

## **Robin M. LeBlanc**

### **Education and Training:**

Ph.D. in Political Science. University of Oklahoma. August 1994.  
Japanese Intensive Summer Language Study, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. 1989, 1991.  
B.A. in English. Berry College, Rome, Georgia. June 1988. Summa Cum Laude.

### **Professional Appointments:**

Acting Head, Women's and Gender Studies Program, Washington and Lee University. July 2008 – present.  
Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 2008 – present.  
Associate Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 2002 – 2008.  
Assistant Professor of Politics. Department of Politics, Washington and Lee University. July 1998 – June 2002.  
Assistant Professor of Politics. Division of History and Politics, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia. September 1994 – June 1998.

### **Grants, Awards, Honors,**

*Japan International Christian University Foundation Visiting Professor of Political Science at International Christian University in Tokyo, Fall Term 2007*  
Washington and Lee University Class of '62 Grant to Extend Sabbatical, 2007 – 2008 academic year  
Washington and Lee University Glenn Grant in Support of Summer Research, 2007  
Washington and Lee University Glenn Grant in Support of Summer Research, 2006  
Fulbright Research Fellowship in Japan, Fall 2002  
Japan Foundation Grant for Research in Japan 2002 (declined in order to accept Fulbright)  
College in Asia Summer Institute. Sponsored by ASIANetwork / Freeman Foundation. June 2000.  
Washington & Lee University R.E. Lee Grant for Summer Student Research Assistance, 2000.  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Grant for Post-Doctoral Study, 1999.  
Washington and Lee University Glenn Grant in Support of Summer Research, 1999.  
*Georgia Trend Magazine's "Forty Under Forty" Leaders in Business, Politics and Academics, 1997.*  
Summer Institute on Korean Culture and Society: Sponsored by the University of Hawaii Center for Korean Studies, the East-West Center and a Grant from the Korea Foundation. July 1997.  
National Endowment for the Humanities Grant for Participation in an Asian Studies Development Program Workshop on Confucianism and Chinese Culture sponsored jointly by the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii and Colorado College, March 1996.  
Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies Travel Grant, Summer 1995.  
American Political Science Association Women and Politics Section Award for the Best Dissertation on Women and Politics Written in 1994.  
Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics, 1994, Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, Iowa State University.  
Fulbright Graduate Research Fellowship, 1991-1993, Japan.  
Japan Foundation Study Tour Award for Outstanding Foreign Students of the Japanese Language, 1990.

## Publications

### Books:

*The Art of the Gut: Manhood, Power, and Ethics in Japanese Politics* (Berkeley: University of California Press, forthcoming, 2009).

*Bicycle Citizenship: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife* (Berkeley: University of California, 1999), a Choice Outstanding Academic Title of 1999.

### Articles/Book Chapters:

“The Politics of Gender in Japan.” In *Handbook of Japanese Culture and Society*. Edited by Theodore and Victoria Bestor. Routledge, forthcoming. (Invited.)

“Japan’s Low Fertility: What Have Men Got to Do With It?” In *Japan’s Declining Population: Clearly a Problem, But What’s the Solution?* Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Asia Program Special Report No. 141, July 2008, 11 – 18. (Invited.)

“Rebuilding the Electoral Connection: The Potential and Limits of Anti-Party Electoral Movements in Japanese Local Politics.” In *Democratic Reform in Japan: Assessing the Impact*. Edited by Gill Steel and Sherry Martin. Lynne Reiner Publishers, 2008. (Peer reviewed.)

“Seeking the Empire of Women with Tom Wolfe.” *Shenandoah*, 57: 1 (Spring 2007), 148 - 165. (Invited.)

“Why Women are Representing Men in a Japanese Town Assembly: A Little Tale About Gender Politics.” *Kokusai jendā gakkai shi* [Japanese Journal of the International Society for Gender Studies]. 2 (2004), 35 – 70. (Peer reviewed.)

“Reconceiving Community: Pedaling and Peddling Democracy Among Japanese Housewives.” In *Social Structures, Social Capital, and Personal Freedom*, ed. Peter Lawler and Dale McConkey (Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers, 2000), 31 – 42. (Peer reviewed.)

“What Every Political Scientist Should Know About Housewives: Notes from the Japanese Case.” *The Journal of Pacific Asia*, 5 (Spring 1999). [In both Japanese and English.] (Invited.)

Translation from the Japanese. Osawa Mari, “Will the Japanese-Style System Change? Employment, Gender and the Welfare State,” *The Journal of Pacific Asia* (1996: 3) [Published by the Committee for Research on Pacific Asia, Rikkyo University, Faculty of Law and Politics]. (Invited.)

