

Comparative Asian Research Network

Monthly Lecture Series on Issues and Research in the Asian Region Organized by the Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK

Teaching in the graveyard: Japanese as a second language (JSL) teachers in Japan



Speaker: Professor Yukari Takimoto Amos Central Washington University Date: 04 November 2017 (Saturday) Time: 13:15 p.m. – 14:30 p.m. (Talk & Q&A Session) Venue: Room 411, Yasumoto International Academic Park, CUHK Language: English

Abstract:

All are Welcome!!

In 2014, the number of students in Japan who needed JSL (Japanese as a second language) instruction from 1st - 12th grade was 29,198, an 8.1% increase over the previous year. JSL is not an endorsable subject in Japan, and it is not uncommon for a teacher who is endorsed, for example, in PE to teach JSL. These teachers teach JSL with no prior training, but possess strong general content knowledge, are able to teach in areas other than their expertise, and are sensitive to the cultures of JSL students. To them a teacher's job is to teach students, not subjects.

Speaker:

Yukari Takimoto Amos is a Full Professor at Central Washington University where she teaches multicultural/intercultural education, TESL-related classes, and Asian Studies courses. Using critical race theory and whiteness studies, Yukari's publications focus on immigrant students' English language learning, analyses of the racism faced by teachers of color at U.S., white pre-service teachers' dispositions towards cultural and linguistic diversity, and education for language minority students in Japan. Currently, she is conducting a study about the overwhelming presence of Japaneseness in the field of multicultural education in Japan. Her Ph.D. degree in Education is from the University of Washington, (2001).

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