

# Daniel Gimbrone

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## Objective

To pursue advanced research in **Japanese sociolinguistics** and **queer studies**, focusing on the intersection of **language, identity**, and **popular culture**. Seeking opportunities to contribute to the field through innovative analysis of contemporary **Japanese media and literature**, with the goal of advancing understanding of **LGBTQ+** representation and linguistic practices in Japan.

## Education

### **The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

Master of Arts, Asian Studies

- Specialization: Japanese Sociolinguistics and Literature
- Research Focus: Boys' Love (BL) manga and its impact on contemporary Japanese social norms and LGBTQ+ representation
- Expected Graduation: May 2025

### **University at Buffalo, The State University of New York**

Bachelor of Arts, Asian Studies and Linguistics

- Concentration: Japanese
- Overall GPA: 3.6 | Major GPAs: Asian Studies 3.7, Linguistics 3.5
- Graduated: Cum Laude, August 2023

## Study Abroad

### **International Christian University**

Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan

July 2023

- Completed 4-week intensive program combining Japanese language study and Japan Studies courses
- Engaged in 94.5 contact hours (45.5 hours of Japanese language; 49 hours of Japan Studies)
- Studied various aspects of Japanese culture, history, society, economy, politics, and business
- Participated in theme-related fieldwork and cultural activities
- Developed cross-cultural communication skills through interaction with international and Japanese students

# Professional Development

## **Lavender Languages Institute**

California Institute of Integral Studies

Summer 2023

- Intensive 10-day online program focusing on language and sexuality studies, queer linguistics, and lavender language themes
- Participated in class discussions, research opportunities, and informal conversations exploring current topics in the field
- Relevant coursework:
  - “Ethnography in Queer and Trans Linguistics”
  - “Introduction to Linguistics for Lavender Language Studies”
  - “Queer and Trans Semiotics”

## Skills

### **Language Skills:**

- English: Native
- Japanese: Intermediate

### **Research & Analysis:**

- Qualitative research methods
- Discourse analysis
- Sociolinguistic interview techniques

### **Literary Analysis:**

- Close reading and textual interpretation
- Comparative literature analysis
- Genre and narrative theory application
- Queer theory in literary contexts

### **Cultural Competencies:**

- Japanese cultural literacy and media studies
- LGBTQ+ studies and queer linguistics
- Japanese popular culture analysis

### **Communication & Facilitation:**

- Workshop design and facilitation
- Public speaking and presentations

### **Technical Skills:**

- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Google Workspace
- Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign)
- AI tools for research and content creation

### **Digital Literacy:**

- Digital content creation and management
- Social media strategy and analysis

# Research Interests

## **Japanese Media and Literature:**

- Representations and portrayals of gender and sexuality across literature, manga, anime, and other forms of popular media
- Analysis of cultural narratives in contemporary fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, and transmedia storytelling platforms
- Manga as a medium for social commentary and identity expression
- Trends in digital media consumption and social media use

## **Contemporary Japanese Culture:**

- Evolving concepts of masculinity and gender roles
- LGBTQ+ representation and experiences
- Intersection of traditional customs and modern society

## **Japanese Sociolinguistics:**

- Language and identity in gay men
- Gendered speech patterns and linguistic performativity
- Linguistic representation in popular media

# Projects

## ***Ghost Reading: When Queer Literary Theory Haunts Anime***

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures

Advisor: Dr. Andre Haag

Fall 2023

- Applied J. Keith Vincent's queer literary theory framework to analyze the 1995 anime film *Ghost in the Shell*
- Examined the application of paranoid and reparative reading strategies to anime, extending beyond traditional literary analysis
- Conducted close readings of key scenes, focusing on dialogue and themes that challenge normative views of identity and consciousness
- Explored the intersections of queer theory, posthumanism, and Japanese popular culture in animated media
- Contributed to the understanding of how anime can reflect and challenge societal norms around gender, identity, and human-machine interfaces

## ***Matsugo: A Case Study of the Speech of Matsuko Deluxe***

University at Buffalo

Department of Linguistics

Advisor: Dr. Mitsuaki Shimojo

Spring 2023

- Conducted a case study on linguistic practices of Japanese LGBTQ+ celebrity, Matsuko Deluxe
- Analyzed use of gendered language and speech style shifts to express queer identity

- Examined first-person pronouns, sentence-final particles, and speech style variation in media discourse
- Contributed to understanding of Japanese queer linguistics and *onee-kyara kotoba* ("queen's language")

***Miyazaki's Shinto: Evidence for Religious Mixing within Shinto, as Seen in the Works of Miyazaki Hayao***

University at Buffalo, Asian Studies Program

Spring 2022

Advisor: Dr. Mark Nathan

- Identified and analyzed spiritual symbols in three of Miyazaki Hayao's films: *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*, and *Spirited Away*
- Examined the blending of belief systems in contemporary Japanese spirituality as represented in animated media
- Analyzed symbolic representations and their cultural significance across these films
- Contributed to understanding of religious syncretism in modern Japanese media and culture

***Deep River: A Cultural Translation of Utada Hikaru's Lyrical Poetry***

University at Buffalo Honors College, Independent Project

March 2022 – June 2022

Advisor: Dr. Chihiro Heckman

- Conducted a comprehensive translation project focusing on *Deep River*, a 12 song album by renowned Japanese artist, Utada Hikaru
- Applied cultural and linguistic expertise to preserve the poetic essence and nuances of Utada's original lyrics
- Developed a translation methodology prioritizing cultural context and artistic intent over literal word-for-word rendering
- Analyzed the interplay between Japanese popular culture, music, and language in Utada's work
- Produced a curated lyric booklet showcasing the depth and complexity of contemporary Japanese songwriting

## Awards

**University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, 2023-2024 Academic Year**

- Non-Resident Tuition Exemption (NRTE)
  - Awarded resident-rate tuition for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024
- Graduate Merit Scholarship
  - \$7,000 total (\$3,500 per semester) toward tuition

**University at Buffalo, Spring 2021**

- The Asian Studies Program Study Abroad Award
  - \$1,000 grant to support study abroad in Japan

## Volunteer Work

### **University at Buffalo, College of Arts and Sciences Ambassador Program**

Asian Studies Program Representative

September 2021 – May 2023

- Served as a faculty-nominated representative for the Asian Studies program
- Represented the program at various events, acting as a liaison between students and the dean's office
- Provided information, insight, and advice to current and prospective students

### **Friends of the Japanese Garden of Buffalo**

Cultural Education Volunteer

September 2021 – May 2023

- Taught Japanese vocabulary and phrases to guests at Buffalo's *Bunka no Hi* (Culture Day) and Cherry Blossom Festival
- Assisted with event set-up and various organizational duties

### **Asian Studies Program, University at Buffalo**

Event Organizer

Spring 2020

- Assisted in organizing "Confronting Discrimination against Asian Americans: A Public Forum featuring Dr. Fred Lee"
- Facilitated discussions between students, faculty, and guest speakers

## Employment

### **Apple Inc.**

Creative Pro (Specialized Instructor)

October 2015 – July 2020

- Facilitated daily classes and workshops for diverse age groups on various technology topics
- Specialized in music creation instruction using Logic Pro X and GarageBand
- Led Apple's music-focused summer camp program for youth
- Conducted internal employee training sessions on creative software applications
- Developed and delivered engaging educational content to enhance customer skills and product knowledge