

A broad and deep engagement

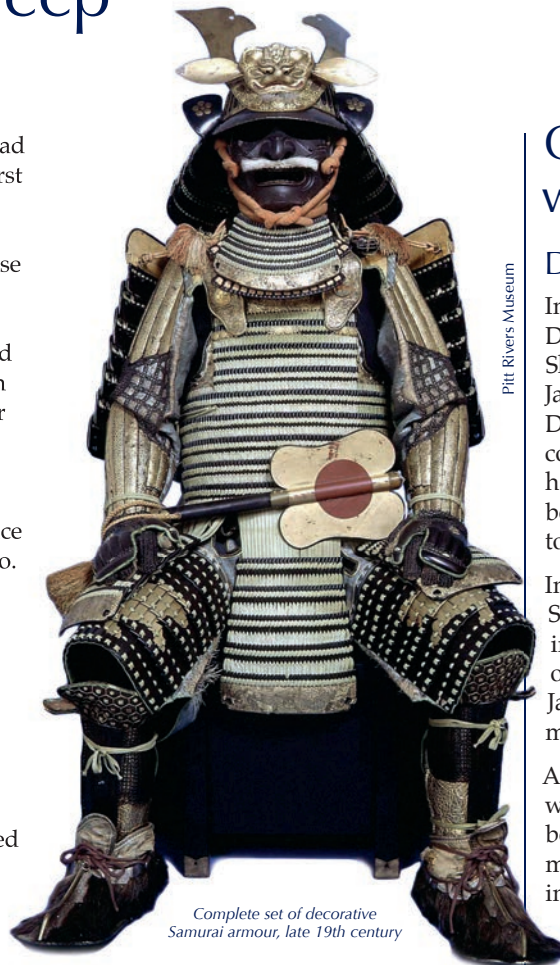
Oxford's engagement with Japan is broad and deep, dating to the arrival of our first Japanese students in the 19th century. Our relationship has developed as we have expanded our study of the Japanese language, history, and society; collaborated with excellent scientific institutions; educated groups of talented Japanese students, including the Crown Prince and Princess; and received major gifts from Japanese supporters of the University for our work. Our commitment to Japan is clear from the physical presence of our University office and of Oxford University Press in Tokyo.

Enhanced Japanese Studies degree

In 2017 Oxford will launch a landmark new MSc/MPhil in Japanese Studies. The new course signals Oxford's continued commitment to training the world's next generation of Japan-focused scholars and of citizens educated about Japan. It will replace previous taught graduate degrees, being more comprehensive than any other previous Oxford course on Japan with a greater range of study options taught by a larger number of academics. The MSc/MPhil in Japanese Studies will complement Oxford's leading BA in Japanese, one of the most popular undergraduate programmes in our Faculty of Oriental Studies. As well as these taught students, doctoral students focused on Japan can be found in a range of departments, including Oriental Studies, Economics, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Politics, and History.

Excellent research on Japan

Oxford is first rate in Japanese studies: we are ranked as one of the top five departments for Japanese studies in the



Complete set of decorative
Samurai armour, late 19th century

Pitt Rivers Museum

world in terms of research, and we are the leading institution for Japanese studies in Europe. The study of Japan at Oxford is anchored in two core institutions: the **Faculty of Oriental Studies** and the **Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies**. In its focus on Japanese language, literature, and history, the Faculty of Oriental Studies provides the essential linguistic and cultural foundation required for all study of Japan. In its study of modern Japan, the Nissan Institute focuses more on the social sciences. It hosts a cohort of international visitors, runs a regular seminar series, and has published close to 100 volumes in its Nissan Institute/Routledge Japanese Studies Series – the largest Japanese studies publication series in the world.

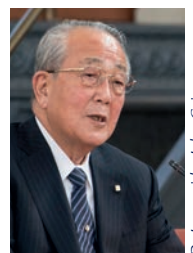
Oxford collaborations with Japan

Dr Kazuo Inamori and Oxford

In May 2014 legendary business leader Dr Kazuo Inamori gave a lecture in the Sheldonian Theatre entitled "Rebuilding Japan Airlines, the Inamori Way". Dr Inamori is the founder of major companies Kyocera and KDDI, and has written a number of best-selling books on his philosophy of how to live and conduct business.

