

Nicolas Sternsdorff-Cisterna

Education

- Harvard University—Ph.D., Social Anthropology, 2014; A.M. Social Anthropology, 2011.
- University of British Columbia—M.A., Political Science, 2007.
- Trent University—B.A. Honours, Anthropology and International Development Studies with an emphasis in International Political Economy, 2004.

Professional Experience

- Qualitative UX Researcher. Meta. 2022 ~ present.

Academic Appointments

- Associate Professor (with tenure). Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University. 2021 - 2022.
- Assistant Professor. Department of Anthropology, Southern Methodist University. 2015 - 2021.
- Postdoctoral fellow. Program on US-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. 2014-2015.

Affiliate Appointments

- Faculty Fellow, Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University. 2017-2022.

Publications

Books

- 2019 *Food safety after Fukushima: Scientific Citizenship and the Politics of Risk*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- Selected as a 2019 Outstanding Academic Title by *Choice*.
 - Reviewed in *Asian Ethnology*, *Communication Research Trends*, *Contemporary Japan*, *Ethnos*, *Japanese Studies*, *Pacific Affairs*, *Social Science Japan Journal*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, *Social Anthropology*.

Edited Volumes

- 2018 Guest co-editor (with Paul Christensen and Eric Cunningham). Bodies in Motion in Japan. Special Issue of *Japanese Studies*, Vol. 38, Issue 1.
- 2014 Guest co-editor (with Yuson Jung). Food and the Senses. Special Issue of *Food and Foodways*, Volume 22, Issue 1-2.

Journal Articles

- 2018 Japanese Ballet Dancers: Routes of Mobility and the Body. *Japanese Studies* 38 (1): 75-91
- 2015 Food after Fukushima: Risk and Scientific Citizenship in Japan. *American Anthropologist*. 117 (3): 455-467

2014 Unexpected Moments and the Wine Experience. *Food and Foodways* 22 (1-2): 90-111

Book Chapters

- 2020 Your research questions may change and that is ok. In *Studying Japan: Handbook on Research Designs, Fieldwork and Methods*, edited by Nora Kottmann and Cornelia Reiher. Nomos.
- 2020 Food. In *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Japan*, edited by Hiroko Takeda and Mark Williams. New York: Routledge, 389-400.
- 2014 On food and safety. In *To see once more the stars: Living in a post-Fukushima world*. Edited by Daisuke Naito, Ryan Sayre, Heather Swanson and Satsuki Takahashi. Santa Cruz: New Pacific Press, 74-75.
- 2013 Space and terroir in the Chilean wine industry. In *Wine and Culture: Vineyard to Glass*. Bloomsbury, edited by Rachel E. Black and Robert C. Ulin. London: Bloomsbury, 51-66.
- 2013 Food and Place. *Encyclopedia of Food and Agricultural Ethics*. Springer., 824-830.

Book reviews

- 2018 “Animate Planet: Making Visceral Sense of Living in a High-Tech Ecologically Damaged World,” by Kath Weston. *Anthropological Quarterly* 91(2): 853-857.

Other Publications

- 2018 Grocery Shopping Amid Radiation Concerns in Japan. Asia Global Online, September 13. Available at <https://www.asiaglobalonline.hku.hk/food-radiation-concerns-japan/>
- 2007 Augusto Pinochet and Economic Nationalism: In search of Chile’s Superior Destiny. Trent Center for the Study of Global Power and Politics. Working Paper Series, CSGP 07/4.

Fellowships, Grants & Awards

National and International

- Sam Taylor Fellowship, 2018.
- Sam Taylor Fellowship, 2015.
- Waseda University Junior Visiting Researcher Fellowship, 2012-2013.
- Japanese Studies Fellowship for Doctoral Students, Japan Foundation, 2011-2012.
- Monbukagakusho research scholarship. Ministry of Education, Sports, Science and Technology. 2007-2008.

University

- James E. Brooks Faculty Award, Southern Methodist University, 2019.
- Certificate of Teaching Excellence, Bok Center, Harvard University. 2015.
- Reischauer Institute Dissertation Completion Grant. 2013-2014.
- Reischauer Institute Dissertation Grant. 2011-2012.
- Summer Research Grant. Asia Center, Harvard University. 2010.
- Summer Research Grant for Doctoral Students. Reischauer Institute. 2010.
- Summer Research Funding. Harvard Anthropology Department. 2009.

Summer Language Grant. Asia Center, Harvard University. 2009.
Karanja Njoro Community Service Award. Trent University. 2004.

