Visiting Professor of Australian Studies 2027-28 and 2028-29

Centre for Pacific and American Studies

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo

Position: Visiting Professor

Open to: Australian citizens and permanent residents

Location: Centre for Pacific and American Studies, University of Tokyo, Komaba Campus

Salary: **Starting Salary ¥600,000 per month (before tax). See also section 5.**

Duration: Approximately 10 months

Commencement of position: Late September 2027 or late September 2028. Applicants may apply to be considered for a specific term only or for either term. This must be indicated clearly on your application.

Closing date for applications: 14 February 2027

Applications: Email applications to k.darian-smith@unimelb.edu.au and cc h.swaine@uq.edu.au with the words "Confidential: University of Tokyo Visiting Professor" in the subject line.

Applicants must address the selection criteria and provide a detailed curriculum vitae by the closing date. Please include the names, phone, and email addresses of three referees in your application (see also Section 9 below).

Further Information Professor Kate Darian-Smith
Email: k.darian-smith@unimelb.edu.au

1. ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO AND CPAS

The University of Tokyo, one of the most prestigious tertiary institutions in Japan, has a long-standing commitment to the study of Australia and has for many years hosted Australian academics. The University created the Annual Visiting Professorship in Australian Studies in 1999 with support from the Australia-Japan Foundation (AJF) and offers this Visiting Professorship to one Australian scholar each year.

The Centre for Pacific and American Studies (CPAS) is highly regarded for its academic research as well as high profile seminars. These were originally focused on the US and Japan/US relations; however, with the expansion of the Centre's geographical scope in 2000, there is an increasing focus on Pacific countries including Australia. See further information on the CPAS website.

2. AUSTRALIAN STUDIES

Australian Studies can be approached from an area-studies perspective or from a comparative Australia-Japan perspective. Whilst Australia should remain the main focus, we also welcome scholars whose field of study covers the broader Pacific regions including Oceania, Polynesia, Micronesia and North America, with an emphasis on issues that are of particular relevance to the changing dynamics in the political economy and cross-cultural interchange in the area.

Areas of interest include but may not be restricted to the following, and comparative expertise is welcome:

- Australian foreign policy and international relations,
- Australia's economy and its trade and investment relations
- Australia's net zero transition and sustainability in Australia
- Australian immigration policy related to the Indo-Pacific
- Australian politics and society
- Australian history, including of Australia within its region
- Australian cultural studies and/or Australian cultural history
- Australian literature and literary studies / art history
- Philosophy and ethics in Australian society
- Indigenous issues in Australia.

Candidates may also wish to connect with academics from disciplines that complement their own areas of expertise in addition to conducting CPAS activities. There is scope for academics to conduct presentations, collaborative research or other activities with other faculties at the University of Tokyo. In contrast to most positions held by foreigners at Japanese universities, there is no English language teaching requirement within this position. Nor are candidates expected to have knowledge of the Japanese language.

3. POSITION SUMMARY

Visiting Professorship in Australian Studies 2027-28 and 2028-29

Centre for Pacific and American Studies, Institute of Advanced Global Studies,

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo

This senior position will be based in the Centre for Pacific and American Studies (CPAS), part of the Institute of Advanced Global Studies within the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences of the University of Tokyo, and located at the Komaba Campus in inner Tokyo.

Teaching

CPAS requires the Visiting Professor to teach three subjects each semester: one subject for first- and second-year students, one subject for third- and fourth-year students, and one subject for postgraduate students. Overall, the Visiting Professor will teach six different subjects during their time at the University of Tokyo, divided into three subjects per semester.

Please note that:

- For the first-year class, general subjects suitable for first year students are preferable to specific subjects.
- Creative practice subjects for all year levels are not appropriate
- Each class runs for 90 minutes per week.
- The total contact teaching time per week during semester is 4.5 hours.
- Class sizes can vary considerably and are generally much smaller than at Australian universities. For instance, undergraduate subjects may be around 15-25 students, and postgraduate subjects may be under 10 students.
- **The teaching load and assessment is generally much less than standard loads in Australian universities**. Japanese students often take around 15 subjects each semester, not the 3 or 4 subjects that are standard at Australian universities, and subjects therefore require a shorter time commitment and scope.
- The administrative demands associated with the subjects are not onerous.

