011–2013**: Research Fellowships for Young Scientists, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (400,000 JPY). “Poverty and Vulnerability of Households in Developing Countries: Risk Sharing and Insurance”

Presentations

- **2026**: Workshop on the Quantitative History of East and Southeast Asia, Kyoto Summer Workshop on Applied Economics 2026, 8th Annual JADE Conference
- **2025**: Research Meeting on Long-run Analysis of Economic Growth and Structural Change, The 2nd Sino-Japanese SPACE Workshop, The Osaka Workshop on Economics of Institutions and Organizations, The Asian Cliometric Conference, Workshop on Social Security and Public Finance
- **2024**: The Eighth Asian Historical Economics Conference, Mini-Conference on Machine Learning, Urban Economics & Economic History, Historiographical Institute, The University of Tokyo, Symposium on Digitization and the Future of Historical Research, NBER SI 2024 Development of American Economy, Kyoto Summer Workshop on Applied Economics 2024, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Seminar, Chinese University of Hong Kong Brownbag Seminar
- **2023**: The 8th Hawaii-Kobe Conference on Applied Economics, Asian Economic Development Seminar, Research Meeting on Economic History 2022
- **2022**: Jiam International Conference, Growth and Development Economics Week, Yale-NUS seminar, Tokyo Labor Economics Workshop Online, Hanyang University Online, TDB-CAREE, Hitotsubashi University, 2021 Online Symposium
- **2021**: 2021 Asia Impact Evaluation Conference Online, NDL Digital Library Cafe, Osaka University Economics

Seminar, WINPEC (Waseda Institute of Political Economy) Online, Urban Economics Workshop 2021 Online, Tohoku University

- **2020:** Jinan University, Urban Economics Association 2020 Online, Econometric Society World Congress 2020
- **2019:** JADE Young Conference, Applied Regional Science Conference, Kyoto University Urban Economics Workshop, European Economic Association, Kyoto Summer Workshop on Applied Economics, Tokyo Labor Workshop, Hitotsubashi University, Nagoya City University, Asian Meeting Econometric Society, Osaka University, Winter International Trade Seminar (WITS) for Young Researchers, Pacific Conference for Development Economics, Keio University
- **2018:** IDE-JETRO, Hayami Conference, Osaka University, International Conference on Applied Econometrics in Hawaii, Summer Workshop on Economic Theory, World Economic History Congress, Econometric Society Asian Meeting, Hitotsubashi University
- **2017:** Osaka University, Kansai Labor Workshop, Kyoto University, NYU-Shanghai, GRIPS, Kyoto University Urban Economics Workshop, Okayama University, APSA Annual Meeting, Kansai Research Group on Development Microeconomics, Kwansei Gakuin University, 8th World Congress of Cliometrics, University of Queensland
- **2016:** Kobe University, Spanish Economic Association, Northeast Universities Development Consortium, 15th EUDN PhD Workshop on Development Economics, Osaka University

Referee Service

European Review of Economic History, Journal of Regional Science, Social Science Japan Journal, Journal of the Japanese and International Economies, Journal of Government and Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics

Discussant

- NBER Japan Project (2022, 2026)
- Japanese Economic Association (2018, 2021, 2024)
- Applied Regional Science Conference (2019, 2022, 2023)
- Applied Econometrics Conference (2023)
- Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series (2023, 2025)

Selection Committee

- JADE-CEPR-TIME-CREPE Conference on Economic Development (2020)
- JADE Young Conference (2023, 2024)
- JADE Conference (2025, 2026)
- Japanese Economic Association Meeting (2022, 2024)

Event Organizer

- Asian Cliometrics Conference (2026)

Other Works

- “Learning by Walking: Introduction to Urban Economics”, Nippon Hyoron Sha (2025-10)
- “Construct Structured Data from Genealogies: Case Study on Kansei Choshu Shokafu” with Satoru Nakamura, Taizo Yamada, Yasuo Takatsuki, *2024 Pacific Neighborhood Consortium Annual Conference and Joint Meetings, PNC 2024* (2024). DOI: 10.23919/PNC63053.2024.10697359
- “Next-Generation Empirical Economics”, Nippon Hyoron Sha (2023-06)
- “An Invitation to Economic History (Roundtable in Keizai Seminar Special Issue on Historical Data X Economics)”, *Keizai Seminar* (2022-01)
- “Does Productivity Rise on Former Daimyo Estate Land? The Surprising Effect of Large Lots from Edo to Modern Tokyo”, *Toyo Keizai Online* (2021-05)
- “Economic and Social Development of Bangladesh : Miracle and Challenges”, Palgrave Macmillan (2017-11)

Research Interests

Development Economics, Economic History, Political Economy, Urban Economics

Personal Information

- Citizenship: Japan
- Languages: Japanese (native), English (fluent)
- Programming: Stata, R, ArcGIS, Python, Git, LaTeX