

# Emily B. Simpson, PhD

Department of Religion, Dartmouth College  
315 Thorton Hall, 19 College Street  
Hanover NH 03755  
Emily.B.Simpson@dartmouth.edu

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## EDUCATION

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- **University of California at Santa Barbara** (Sept 2011- June 2019):
  - Graduate Advisors: Fabio Rambelli (Chair); Katherine Saltzman-Li; Sabine Frühstück
  - Doctor of Philosophy in East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies (2019): “Crafting a Goddess: Divinization, Womanhood and Genre in Narratives of Empress Jingū”
  - Certificate of College and University Teaching (2019)
  - Master of Arts in Asian Studies (2014): “Sovereign, Shaman and Bodhisattva: A Medieval Reinterpretation of Empress Jingū in the *Hachiman gudōkun*”
- **Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan** (Sept 2016-Dec 2017):
  - Graduate Research Fellow through Fulbright IIE
  - Research advisor: Satō Hiroo, Japanese Intellectual History
- **Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY** (Aug 2003-May 2007):
  - Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies, with departmental and general honors, May 2007
  - Phi Beta Kappa Induction, May 2007
  - Minors in Francophone Studies and Japanese
  - Senior Thesis: “The Miko’s Gift and Other Stories: Shaman Queens of Ancient Japan,” Sophia H. Chen Zen Memorial Prize for Best Thesis in Asian Studies
- **Beijing Language and Culture University Summer Intensive Program** (July-Aug 2012, 2013): Intensive Chinese language training
- **Kansai Gaidai University Study Abroad Program** (Jan 2006-May 2006): Japanese language and culture classes, homestay with local family

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## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

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- Native fluency in English
  - Fluency in Japanese: JLPT 2, reading competence in classical Japanese, classical Chinese as written in Japan (*kanbun*) and epistolary writing (*sōrōbun*)
  - Advanced reading proficiency in French
  - Intermediate proficiency in Chinese and German
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Japanese religious traditions, Buddhist-Shinto combinatory systems, shamanism
- Gender studies, gender in premodern East Asia
- Japanese folklore

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## HONORS, AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- **Fulbright IIE Graduate Research Fellowship** (Sept 2016 - Dec 2017): Fellowship to support dissertation research in Japan. Affiliated with Tohoku University.
- **Japan Foundation Japanese Studies Doctoral Fellowship** (2016-2017, declined)
- **Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies Dissertation Fellowship** (2016-2017, declined)
- **UCSB Academic Senate Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award** (2016, nominated). Award of recognition to exceptional TAs; anonymous nomination by student or professor.
- **UC Regents Graduate Fellowship, UCSB** (2011-2015): Fellowship awarded to incoming graduate students nominated by their department; provides two years of research stipend and two years of guaranteed teaching assistantships.
- **Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, UCSB** (2014): Travel award for use in allaying costs associated with conference presentation in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### ARTICLES & CHAPTERS:

**An Empress at Sea: Sea Deities and Divine Union in the Legend of Empress Jingū.** In *The Sea and the Sacred in Japan: Aspects of Maritime Religiosity*, ed. Fabio Rambelli, 65-78. London: Bloomsbury, 2018.

**Sacred Mother Bodhisattva, Buddha and Cakravartin: Recasting Empress Jingū as a Buddhist Figure in the *Hachiman gudōkun*.** *Journal of Religion in Japan*. Volume 6, Issue 2-3, 107-127. Leiden: Brill, 2017.

### TRANSLATIONS:

Satō Hiroo. **“Changing Images of the World After Death.”** In *Spirits and Animism in Contemporary Japan: The Invisible Empire*, ed. Fabio Rambelli. London: Bloomsbury, 2019.

Itō Satoshi. **“Lands and People Drifting Ashore: Distorted Conceptions of Japan’s Place in the World In Medieval and Early Modern Japanese Myths.”** In *The Sea and the Sacred in Japan: Aspects of Maritime Religiosity*, ed. Fabio Rambelli, 131-138. London: Bloomsbury, 2018.

Saitō Hideki. “**Origuchi Shinobu and the Sea as Religious Topos: *Marebito* and *Musubi no kami*.**” In *The Sea and the Sacred in Japan: Aspects of Maritime Religiosity*, ed. Fabio Rambelli, 167-180. London: Bloomsbury, 2018.

Jinno Yuki. “**Consumer Consumption for Children: Conceptions of Childhood in the Work of Taishō-Period.**” In *Child's Play: Multi-sensory Histories of Children and Childhood in Japan*, ed. Sabine Frühstück and Anne Walthall, 83-101. Oakland: University of California Press, 2017.