Invited Talks

- 2021 “Intimacy, Techno-Intimacy, and Food Safety after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster” Sci-Tech Asia Webinar Series, November 22.
- 2020 “Food safety and the Politics of Risk after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” Connecticut College, March 24. (canceled due to Covid-19)
- 2019 “Food safety and the Politics of Risk after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology University, May 16.
- 2019 "Food safety after Fukushima: Scientific Citizenship and the Politics of Risk." Waseda University, January 15.
- 2017 “Food Safety and the Politics of Risk after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” Japan Seminar, University of Texas at Austin, September 26.
- 2017 “Food safety after Fukushima.” Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University. September 7.
- 2015 “Mothers and Activism after Fukushima.” Freie University, May 19.
- 2014 “Food after Fukushima: Scientific Citizenship and Risk in Japan.” Program on US-Japan Relations Seminar Series, Weatherhead Center, Harvard University. September 30.
- 2014 “Citizen science and radiation measurements after Fukushima.” Yale University Anthropology Colloquium series. January 27.
- 2013 “Searching for safe food in post-Fukushima Japan.” Kyoto University KIER. June 17.
- 2012 “Searching for safe food in post-Fukushima Japan. Temple University, as part of the event “Radiating Risk: Public Health after the Fukushima Nuclear Crisis.” July 3.

Invited workshops/symposia

- 2019 “Motherhood and care after the Fukushima nuclear accident”. Reproductive Labor and Gynocentric Technologies in East Asia, 1800s-2000s. The University of Hong Kong.
- 2017 “Motherhood and care: Coping with radiation after the Fukushima nuclear accident.” Reproductive Labor and Gynocentric Technologies in East Asia, 1800s-2000s, Hong Kong CRF Working Group. The University of Hong Kong.
- 2017 “Measuring radiation after Fukushima: Citizen Movements and the state.” Humanitarianism in Action: Asia-Pacific Ethnographic Perspectives, University of Hong Kong.
- 2013 “Safe and Trustworthy? Food safety after Fukushima.” STS Forum on the 2011 Fukushima / East Japan Disasters. May. University of California at Berkeley.

Conference Presentations

Panels Organized

- 2022 “Embodied Technoscapes: Urbanism and Digital Worlds in Asia” Association for Asian Studies, Honolulu, March 24-27. Co-organized with Namita Dharia.
- 2020 “Infrastructural assemblages and East Asia” Association for Asian Studies, Boston, March 19-22. (Conference canceled due to Covid-19).

- 2019 “Infrastructures across East Asia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, November 20-24.
- 2018 "Forests, Agriculture, and Oceans: Rurality and the Political Economy of Nature in Contemporary Japan.” Association for Asian Studies, Washington DC, March 22-26. Co-organized with Eric Cunningham.
- 2016 “Bodies in motion throughout Japan.” American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, November 16-21. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2016 “Mental Health and Illness in Contemporary Japan.” Association for Asian Studies, March 31- April 3. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2015 “The Work of Healing: Situated Practices, Ideological Discourses.” American Anthropology Conference, November 18-22, co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2014 “Japan at the edge.” American Anthropology Conference, December 3-7. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2013 “Danger!” American Anthropology Conference, November 20-24. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2012 “Can I eat that? Food, Drink and Disaster.” Asian Studies Conference in Japan, June 30. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.
- 2010 “Crafting Senses: Circulating the Knowledge and Experience of Taste.” American Anthropology Conference, November 17-21. Co-organized with Yuson Jung.
- 2010 “The Anthropology of Alcohol in Japan.” Japan Anthropology Workshop, March 14-16. Co-organized with Paul Christensen.

Papers presented

- 2022 “A Data-Driven Society: Japan’s Society 5.0 and Scapes of Sociality.” Association for Asian Studies Conference, Honolulu, March 24-27.
- 2021 “Risky environments, food, and the body: Managing uncertainty after the Fukushima nuclear accident. American Anthropological Association meeting, Baltimore, November 17-21.
- 2020 “Trust and Governance in Japan’s Society 5.0” American Ethnological Society Conference, Austin, March 27-29. (Conference canceled due to Covid-19).
- 2020 “A data-driven society: Japan’s Society 5.0 and the role of the social” Association for Asian Studies Conference, Boston, March 19-22. (Conference canceled due to Covid-19).
- 2019 “A super-smart society: Digital infrastructures and planning for a data-driven future in Japan.” American Anthropological Association meeting, Vancouver, November 20-24.
- 2019 "The super-smart society: AI and Society 5.0." Japan Anthropology Workshop, Aarhus, April 15-16.
- 2018 “Value and Agriculture after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” Association for Asian Studies. Washington, DC, March 22-26.
- 2017 “Value and Food after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC, Nov 28-Dec 3.
- 2017 “Food Safety in East Asia.” Roundtable at the Association for Asian Studies Meeting, March 16-19, Toronto.