It should also be noted that courses which place Australia in a comparative context tend to receive more interest from students, particularly postgraduates, given the limited number who research Australia only. For instance, course offerings by previous Visiting Professors which indicated an 'Asia-Pacific' focus received more enrolments than 'Australia-only' courses. Applicants may wish to take this into consideration while outlining their proposed courses.

The Visiting Professor is also expected to provide guidance and assistance to undergraduate and postgraduate students upon request. Classes are usually scheduled across Tuesday-Thursday, allowing time each week for research and the development of academic networks.

Research

The Visiting Professor is expected to conduct research during their time in Tokyo. In particular, the Visiting Professor is required to present a lecture for CPAS and to publish in the CPAS journal during the course of their stay.

There is also the potential for the Visiting Professor to organise a symposium on an issue of relevance to Australian scholarship at CPAS, bringing together Australian and Japanese scholars. An agreement is now in place for the Visiting Professor to submit an article for publication to the *Journal of Australian Studies* on an aspect of their research at the conclusion of their term at CPAS.

Promotion of Australian Studies in Japan

The Visiting Professor will be expected to develop and expand academic networks across Japan, working with the AJF and the Australian Studies Association of Japan (ASAJ). This will include promoting the development of institutional links between Japanese institutions (especially in the Tokyo region) as well as institutional and academic relationships between Japan and Australia.

The AJF actively supports the study of Australia in Japan and has for many years provided financial, administrative and other support to the Australian Studies Association of Japan.

The ASAJ is a network for teachers of Australian studies in Japan with over 200 members throughout the country covering a broad range of fields of study. The ASAJ provides a solid basis for understanding Japanese approaches to teaching about Australia.

In conjunction with both the AJF and ASAJ the Visiting Professor is expected to develop a program of Australian Studies activities, which may include a symposium, workshops, seminars, and some possible contributions to Japanese academic journal(s).

The Visiting Professor is also expected to offer further promotion and support of the position, as well the bilateral relationship between the University of Tokyo and Australian institutions, past their official conclusion in the position. This may involve promotion of the position in future advertising rounds, hosting scholars, developing exchange agreements, etc.

4. DURATION

We are seeking applications for two terms: 2027-28 and 2028-29. Applicants may apply to be considered for a specific term only or for either term. The term/s for which you are applying *must be indicated clearly* on the application.

The appointment is usually for a ten-month period. The Visiting Professor is expected to spend most of their time in Tokyo engaged in research and teaching in Tokyo. The period of appointment commences from late September 2027 or late September 2028 to enable settling in prior to the commencement of the academic semester. The starting date will need to be negotiated with CPAS, taking into account family composition, need to arrange schooling and the availability of the accommodation. A later starting date, beyond the commencement of the academic semester, is not negotiable.

The candidate must also be in Tokyo and available to students immediately before and after the teaching periods.

The teaching periods are as follows:

- First Semester: First week of October to mid-January
- Second Semester: First week of April to mid-July

5. SALARY AND OTHER REMUNERATION

Remuneration is set at the payment level, in Yen, for Visiting Professors at the University of Tokyo, a competitive amount compared to salaries for other senior academics: approximately ¥600,000 per month (before tax). Academics at Japanese national universities such as the University of Tokyo also receive a research allowance (for books, stationery and domestic travel). This salary, in addition to the subsidised accommodation (see below) is suitable to provide the Visiting Professor with a comfortable standard of living in Tokyo.

It should be noted that all other candidate expenses relating to spouses and/or other family members are the responsibility of the candidate. The University of Tokyo and the AJF are not responsible for any other costs (e.g. family-related costs, including removals expenses, insurances and school tuitions for children, etc).

