

2018 WINTER LECTURES

Materiality and Japanese History

14:45 – 16:15

Room 960, Bldg. 14
Waseda University

DEC

Lecturer:

Jordan Sand, Professor of Japanese History,
Georgetown University.

Coordinator:

Naoyuki Umemori, Professor, Faculty of
Political Science and Economics.

Language: English

Admission: Free

25 A materialist approach to Japan

This lecture will revisit the history of Meiji Japan from the perspective of three material phenomena and the issues they raise: the adoption of Western clothing and architectural interiors, the construction of brick buildings, and the expansion of silk production for export.

26 Rethinking the Ise Shrines through material flows

In this lecture, the long history of periodic demolition and reconstruction at the Ise Shrines will be re-conceptualized through the question of what was done with the vast quantity of material that flowed into the shrine every twenty years.

27 From “thing theory” to biomass and beyond: frontiers of materialism

This lecture will review some recent trends in history, anthropology, and philosophy concerning the agency of the material world. In the process, the implications for new historical approaches to modern Japan will be explored, with a particular focus on reinterpreting the history of cities and urban space.