- 2016 “The Dancing Body in Japan.” American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, November 16-21.
- 2016 “Stress and Radiation after Fukushima.” Asian Studies Conference Japan. International Christian University, July 1-2.
- 2016 “Food Security after the 3.11 East Japan Earthquake.” Sun & Star Symposium in Japan. Keio University, June 11.
- 2016 “Stress and radiation after Fukushima.” Association for Asian Studies, March 31- April 3.
- 2015 “Healing the land: Farming after the Fukushima Nuclear Accident.” American Anthropology Conference, November 18-22.
- 2014 “Scientific Citizenship and Risk in Japan.” American Anthropology Conference, December 3-7.
- 2014 “Food after Fukushima: Scientific Citizenship and Risk in Japan.” International Symposium on Roles, Responsibility and Social Imaginary in a Risk Society. International Christian University, Japan. July 17-18.
- 2014 “Seeing Radiation, Sensing Radiation: Food after Fukushima. American Ethnological Society Spring Conference, April 10-12.
- 2014 “Safe and Trustworthy? Food safety after the Fukushima nuclear meltdown.” Association for Asian Studies Conference, March 27-30.
- 2013 “Aiming for zero: The ambiguity of low-level exposure to radiation in post-Fukushima Japan.” American Anthropology Conference, November 20-24.
- 2013 “Safe and Trustworthy? Food safety after Fukushima.” 4s Social Studies of Science. October 9-12.
- 2013 “Precarious Consumption and Food after 3.11.” Cultural Typhoon, July 13.
- 2012 “Searching for safe food in post-Fukushima Japan.” American Anthropology Association Conference, November 17-21. 2012.
- 2012 “Searching for safe food in post-Fukushima Japan.” Asian Studies in Japan, June 30.
- 2011 “The changing images of terroir: Space, place and the Chilean wine industry.” Association for the Study of Food and Society, June 9-12.
- 2010 “Ah-ha! Unexpected moments and the wine experience. American Anthropology Association Conference, November 17-21.
- 2010 “Ah-ha! Wine, experience, phenomenology.” Japan Anthropology Workshop. March 14-16.
- 2007 “Food, Nation, Localism: Japan and agro-food studies.” Anthropology of Japan in Japan. November 17-18.
- 2005 “Augusto Pinochet: An economic nationalist.” Middle Atlantic Council for Latin American Studies. April 8-9.

Discussant

- 2015 Politics of Food Safety in China and Japan. Association for Asian Studies. March 26-29.
- 2015 Consuming Food, Producing Culture: Past and Present Worlds of Food and Gender. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 6.

Teaching and Supervision

Graduate Level Courses

History of Anthropology, Part II (1970s - present)
Global Issues and Development
Political Economy

Undergraduate Level Courses

Introduction to Ethnographic Methods
Global Processes and Problems: An Introduction
East Asia in Motion
Tasting Food: Politics, Science and the Senses
Anthropological approaches to science and technology
Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
Gender in contemporary Japan (short summer course)

Supervision

Graduate

- Dr. Kara Griffin, Ph.D. 2021.
- Committee member for five doctoral students at Southern Methodist University.

Undergraduate

- Distinction Research Supervisor for Aaron D'Eramo and Megan Sham.

Professional Activities

U.S. - Japan Network for the Future (Cohort 5), Mansfield Foundation, 2019-2021.

Reviewer

Article reviewer for *Anthropological Quarterly*; *American Anthropologist*; *American Ethnologist*; *Asian Anthropology*; *ASIEN*; *Contemporary Japan*; *Cultural Anthropology*; *Environmental Studies and Sciences*; *Food and Foodways*; *Food, Culture, and Society*; *Gastronomica*; *Japanese Review of Cultural Anthropology*; *Japanese Studies*; *Public Culture*; *Social Transformations in Chinese Societies*; *Theory, Culture & Society*.

Book manuscript reviewer for Routledge, Stanford University Press, University of California Press, University of Washington Press.

Research Seminars

2016-2017 Participant in the Animals Research Cluster, SMU
2008-2014 Harvard Anthropology Political Ecology Working Group (Group co-coordinator for two years)

Media Coverage

2021. "Food Safety after Fukushima". Technoviews Podcast, Sci-Tech Asia. Available at <https://scitechasia.org/podcasts/food-safety-after-fukushima/>

2013. With radiation, worries about food. *Harvard Gazette*. March 11. Available at <http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2013/03/with-radiation-worries-about-food/>

Professional Memberships

American Anthropological Association, Association for Asian Studies, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology, Society for East Asian Anthropology.

Languages

Spanish (native), English, Japanese, German.