Accommodation will be made available from the start of term for the Visiting Professor at a subsidised rental price in University of Tokyo's International Lodge or equivalent. It will typically comprise a two-bedroom apartment of around 50 square metres renovated to a high standard in central Tokyo within walking distance to the Komaba campus. In the past, accommodation costs have been around ¥150,900 per month (including utilities). Please note that about one third of this sum will be subsidised by CPAS. The University permits only the Visiting Professor, their spouse and children to stay in the accommodation. If you wish to arrange your own accommodation, rates can be considerably higher. Further information will be available upon request.

A return economy class airfare to/from Australia is also provided by the University of Tokyo to the successful applicant. A settling-in allowance may also be available to assist with relocation costs.

Applicants should also note that there is a deduction of approx. 3-5% of the monthly salary for health insurance. This is a mandatory deduction.

6. ELIGIBILITY

Please note the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.
- Given the seniority of the position, suitable applicants are strongly advised that they should already hold an Associate Professor or Professor position at an Australian University (or equivalent experience if in non-academic employment).
- Due to University of Tokyo and Japanese government regulations, candidates must be aged under 65 years for the entire duration of their time as Visiting Professor.
- For visa and accommodation purposes, there is a requirement that a spouse is defined through a legal certificate of marriage in Australia or another jurisdiction.

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

The University of Tokyo's Statement on Diversity and Inclusion emphasizes the importance of diversity in the pursuit of academic excellence and knowledge innovation – including diversity in race, ethnicity, gender identity, and sexual orientation – and encourages applicants from First Nations scholars, as well as all scholars from diverse backgrounds or communities.

Essential Criteria

- PhD degree or equivalent significant achievement at senior level in Government or community in the broad field of Australian Studies.
- An outstanding record of tertiary teaching, as demonstrated by 1) course and subject development and 2) a willingness to encourage and mentor students and 3) student experience and satisfaction.
- Demonstrated potential to contribute to the broad intellectual aims of the Centre for Pacific and American Studies, and more widely within appropriate discipline areas at the University of Tokyo and across the Japanese tertiary sector.
- Demonstrated potential to play a role in increasing the awareness of and understanding in Japan of Japan's shared interests with Australia.
- Demonstrated commitment to research activity and research collaboration, with a research record of publications, grants and other activities appropriate to a senior academic in an Australian context.
- Outstanding inter-personal skills and a demonstrated capacity to communicate Australian studies in a cross-cultural environment.

Desirable

- Demonstrated excellence in research publications (a full publication record must be submitted with the application) as appropriate to a senior academic position.
- Demonstrated excellence in research achievement both nationally and internationally.

8. KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Sufficient time is available for the candidate to meet the following responsibilities:

1. Teach three subjects each semester: one subject for first and second year students, one subject for third and fourth year students, and one subject for postgraduate students. Overall, the Visiting Professor will teach six different subjects during their time at the University of Tokyo.
2. Provide guidance and assistance to undergraduate and postgraduate students as requested.
3. Present a lecture for CPAS, publish in the CPAS journal during the course of the stay and contribute to academic activities at CPAS as requested.
4. Conduct a research program of outstanding achievement, both nationally and internationally, whilst at CPAS.
5. Development of professional, industry and academic links between Australia and Japan, including the development of links between Australian researchers and members of the Australian Studies Association of Japan (ASAJ).
6. Submission of a short report to the AJF outlining the activities undertaken during the term of the appointment within two months of completion of the program.
7. Provision of other promotional and reporting information as requested by CPAS, the AJF and InASA.
8. Provide, if appropriate, an academic article arising from research undertaken in Japan to the *Journal of Australian Studies*.
9. Provide advice and guidance to future incumbents and assist and cooperate with the Visiting Professor program at CPAS beyond the term of the appointment.

9. APPLICATIONS

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to first discuss their interest in the position with the Chair of the Selection Committee prior to formal application.