“Politics in Japan: The Art of Connection,” *Mangajin: Japanese Pop Culture and Language Learning* (September 1996), 12-15. (Invited.)

“*Nihon no toshi ni okeru shufu no seiji ishiki to seiji gaku no arikata*, (The Political Consciousness of Urban Japanese Housewives and the Nature of Political Science)” *Seigakuin daigaku soogoo kenkyuujo newsletter* [Newsletter of the General Research Center of Seigakuin University] (January 1996). (Invited lecture text.)

"Conference Committees: The Congressional Context," *Canadian Parliamentary Review*, Autumn 1991, Vol. 14, No. 3, 24-28. September 2, 1990.

### Book Reviews:

Review of France Rosenbluth, editor. *The Political Economy of Japan’s Low Fertility* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2007). *Journal of Japanese Studies* 34:1 (2008).

Review of Mark D. West, *Law in Everyday Japan: Sex, Sumo, Suicide, and Statutes* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005). *Monumenta Nipponica* 59:3 (2006).

Review of Patricia L. Maclachlan, *Consumer Politics in Postwar Japan: The Institutional Boundaries of Citizen Activism* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2002). *Journal of Japanese Studies* 30:1 (2004).

- Review of Yamagata ken, Nagai-shi Reinbō puran suishin kyōgikai, *Daidokoro to nōgyō wo tsunagu* [Connecting Farm and Kitchen], Ōno Kazuoki, ed., (Tokyo: Sōshinsha, 2001). *Social Science Japan*, 6: 2 (October 2003).
- Review of Tiana Norgren, *Abortion Before Birth Control: The Politics of Reproduction in Postwar Japan* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001). *Journal of Japanese Studies* 29:1 (January 2003).
- Review of Sheila Smith, ed., *Local Voices, National Issues: The Impact of Local Initiative in Japanese Policy-Making* (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan, 2000). *Governance*, 15: 1 (January 2002).
- Review of Myra H. Strober and Agnes Miling Kaneko Chan, *The Road Winds Uphill All the Way: Gender, Work, and Family in the United States and Japan*. *Journal of Japanese Studies*, 26: 2 (Summer 2000).
- Review of Joy Hendry, *Understanding Japanese Society*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (New York: Routledge, 1995) *Education About Asia*, 3. 2 (Fall 1998).

#### **Invited Public Lectures:**

- “*Nihon no seiji ni okeru otokorashisa* (Masculinity in Japanese Politics).” Presented at International Christian University, October 18, 2007. (Conducted in Japanese.)
- “Cheating as a Democratic Practice: Dismantling the Constraints of Masculine Trust Networks in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented to the Council on East Asian Studies at Yale University, April 9, 2007.
- “Salad and Cigarettes for Breakfast: The Challenges and Rewards of Seeing Japan Through Participant-Observer Research.” Presented to the Blue Ridge Fulbright Alumni Association, Washington and Lee University, May 7, 2004.
- “Telling Democracy: How Japanese Men and Women Talk About Politics.” Presented to the East Asian Studies Program, University of Virginia, April 26, 2002.
- “Telling Democracy: How Japanese Men and Women Talk About Politics.” Presented to the Global Studies Center, Knox College, February 25, 2002.
- “Ordinary Masculinity in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the University of California Los Angeles Center for Japanese Studies, March 19, 2001, Los Angeles.
- “Character Comes Out: Human Beings and Power Structures in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the University of Michigan’s Center for Japanese Studies, February 10, 2000, Ann Arbor.
- “Power and Character in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented to the Politics Study Group of the Reischauer Institute for Japanese Studies of Harvard University, Cambridge, December 10, 1999.
- “Japanese Local Elections.” Presented at the University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK, October 29, 1999.
- “*Shufu ni tsuite subete no seijigakusha ga shiranakeraba naranai koto: Nihon no jirei kara no kenkyu noto.*” Presented for the Rikkyo University Asian Studies Centre and the Rikkyo University Gender Forum, Tokyo, July 12, 1999. (conducted in Japanese)
- “Pedaling Democracy: Japanese Housewives and Politics.” Presented at the East Asian Studies Program of the University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, April 13, 1998.
- “The Japanese Housewife as a Political Being.” Presented in the Asian Issues Lecture Series, Georgia Institute of Technology, School of International Affairs and the Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy, February 1, 1995.

