

Curriculum Vitae
John Elijah Bender
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Education

****PhD (ABD), University of California – Santa Barbara (UCSB), degree expected summer 2017****

Research specialty: premodern Japan, environmental history

Secondary fields: East Asian history, world history, regional history

Advisers: Luke S. Roberts, Anthony Barbieri-Low, Peter Alagona, Katherine Saltzman-Li

****MA, University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH Manoa), 2008****

Research specialty: premodern Japan

Secondary field: Imperial China

Advisers: William Wayne Farris, Mark McNally, Edward Davis

****BA, Missouri State University (MSU), 2005, Cum Laude****

Major: history

Minor: mathematics

Advisers: Michael Sheng, Dominic Capeci

Works in Progress

“Storming into Exile: Disaster Response and Political Instability in Late Medieval Japan.”

Currently editing manuscript for submission to *The Journal of Japanese Studies* in winter 2016.

“*Myōhōji-ki* (The Chronicle of the Temple of the Mysterious Law), a Critical Translation.” In preparation for *Monumenta Nipponica* by fall 2017.

Dissertation

“Wind, Forest, Fire, and Mountain: The Evolution of Environmental Management and Local Society in a Japanese Province, 1450-1650”

My dissertation is a regional history that examines the experiences of the residents of a particular province from an era of stability, to prolonged civil war, to reconstituted stability. My focus is upon how local communities solved problems of resource disputes and dealt with natural disasters during an age of political instability and widespread violence. Overcoming these environmental challenges was a key ingredient in the reconstitution of a stable order.

Papers Presented

“From a Warring State to Warring States: The Collapse of the Estate System and the End of Stability in 15th Century Japan.” UCSB Graduate Student Conference on Premodern Japan; Santa Barbara, CA, February 2016.

“Storming Into Exile: Disaster Response and Political Instability in Warring States Japan” Association of East Asian Environmental History annual conference; Kagawa, Japan, October 2015.

“A Farewell to Armies: Creating Stable Patterns of Resource Access in Early Modern Japan, 1500-1700.” San Francisco State History Students Association Conference *Violence, Coercion, Terror, and the State*; San Francisco, CA, April 2014.

“Christians, Class, and the Closed Country: Japan’s anti-Christian Policies, Public Reactions, and Political Effects, 1543-1640.” Western Association of Asian Studies; Ogden, UT, October, 2006.

Professional Experience

Instructor, UCSB, 2014-present

- ❖ History of the Samurai, 500-1850

Teaching Assistant, UCSB, 2011-present

- ❖ World History A, B, C
- ❖ Japanese History Through Art and Literature
- ❖ East Asian Civilization

Teaching Assistant, UH Manoa, 2006-2008

- ❖ The Samurai of Japan
- ❖ The Way of Tea in Japan
- ❖ World History

Guest Lectures

- ❖ "The Spread of Bronze and Buddhism Across East Asia," in *World History A*, UCSB, fall 2016
- ❖ 『中世の災害対策と武田信虎の追放』 "Chūsei no saigai taisaku to Takeda Nobutora no tsuihō," in *Japanese Medieval History Seminar*, Shinshū University, winter 2015
- ❖ "The Takeda of Kai" in *History of the Samurai*, UCSB, spring 2014
- ❖ "A Dagger into the Heart of Japan: Ancient Korea and Japan" in *World History A*, UCSB, fall 2013
- ❖ "Japan: The Land of the Gods" in *World History B*, UCSB, winter 2013
- ❖ "What is a Samurai?" in *Japanese History through Art and Literature*, UCSB, fall 2012
- ❖ "Medieval Japan and the Asian Mainland" in *East Asian Civilization*, UCSB, summer 2011, 2012
- ❖ "Surviving the Warring States" in *The Samurai of Japan*, UH Manoa, fall 2008

Research Assistant:

- ❖ Japanese to English translation for bibliography of Japanese language works on Qin and Han dynasty legal codes, summer 2012
- ❖ Japanese to English translation of secondary works on early 20th century jazz in Japan, summer 2011

Service:

- ❖ UCSB "Reinventing Japan" Research Focus Group administrative assistant, 2016-2017
- ❖ Compilation of placement data of history PhD graduates from 1964-2013 for UCSB History Department, summer 2013

English as a Second Language:

- ❖ AEON Higashihiroshima School (英会話イーオン東広島効), Hiroshima, Japan, 2008-2010

Awards and Scholarships

- ❖ Schlaikjer Fellowship for Japanese History, 2016-2017
- ❖ UCSB History Associates Fellowship, summer 2016
- ❖ UCSB Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (nominated), 2015
- ❖ ****Fulbright IIE Graduate Research Fellowship (Japan), 2014-2015****
- ❖ Japan Foundation Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship, 2014-2015 (declined in favor of Fulbright)
- ❖ UCSB History Associates Graduate Fellowship, summer 2013
- ❖ Richard and Jeanne Williams Endowed Graduate Fellowship, summer 2013
- ❖ Japan Foundation Graduate Student Fellowship, spring 2012, spring 2013
- ❖ University of California Special Regent's Fellowship, 2010-2015
- ❖ UH Manoa History Department Graduate Merit Tuition Waiver, 2005-2008
- ❖ UH Manoa Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant, fall 2006
- ❖ Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, summer 2006

Foreign Languages

- ❖ Modern Japanese
- ❖ Early Modern Japanese (sōrōbun)
- ❖ Medieval Japanese (kanbun)
- ❖ Spanish (basic reading ability)

Affiliations

- ❖ Graduate Research Fellow, Shinshū University, Matsumoto, Japan 2014-2015
- ❖ Association for East Asian Environmental History, member ([website](#))
- ❖ University of Southern California Kanbun workshop, summer 2013 participant

References

Luke S. Roberts
Professor of Japanese History, UCSB
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Sasamoto Shōji
Professor Emeritus of Japanese History (ret.)
Shinshū University
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Anthony Barbieri-Low
Associate Professor of Chinese History, UCSB
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Peter S. Alagona
Associate Professor of Environmental History,
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Takahashi Shinichirō
Research Professor, Historiographical Institute
at The University of Tokyo
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Kate McDonald
Assistant Professor of Japanese History, UCSB
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Ann Marie Plane
Professor of Native American History, UCSB
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Katherine Saltzman-Li
Associate Professor of Japanese Literature,
UCSB
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