Koresawa Hiroaki. “**Children and the Founding of Manchukuo: The Young Girl Ambassadors as Promoters of Friendship.**” In *Child's Play: Multi-sensory Histories of Children and Childhood in Japan*, ed. Sabine Frühstück (u) and Anne Walthall, 121-137. Oakland: University of California Press, 2017.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS:**

**Book Review:** Review of David Quinter. *From Outcasts to Emperors: Shingon Ritsu and the Mañjuśrī Cult in Medieval Japan*. Brill's Japanese Studies Library, vol. 50. Leiden: Brill, 2015. In *Journal of Religion In Japan*, Volume 5, Issue 1, 84-88. Leiden, Brill: 2016.

**Encyclopedia Articles:** Entries on “Amaterasu Omikami,” “Guan Yin,” “Kami,” “Shamans and Ritual Practitioners,” and “Shinto Priestesses,” for *Women in World Religions: Faith and Culture Across History*, ed. Susan de-Gaia. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2018.

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## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

**All in the Family: Divinity and Diversity in the Hachiman Cult** (Nov 17, 2018). Paper presented at the annual American Academy of Religion conference, held at the Colorado Convention Center. Denver, CO.

**神功皇后の神格化：神になる過程を考え直す** [Divinizing Jingū: Reconsidering the Procession of Deification in Premodern Japan] (Feb 16, 2018). Paper presented at the annual USC Meiji University Japanese Research Exchange, held at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.

**The Empress Divine: Jingū's Status as a Deity in *Jisha engi*** (Aug 31, 2017). Paper presented at the triennial Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies, held at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

**An Empress at Sea: The Role of Sea Deities in the Legend of Empress Jingū** (June 15, 2016). Paper presented at conference on Sea Religion In Japan. UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA.

**Mother Before Warrior: The *Hachiman gudōkun* and Empress Jingū's Place in Early Modern Women's Cults** (Feb 13, 2016). Paper presented at Networks and Negotiations: Graduate Student Conference on Premodern Japan. UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA.

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**In the Line of Emperors: Empress Jingū in Medieval Explorations of Dynasty** (Oct 17, 2015).

Paper presented at the annual New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS), held at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

**The Jewel of the Tide: Empress Jingū and Maritime Religiosity in Medieval Japan** (Aug 28, 2014).

Paper presented at the triennial Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies, held at the University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

**Sacred Mother Bodhisattva, Buddha and Cakravartin: Recasting Empress Jingū as a Buddhist**

**Figure** (March 9, 2014). Paper presented at the periodic graduate conference New Directions in Buddhist Studies, highlighting new research at UC schools and Stanford University, held at UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA.

**The Power of Precedent: Referencing Chinese and Buddhist Traditions in the *Hachiman gudōkun***

(Nov 3, 2013). Paper presented at the annual graduate Texas Asia Conference at the University of Texas, Austin, TX.

**OTHER CONFERENCE ROLES:**

Conference Co-Organizer. **Networks and Negotiations: Graduate Student Conference on Premodern Japan** (Feb 12-13, 2016). UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA.

Panel Organizer. **Gods in the Making: A Reconsideration of the Process of Deification in Medieval Japan and Beyond** (Aug 30, 2017). Panel organized for the triennial Conference of the European Association of Japanese Studies, held at the University of Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal.

Discussant: **Siting Memories of the Dead** (May 8, 2015). Discussant at the symposium War and Remembrance: Cultural Imprints of Japan's Samurai Age. UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA.

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**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**LECTURER, Department of Religion, Dartmouth College** (Fall 2019-Spring 2020):

- **Women and Religion in Japan (REL 19.29: Fall 2019)**
  - Self-designed course exploring gender and religion in Japanese history, ancient to today
  - Create course assignments, activities, and short lectures (10-30 minutes)
  - Guide student discussion, debates and in-class group projects
- **Religions of Japan (Winter 2020)**
- **Shinto: Foundations, Festivals and Fox Shrines (Spring 2020)**
- **Japanese and Korean Buddhism (Spring 2020)**

**TEACHING ASSOCIATE, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara** (Summer 2016, Spring 2019):

- **East Asian Traditions: Modern (EACS4B, Summer 2016)**
  - Course on Modern Chinese and Japanese culture, always co-taught by two instructors

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- Created syllabus, exams, class website and other materials in consultation with co-instructor
  - Developed lectures and classroom activities for Japan-related classes
  - **Women and Womanhood in Japanese History (JAPAN 180 WJ, Spring 2019)**
    - Self-designed course exploring gender issues in Japanese history, ancient to modern times
    - Create course assignments, activities, and short lectures (10-30 minutes)
    - Guide student discussion, debates and in-class group projects

**TEACHING ASSOCIATE, Academic Writing, Writing Program, University of California at Santa Barbara** (Fall 2018 - Spring 2019):