#### **Conference Presentations Since 2000:**

- “Cheating as a Democratic Practice: The Connection Between Masculine Identity and Political Power in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Association for Anthropology of Japan in Japan, in Tokyo, November 17 – 18.

- “Rebuilding the Electoral Connection: The Potential and Limits of Anti-Party Electoral Movements in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the 2006 International Political Science Association World Congress in Fukuoka, Japan, July 9 – 13.
- “The Art of the Gut: How Power Constrains the Political Voices of Japanese Men.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Francisco, April 6 – 9, 2006.
- “Masculinity in the Construction of the Ethical Citizen in Japanese Political Discourse.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 1 – 3, 2005.
- “Rebuilding the Electoral Connection: An Examination of the Origin and Potential of Anti-Party Electoral Movements in Japanese Local Politics.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2 – 4, 2004.
- “Self Reliance is the Democrat’s Religion: A Response to Patrick Deneen’s ‘Our Democratic Faith.’” Presented at *Democracy and Its Friendly Critics*, Berry College, November 13, 2003.
- “Why Mothers Are Caring for the Policy Agenda in Japanese Local Politics: A Little Tale About Men.” Presented at the Joint Meeting of the Southeast/Washington Japan Seminar and the Japan Economic Seminar, Washington, D.C., April 20, 2002.
- “The Unraveling of Japanese Politics: Perspectives from the Grassroots.” Prepared for the Annual Meeting of the Virginia Consortium of Asian Studies, Fredericksburg, VA, February 9, 2002.
- “Ordinary Political Masculinity: How Ethics of Manhood Constrain the Political Participation of Japanese Men.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Asian Studies, Chicago, March 24, 2001.
- Roundtable member. “Citizen-Government Relations in the Context of Political Change in the 1990s.” Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, San Diego, March 11, 2000.

**Other Forms of Conference Participation Since 2000:**

- Member of roundtable. “Gender and Politics in Japan.” Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, San Francisco, April 6 – 9, 2006.
- Participant in Liberty Fund Colloquium. “Liberty, Commerce, and Character in Hume’s Essays.” Newport Beach, CA, February 19 – 22, 2004.
- Discussant for panel. “Civil Society and the State in Japan.” Asian Studies Conference Japan 2003, Tokyo, 21-22 June 2003.
- Participant in Liberty Fund Colloquium. “The Liberal Family: Patriarchy, Liberty, and Virtue.” Richmond, VA, February 15 – 18, 2001.
- Discussant for panel. “Literary Figures as Public Intellectuals.” Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 2, 2000.

**Courses Taught Since 2000:**

- Comparative Politics*: Comparative Government (Winter 2000, Winter 2001, Fall 2001, Winter 2004, Winter 2005, Winter 2006), East Asian Politics (Fall 2001, Fall 2004, Fall 2006), Japanese Political System (Winter 2000, Winter 2002), Japanese Politics in a Global Context (with study abroad) (Spring 2005)
- Political Theory Courses*: Introduction to Political Philosophy (Fall 2000, Winter 2002, Spring 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Winter 2006, Winter 2007), Power (Spring 2004), Citizenship in Spirit and Practice (Spring 2000), The Sovereign Citizen in a Global World (Winter 2001) (See also theory courses in Women’s and Gender Studies.)

*Women's and Gender Studies: Gender and Politics (Fall 2000, Fall 2003, Fall 2008), Identity, Politics, and Society (Winter 2005), Political Theory and Gender (Fall 2005), Politics of Masculine Power (Spring 2007, Fall 2007 at I.C.U.), Gender and Citizenship Theory in the Western Tradition (Fall 2007 at I.C.U.)*

**Service to the Profession:**

Member, advisory board, North-American Coordinating Council for Japanese Studies Resources (NCC); Co-Chair of the NCC's Image Use Protocol Task Force (examining the process for getting copyright permissions on Japanese-owned images) 2006-2008; Member of NCC's Executive Committee, current.

Member, advisory board, Japan Political Studies Group. (2007 – present)

Member of the selection committee for the Association for Asian Studies John Whitney Hall Prize for the best book published in Japanese or Korean Studies in 2006.

Referee for wide range of journals and book presses including but not limited to: *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, *Social Politics*, Routledge Press, Oxford University Press, Cornell University Press.

**Administrative Experience:**

Acting Program Head, Women's and Gender Studies, Washington and Lee University, 2008 – present.

Founder and Chair, Committee for Science, Society, and the Arts, a biennial, campus-wide student conference, Washington and Lee University, 2003 – 2007.

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