In his talk delivered to a packed Sheldonian, Dr Inamori described how in 2010 he took on the monumental task of turning around the then bankrupt Japan Airlines to become the world's most profitable carrier within three years.

A new phase to Oxford's relationship with the Inamori Foundation is about to begin as we name the main convening space in the Blavatnik School of Government the "Inamori Forum", and bring the prestigious Kyoto Prize to Oxford as an annual event.



Dr Inamori by John Cairns

Links with industry

Oxford is proud to collaborate with many of Japan's best known companies. Our relationships include developing next generation microscopes with **JEOL**, working on new medicines with **Takeda**, promoting mathematics and finance research with **Nomura**, providing scholarships through **Mitsubishi Heavy Industries** and **Mitsui**, and developing human resources with **Nippon Life Insurance**.

Japan scholarship and

Specialist resources

Oxford academics, students, and our visitors from around the world are fortunate to be able to call on tremendous resources related to Japan in our university library and museums. **The Bodleian Japanese Library** is housed at the Nissan Institute, and numbers 140,000 printed books – the vast majority in Japanese. It is the best library of social science material on Japan in Europe.

The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford's museum of art and archaeology and Britain's first public museum, is home to a world-class collection of Japanese art. There have been Japanese objects – a Japanese lacquer shield and a pair of 'sandals made of twigs' – in the Ashmolean since its origins in 1683, but today the collection is best known for its ceramics, in particular its 17th and 18th-century export porcelain. Other highlights include paintings and screens, woodblock prints, lacquerware, sword furniture, netsuke and inro and an excellent collection of decorative arts of the Meiji era (1868-1912), ranging from cloisonné and ceramics to metalwork and ornamental textiles.

There were 300 Japanese artefacts in the founding collection that General **Pitt Rivers** gave to the museum that now bears his name, back in 1884. They included everyday objects, such as a grass snow-cloak and a bamboo hairpin, and also a remarkable set of 52 masks, used for Noh theatrical performance. The collection today includes more than 7,500 items.

Studying Japan across disciplines

Our expertise in Japan spans disciplines: 20 academics throughout the University specialise in Japan, working as one Japanese Studies community. Researchers at the Nissan Institute examine the diversity of Japanese society and the social changes that are accompanying economic and demographic shifts in the country. The Nissan Institute's strength in the social sciences complements the Faculty of Oriental Studies' expertise in the humanities, which covers both the classical and modern periods of Japan.

In March 2009, the **Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics** was established at Oxford. The Centre serves as an umbrella for research and teaching activities related to Japanese

language and linguistics throughout the University, provides information to prospective graduate students about this field of study, and coordinates a network of University and external members with shared research interests and projects. In 2009 the Centre's Director, Professor Bjarke Frellesvig, was awarded almost £1 million by the Arts and Humanities Research Council to investigate pre-modern Japanese syntax. The project brings together a number of prominent scholars from the UK, Japan, and the US, forming the largest group of academics currently working on pre-modern Japanese language. The Oxford Corpus of Old Japanese, launched in 2012, provides a comprehensive annotated digital corpus of all extant texts in Japanese from the Old Japanese period.

Improving medical research practice to meet 21st Century needs

Medical research has an increasingly important role to play in today's Japan, which is known for its rapidly aging population.

There exists a greater need than ever in the country for efforts to identify the relationship between the causes of disease, human health, the environment and lifestyle habits, and to re-evaluate and improve existing medical provision, with the goal of delivering better quality of life for patients.

This requires the study of health data from large numbers of patients, which is being made easier through the use of online patient interfaces. Researchers from Oxford's Centre for Health, Law

and Emerging Technologies, and the Department of Biomedical Ethics and Public Policy at Osaka University and Osaka University Hospital are collaborating on a new project to explore communication with patients and citizens in research activities.

The collaborative project will contribute to efforts in Japan and the UK to build online and face-to-face interface systems for exchanging medical and clinical information, and identify the differences and similarities in information, administrative and social infrastructures between the two countries, with a view to contributing to the globalization of medical research.

