

I am proud to have studied for my first and MA degrees at Waseda University. My major in both programmes was English literature. I am also proud that I started my teaching career in 1986 at Waseda university. In between I studied for my Ph. D. degree at University of Kent in the Southeast of England. I was awarded with Ph. D. degree in 1991 and my dissertation was about the history of theoretical debate on symbol and allegory. My main academic interest since those days is literary and cultural theory and particularly my learning of semiotics took me towards film studies and film theories. I have continuously been working for Waseda University, first teaching the English language and film studies at the general education section of School of Law, and then film studies since 2004 at School of International Liberal Studies. While I was Dean of Faculty of International Research and Education, I started planning the establishment of Graduate School of International Culture and Communication and I was thrilled and proud to see that it finally opened in 2015. GSICCS was a product of endless hard work and negotiations of many people who are now teaching at the school. As a researcher I am mainly working on three fronts – film theory and history, adaptation studies and world literature and cinema. My recent publications include, *Japan beyond Borders: Transnational Approach to Film and Media* (Seibunsha, 2020) and *Japanese Transnational Cinema* (MDPI, 2020). Both are cowritten and co-edited with Marcos Centeno-Martin, my former exchange student from Valencia, Spain. At the time of writing this, I am on sabbatical leave in Rome, where I am writing a book on film realism – the one hundred years of creating the illusion of reality from Italian spectacle films to 3D and virtual reality.