1. Application Text (must include the following):
   - Covering letter, which indicates whether you are applying to be considered for a specific term or for either term. If applicant is applying for one term only, please indicate clearly which term – i.e. 2027-28 only, 2028-29 only, or either term.
   - Selection Criteria: The essential criteria as outlined above must be addressed (maximum five pages).
   - Research interests, noting in particular how these were relevant to and/or would influence Australia-Japan relations.
   - For those who have moved to academia more recently, a record of achievement at the most senior levels of government and community.
   - Proposed research program and other activities while in Japan.
   - Australian Studies teaching proposal while at the University of Tokyo. This should include short paragraph descriptions (up to 250 words per subject) of the subject content for each of the six subjects and indicate the main themes of your approach to the teaching duties.
   - A brief statement of 200-300 words about how you would work to promote Australian studies outside of teaching and continue to engage with the field following your appointment at the University of Tokyo.

2. Detailed Curriculum Vitae (must include the following):
   - Biographical Details
     - Full Name (including former names)
     - Contact Details (work and home)
     - Academic Qualifications (date awarded)
     - Citizenship Status
     - Date of Birth (required by the University of Tokyo)
   - Employment History: Please list all relevant positions held at Australian institutions and other non-academic employment as appropriate.
   - Cultural Experience: Please provide a short statement outlining your experience with cross-cultural interaction, whether in research, teaching or non-academic contexts.
   - Publications: These are to be listed as per books; articles in refereed journals; chapters in scholarly books; refereed conference papers; unrefereed publications; other publications. If publications are jointly authored, please indicate the percentage (%) of your contribution.
   - Conference papers and public presentations.
   - Grants previously and currently or in process with details of the funding body and amount received.
   - Teaching record/.
   - Supervision of research higher degree students.
   - Administrative experience.

3. Intended family composition during the period of stay in Japan (e.g. 1 adult and 2 children).

   This information will have no bearing on the selection process. It is required only to assist the University with preparations and will not be released to any other agency.

4. List of three (3) academic referees.

   The names, email addresses and phone number of three academic referees must be included.

5. How applicants became aware of the position to assist with future promotional activities.

10. LIVING AND WORKING IN TOKYO

Tokyo is a modern, cosmopolitan city with a very high standard of living. Although some Japanese language is useful, many Japanese speak English, particularly in and around the University. The city is well served by affordable public transport, and a car is not essential. Foreign residents are catered for by a wealth of amenities, including international schools, supermarkets, libraries, societies and clubs. Most local ward offices provide services specifically designed for foreign residents.

The indicated salary above more than suitably meets cost of living in Tokyo, which is, in general, cheaper than in Australia. There are a number of high-quality international schools in Tokyo, but admission is subject to availability. The Japanese health-care system is very good, affordable, and English-speaking health professionals are accessible in Tokyo.

As mentioned above, accommodation at the University of Tokyo's International Lodge or equivalent will be partially subsidised by CPAS and includes all utilities. Floor plans and further information about amenities and the local area can be found at the University of Tokyo website.

CPAS staff are also able to provide the Visiting Professor with some administrative support while getting settled in Tokyo, including with administrative onboarding at the University of Tokyo, but also with local services such as banking and registration with the Meguro Council.

Spousal Visa Considerations

As a general rule, the Japanese Government does not recognise de-facto or same sex relationships for visa purposes. Visa questions should be directed to the nearest Japanese embassy or consulate. For further information about Japan, we strongly suggest you refer to the Smartraveller travel advisory on Japan prepared by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

11. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Applications should be received by 12 pm AEST on 14 February 2027.

Applications must be emailed to **k.darian-smith@unimelb.edu.au** and cc **h.swaine@uq.edu.au** with the words "Confidential: University of Tokyo Visiting Professor" in the subject line.

All applications will be acknowledged within 21 working days of the closing date.

12. SELECTION PROCESS

The Australian sector of the selection process will be managed by Professor Kate Darian-Smith, University of Melbourne, in association with the International Australian Studies Association (InASA).

Candidates will be required to participate in an online interview with a selection panel (either via Zoom or Teams), which may include a representative from CPAS. The selection panel will provide a shortlist to the University of Tokyo, and the University of Tokyo will select the successful candidate. The decision of the University of Tokyo is final.

The interviews will be scheduled during March 2027. Any enquiries regarding the selection process should be directed to Professor Kate Darian-Smith.