- Assist in planning two week-long training workshop and fall quarter seminar for new TAs
- Lead sessions and create resources for new TAs during workshop
- Serve as mentor to new TAs in the Writing Program throughout academic year
- Teach Academic Writing (Writing 2) as instructor of record throughout academic year

**INVITED CLASS LECTURES, Various Departments, University of California at Santa Barbara** (Fall 2013 - Spring 2018):

- Presented prepared lecture with slides followed by discussion for full class period
  - “Japanese Religion and Popular Culture,” for lower division course Popular Culture in Modern Japan (July 29, 2019)
  - “Korean Shamanism: Case Studies in Ethnographic Research,” for upper division course Anthropology of Korea (May 17, 2018)
  - “Heritage and Globalization in Korean Temples,” for upper division course Anthropology of Korea (May 15, 2018)
  - “The Religious Landscape of Premodern Japan,” for upper division course Tokugawa Japan (July 18, 2016)
  - “Shintō and the Religious Landscape of Japan,” for lower division course Introduction to Asian Religious Traditions (March 9, 2016)
  - “The Legend of Empress Jingū: A Case Study in Folklore,” for upper division course Japanese Folklore (Nov 20, 2014)
  - “Buddhism in Japanese Literature,” for lower division course Masterpieces of Japanese Literature (May 8, 2014)
  - “Chinese Buddhism,” for lower division course Introduction to Buddhism (Nov 18, 2013)
  - “Japanese Buddhism,” for lower division course Introduction to Buddhism (Nov 20, 2013 and Nov 16, 2012)

**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT - PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR, Academic Writing (WRIT 2), Writing Program, University of California at Santa Barbara** (Fall 2015-Spring 2016, Spring & Fall 2018, Winter 2019):

- Competitive application-only program, requiring two week-long training workshop and fall quarter seminar for participation, as TA is sole instructor
- Created syllabus, writing assignments, and teaching materials in consultation with supervisor
- Graded four major writing assignments, each with smaller scaffolded assessments

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**GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT, Various Departments, University of California at Santa Barbara (2012-2014, 2018):**

- Created course materials and led discussion sections
- Developed and graded exams and papers in consultation with professor(s)
  - East Asian Traditions: Premodern, EACS4a (Winter 2018)
  - Masterpieces of Japanese Literature, JAPA80 (Spring 2014, Sole TA)
  - Introduction to Asian Religious Traditions, RS/EACS3 (Winter 2014)
  - Introduction to Buddhism, RS4/EACS5 (Fall 2013: Head TA)
  - East Asian Traditions: Modern, EACS4B (Spring 2013)
  - East Asian Traditions: Premodern, EACS4A (Winter 2013)
  - Introduction to Buddhism, RS4/EACS5 (Fall 2012)

**CLASS READER, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara (2014, 2018):**

- Participated in class discussions and meetings with students
- Graded both exams and written assignments
  - Japanese Theatre, JAPA149 (Spring 2018)
  - Japanese Folklore, JAPA111 (Fall 2014)

**ESL INSTRUCTOR, Part-Time and Substitute, Multiple Locations (2011, 2014-2016):**

- Taught grammar, conversation, and writing to 3-30 students of mixed language background
- Created lesson plans, class handouts and assessments materials
- Served as substitute teacher for additional classes as needed
  - English Learning Center (ELC), Santa Barbara, CA (May 2014-August 2016)
  - English Learning Services (ELS), Cleveland, OH (March-June 2011)

**ASSISTANT LANGUAGE TEACHER (ALT), JET Program, posted in Shikokuchūō-shi, Ehime, Japan (July 2009-Aug 2010):**

- Team-taught junior high school classes of 20-40 students and participated in all school functions
- Planned and taught elementary school sessions (3-100 students) as primary instructor
- Pioneered multiple community activities, including adult English classes and cultural events

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**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

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**Editorial Work (2011-present):**

- Copy editor for *Journal of Religion in Japan* (2015-present)
- Editorial work on manuscripts for acquainted professors

**University of California at Santa Barbara (2011-present):**

- EALCS Graduate Student Colloquium: Coordinator (2012-2016), Member
- Reinventing Japan Research Focus Group: Student Liaison (2014-2016), Member
- EALCS Department Newsletter contributions (2012, 2013, 2016 issues)

**D.E. Shaw & Co., L.P., New York City, NY (2008-2009):**

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- Corporate librarian and administrative coverage assistant at large hedge fund

**Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY (2003-2007):**

- Asian Studies Program: Senior Intern (2006-2007)
- Chinese and Japanese Department: Research and Teaching Assistant (2005-2007)
- Asian Students Association

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**ASSOCIATIONS**

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- American Association of Religion (AAR)
- European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS)
- Association for Asian Studies (AAS)