Japanese Anagama kilns

Two traditional Japanese Anagama kilns are being built and fired in the heart of the University's Wytham Woods in collaboration with Living National Treasure Jun Isezaki and master potters from Bizen in Okayama Prefecture. Anthropologist Dr Robin Wilson of Keble College is working with potters and scientists from the University who are conducting research into various aspects of traditional pottery techniques.

Photo: Dr Robin Wilson and Kazuya Ishida inside the Anagama kiln at Wytham Woods.



collaboration at Oxford

Physics student joins Tokyo institute

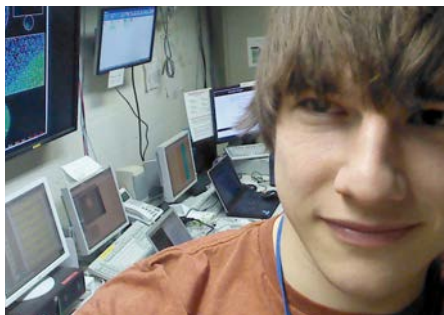


Photo of/by Charles Simpson

Oxford Physics DPhil student Charles Simpson is spending two years in Japan thanks to a recent exchange agreement between Oxford's Department of Physics and the Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe (IPMU) at the University of Tokyo that was sparked by a collaboration between IPMU Director Hitoshi Murayama and Oxford's Head of Particle Physics Ian Shipsey.

What is the focus of your research?

I am studying for a DPhil in Particle Physics. The focus of my research is neutrinos at the Super Kamiokande experiment: more specifically neutron tagging using Gadolinium doping in water Cherenkov detectors.

What do you plan to do in Japan?

I will spend two years in Japan at Super Kamiokande, at the University of Tokyo Institute for Cosmic Rays Research facility in Gifu prefecture. I am nominally a member of IPMU, but almost all my time will be spent at the experimental facility. My visit to Japan is funded by IPMU.

Why work with IPMU?

I will be working with some of the top researchers in my field. There are no major neutrino physics experiments based in the UK and the Gadolinium doping concept is novel and has never been used at this scale before.

Profile of an Oxford-Japan expert

Sho Konishi

Sho Konishi is the Director of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies at Oxford University. He is a cultural, intellectual and transnational historian in the Faculty of History and the School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies at Oxford.

His interests include historical epistemology, aesthetics, humanitarianism, the transnational history of emotions, the history of anarchist natural science (embryology, entomology and ecology in particular), and anarchist ethnography. He has a particular interest in the place of language (including nonverbal language) and translation in the history of human knowledge production.

Ashinaga Internships

Ashinaga, a Tokyo-based non-profit organization that provides educational support to children worldwide who have lost parents, have been offering internships to Oxford students since 2013. Since then, Ashinaga has welcomed more than 30 students to their headquarters in Japan, and several more to their offices in Uganda and Senegal. These interns have played a key role in helping Ashinaga become a fully international NGO.



Photo: Oxford interns scallop fishing with residents of Ishinomaki in Tohoku, Japan.

Oxford - Japan Timeline

- 1629 The Bodleian Library obtains its first Japanese book, a sagabon.
- 1873 Tomotsune Iwakura, the third son of Tomomi Iwakura, then Minister of the Right in Japan, arrives at Balliol College.
- 1890s Umeko Tsuda, later founder of Japan's first private women's college, studies at St Hilda's College.
- 1909 Teaching of Japanese begins with the arrival of John Gubbins, who had previously worked in the diplomatic service in Japan.
- 1925 His Imperial Highness Prince Chichibu arrives at Magdalen College.
- 1957 Japanese is integrated into the BA in Oriental Studies. Oxford University Press opens an office in Tokyo.
- 1963 Japanese is taught as a single subject BA at Oxford.
- 1981 With a generous endowment from the Nissan Motor Co. Ltd, the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies is established.
- 1983 Crown Prince Naruhito arrives at Merton College.
- 1990 The Japanese Friends of the Bodleian is founded in Tokyo.
- 1993 The Nissan Institute building opens at St Antony's College.
- 2001 The Nomura Centre for Mathematical Finance is created.
- 2002 The Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics is established.
- 2009 The Research Centre for Japanese Language and Linguistics is established within the Faculty of Oriental Studies.
- 2012 The Oxford Corpus of Old Japanese is launched online.
- 2012 'Oxford Academics in Japan' Lecture Series begins.

