

East Asian Modernities and Masculinities Symposium

Friday, March 21, 2025 – Saturday, March 22, 2025

Organized by: Millie Creighton, Department of Anthropology, along with Centre for Korean Research and Centre for Japanese Research

With Gratitude for Support from Centre for Korean Research, UBC, and by extension Academy of Korean Studies, Seoul

Held on the University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver campus

Presentations take place in AnSo (the Anthropology and Sociology Building), room 134. AnSo is located next to the Museum of Anthropology.

Schedule:

Day 1: Friday, March 21, 2025

10:30

Symposium Introduction:

Land Acknowledgement:

Acknowledgement for Support by Centre for Korean Research & Academy of Korean Studies

Department of Anthropology, UBC, for co-hosting support with rooms, and for the Friday, reception lunch

Welcome words from Dr. Don Baker, Co-Chair, Centre for Korean Research at UBC

Welcome words from Dr. Tracey Heatherington, Head, Department of Anthropology

Introductory comments about the symposium theme and scope of the symposium by Dr. Millie Creighton, Organizer

10:45-11:30

Presenter, Dr. Jooyeon Rhee, Anthropologist, Professor, Penn State University (via zoom)

“Culinary Masculinity and S. Korea’s Baek Jongwon as a Media Genre Icon

11:30-12:20

“Fireside Chats” and Informal Networking with symposium speakers which anyone can attend

12:30-2:00 In-Person Talks by Special Invited Guests with reception and light lunch to follow

12:30-1:15: Dr. Laura Nelson, Anthropologist, Associate Professor, Berkeley, Chair, Women and Gender Institute, former Chair, Korean Studies Center (in-person)

“Men, Breast Cancer, and Masculinity in South Korea: Early Research”

1:15-2:00 Dr. Lawrence Monocello, Medical Anthropologist, Research Scholar, Dept. of Psychiatry, Washington State Univ., St. Louis School of Medicine (in-person)

“Masculinities through the “Lookism” Glass: Cultural Models of Male Body Image and Personhood in South Korea”

2:00-2:50 Reception with speakers and refreshments/light lunch

3:00-4:30 Talks by Special Invited Guests

3:00-3:45 In-Person Talk by Dr. Robin O’Day, Anthropologist, Associate Professor, University of Northern Georgia

“The Limits of Masculinist Protest Politics in Contemporary Japanese Social Movements”

3:45-4:30 Zoom Talk by Dr. Shayne Dahl, Anthropologist, Associate-in-Research, Reischauer Inst. of Japanese Studies, Harvard Univ., Instructor, Lethbridge Polytechnic

"A Mountain-Like Man": Emerging Discourses about Masculinity among Japanese Mountain Ascetics”

4:30-4:45 Break and Discussions

4:45-5:30 In-Person Talk by Dr. Hangping Xu, Assistant Professor, Univ, of California, Santa Barbara, Chinese Cultural Studies, & in affiliation, Comparative Literature

“Disability as/and Trauma: Injured Masculinity and Sexual Agency in Contemporary Chinese Fiction.”

5:30-6:15 Zoom Talk by Special Invited Guest

Dr. Yvonne Yau, Cultural Studies, Assistant Professor of Research, Dept. of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University of Hong Kong

“Unpacking the Wen-Wu Dyad: A Critical Examination of Its Implications for Chinese Masculinity”

Day 2, Saturday, March 22, 2025

11:00-11:40 Zoom Talk from Cairo, Egypt, Basant Ahmed Sayed, MA

“Negotiating Identity and Self Expression: Male Fandom of Japanese Anime in Egypt”

11:40-12:20 Zoom Talk by Special Invited Guest

Dr. Min Joo Lee, Assistant Professor, Asian Studies, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California

“Finding Mr. Perfect: Korean Television Drama, Pop Culture, Romance, and Race”

12:20-12:30 Break

12:30-1:50 Special In-Person Speakers on K-Wave Fandom, and Male Imaging in East Asia

Dr. Carole Blackburn, Anthropologist, Associate Professor, University of British Columbia

Introductory Commentary:

“How a Transitional Justice Scholar Became a K-Drama Fan”

Dr. Millie Creighton, Anthropologist, Associate Professor, University of British Columbia

East Asian Overview and Comparisons:

“Staging Modern Masculinities via Advertisements, Department Stores and Dramas in Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong”

2:00-3:00 Lunch Break and Networking Discussion

3:00-5:00 Panel on Korean Media and Pop Culture, Japanese Media and Pop Culture and Sexualities

3:00-3:45 Zoom Talk by Elias Alexander, Ph.C University of British Columbia, and Research Affiliate Seoul National University

“Queerying” Masculinity in South Korea: The Function of the Cis-heteronormative South Korean State and its Effects on Queer Koreans”

3:45-4:30 In-Person Presentation by Kate Wise, MA, Instructor, Alexander College, Vancouver, Canada

“BTS and Visualizations of a Queer, Hopeful Future”

4:30- 5:00 Recorded Talk by Hina Kangori, Completing BA and with an MA program acceptance for 2025

“Japanese Fictosexual Men and Marriage with Fictional Women: The Relationship Between Shintoism and Fictosexuality”

5:00-5:15 Break

5:15 – 6:00 Zoom Presentation by Special Invited Speaker

Dr. Jo Elfving- Hwang, Associate Professor, School of Media, Creative Arts, and Social Inquiry (MCASI) Curtin University, Perth, Australia

“(Re)imagining Masculinity for the Small Screen: Male Beauty Aesthetics in Korean Historical TV Dramas”