Japan's presence in Oxford

Japanese students: mainly graduates



Japanese students at Oxford 1915

Oxford welcomed its first Japanese students in the nineteenth century, once we removed the requirement that members of the University had to be Anglican. Today, there are nearly 100 Japanese citizens enrolled as students at Oxford; about 70 per cent of them are full-time graduate students. Almost half of our Japanese

students are studying courses in the Social Sciences. The most popular courses studied by Japanese students include Educational Studies, Oriental Studies, the MBA, Mathematics, and English.

Scholarships for Japanese students

Funding is critical to attracting the very best students from Japan to study at Oxford. We are fortunate in having a number of Japan-specific scholarships. The Oxford Kobe Scholarships fully fund two Japanese graduate students. The Sasakawa Fund, created by the Japanese Shipbuilding Industry Foundation, supports two graduate students each year, either Japanese nationals or citizens of another country whose study requires them to spend time in Japan. Several Oxford colleges also offer scholarships for Japanese students, including St Antony's and New College. The Aso Scholarship funds students with Japanese as a first language, preferably from Fukuoka

Prefecture, to study at New College for one or two years, while the Swire Scholarship at St Antony's offers funding for graduate study in a wide range of subjects across the Social Sciences and Humanities.

Japanese students are also eligible for the Clarendon Scholarships, the University's flagship scholarship scheme for graduate students from outside Europe, generously funded by Oxford University Press since 2001.

Japanese academics at Oxford

With 34 Japanese citizens among the University's current academic staff, Japan ranks among the top 20 largest sources of academic talent for Oxford. The majority of them hold research-only posts, while the rest conduct both teaching and research.

Oxford's presence in Japan



His Imperial Highness, Prince Naruhito, Crown Prince of Japan, breaking the ground for the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies building in 1991

Strong ties to the Imperial Family

The University has enjoyed close links with the Japanese Imperial Family, dating to the 1920s when His Imperial Highness Prince Chichibu studied at Oxford. Six members of the Imperial Family, including Crown Prince Naruhito, Crown Princess Masako, and Prince Akishino, were educated at Oxford. Most recently, Princess Akiko, niece of the Emperor, obtained her doctorate in Oriental Studies in 2011.

Distinguished alumni

Over 1,100 Oxford alumni live in Japan today. Many are active in the Cambridge & Oxford Society of Tokyo which also has a branch in Kansai. This and the other alumni groups in the country hold a number of well-attended social events each year. Our distinguished alumni include ambassadors, politicians, business leaders, academics, journalists, and heads of international organisations.

University office, Tokyo

It is a measure of Japan's importance to Oxford that it is home to one of three international offices of the University. The other two offices are in New York and Hong Kong. Established in 1990 and headed by Director Alison Beale, the office aims to foster partnerships and make connections between the University and businesses, foundations, alumni and individuals in Japan. It holds regular events including the popular 'Oxford Academics in Japan' and 'Inside Oxford' lecture series. For more information on the activities of the office please see www.oxfordujapan.org.



His late Majesty the Emperor Showa (Emperor Hirohito) visiting Oxford in 1921 as reported in local newspaper

Oxford University Press

The world's largest university press, OUP is a department of the University of Oxford. Established in 1478, it is present in over 100 countries. OUP Japan has more than 50 employees, and specialises in English Language Teaching materials. A professionally qualified, bilingual team of consultants is also available to advise teachers on the suitability of all Oxford ELT materials and give teacher training seminars and professional development workshops. OUP Japan organizes the Oxford Kids' Club for primary teachers throughout Japan. OUP publishes a number of books on Japan and Japanese culture, as well as books and journals by Japanese authors and academic societies; nearly 50 OUP titles are translated into Japanese every year.