

KEIJI IWAMOTO

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Department of Second Language Studies
Indiana University Bloomington
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Research Interests

Second language acquisition, Japanese pedagogy, L2 perception, Psycholinguistics, Phonetics, Phonology

Education

December 2025 **Indiana University Bloomington**

(Expected) Ph.D. in Second Language Studies

Minor: Linguistics

Advisors:

Dr. Isabelle Darcy (Chair),

Dr. Rex Sprouse,

Dr. Kenneth de Jong,

Dr. Chien-Jer Charles Lin

Thesis: *The perceptual weighting of 'redundant' cues by second language learners and its potential for phonological learning*

May 2020 **University of Mississippi**

M.A. in TESOL/Applied Linguistics.

Advisors:

Dr. Vance Schaefer (Chair),

Dr. Tamara Warhol,

Dr. Kahng Jimin

Thesis: *The effect of loanword status in Japanese on the length of the vowel inserted between consonant clusters in L2 English by L1 Japanese speakers of English.*

March 2018 **Waseda University**

B.A. in Education (English language and literature)

Advisor: Dr. Tetsuo Harada

Thesis: *Vision and the ownership of English: A pathway from false confidence to true Confidence*

Professional Appointment

Fall 2025- **University of Florida: Instructional Assistant Professor**

Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Fall 2024 **Waseda University: Visiting Research Fellow**

Host Professor: Dr. Mariko Kondo

Teaching Experience

Indiana University Bloomington

Summer Language Workshop (8-week intensive Course): *Lead Instructor*

Level 1: 2021, 2022 [Goal: Intermediate Low in ACTFL OPI]
Level 2: 2023 [Goal: Intermediate Mid in ACTFL OPI] (*New Course Developer*)
Level 3: 2024, 2025 [Goal: Intermediate High in ACTFL OPI] (*New Course Developer*)

East Asian Language and Cultures (EALC): *Associate Instructor*

Japanese 101-102: Fall 2020-Spring 2021 (1 year)
Japanese 201-202: Fall 2021-Spring 2023 (2 years)
Japanese 301-302: Fall 2023-Spring 2024 (1 year)

University of Mississippi

North Mississippi Japanese Supplementary School: *Graduate Assistant*

[Homeroom teacher for the 3rd, 5th, and 6th graders & Event administration]
Fall 2018 – Spring 2020

Waseda University

SILS (School of International Liberal Studies) Prep Program: *Teaching Assistant*

March 2018

RED (Research, Essay, Discussion) program: *Teaching Assistant*

[Learning Science (Physics, Chemistry, etc.) through English: Immersion]
Summer 2017-Spring 2018

Kalaripayattu (Indian Martial Arts): *Teaching Assistant*

Fall 2017

Aerobic Exercise: *Teaching Assistant*

Fall 2016

Leadership

Indiana University Bloomington

Summer Language Workshop

2023-2025: *Section Manager*

- Supervised instructors and skills trainers, and oversaw syllabus development
- Coordinated daily skills training programs and weekly cultural events
- Led instructor recruitment and selection processes
- Designed and implemented two new language courses tailored to student needs
- Reviewed student applications and administered placement tests
- Conducted outreach efforts that increased student enrollment by 360%
- Recognized for distinguished service as Section Manager for the Intensive Japanese Language & Culture program

Publications

Iwamoto, K., & Darcy, I. (2024, October 2). The perceptual weighting of ‘redundant’ cues by second language learners and its potential for phonological learning (under embargo). Retrieved from osf.io/fbs2u

Iwamoto, K. (in press, 2025). ゆるキャラプロジェクト：物語の創作活動と会話のタネ、そして言語の多様性 [Yuru-Chara (mascot character for Japanese prefectures) project: Creative story writing activities cultivated the ‘seeds’ of conversation and linguistic diversity]. *Proceedings of the 30th Central Association of Teacher of Japanese (CATJ)*. Chicago, Illinois, United States.

- Iwamoto, K., & Darcy, I.** (2024). Native speakers' redundant acoustic cue may be learners' treasure: Can pitch be repurposed? *Proceedings of the 14th annual Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference*. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
<https://doi.org/10.31274/psllt.17555>
- Iwamoto, K., Darcy, I., & de Jong, K. J.** (2024). Can pitch be repurposed? Tone language speakers use their pitch sensitivity to identify voicing categories in a second language: A cue-based transfer approach. *Proceedings of the 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 19)*. Seoul, South Korea.
https://labphon.org/sites/default/files/labphon19/Papers/LabPhon19_paper_49.pdf
- Iwamoto, K.** (2023). f0 enhancement in Japanese voicing contrast by Japanese native speakers and its implication to L2 perception/production. *Proceedings of the 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences*. Prague, Czech Republic.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2020). *The effect of loanword status in Japanese on the length of the vowel inserted between consonant clusters in L2 English by L1 Japanese speakers of English* (Publication No. 27958547) [Master's thesis, The University of Mississippi]. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global.

Presentations: Pedagogy

Conference talks

- Iwamoto, K., & Kyomoto, H.** (2024, August 1-3). *Yuru-Chara project: Using a creative writing project to encourage development of linguistic expressions* [Oral presentation]. The 2024 International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE), Madison, Wisconsin, United States.
- Kyomoto, H., & **Iwamoto, K.** (2024, August 1-3). *A practice report of speech-level shifts and learner agency in beginner and advanced-level JFL classrooms* [Oral presentation]. The 2024 International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE), Madison, Wisconsin, United States.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2024, April 20). *Pitch your original Yuru-Chara and its story to promote Japanese prefectures: Iterative presentations approach* [Oral presentation]. The 30th Central Association of Teachers of Japanese Conference (CATJ 30), Chicago, United States.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2024, April 18-21). *Beyond classroom and native speakers for learner legitimacy: Original mascot character project for Less Commonly Toured Japanese Prefectures (LCTJaP)* [Oral presentation]. 27th annual NCOLCTL conference, Chicago, United States.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2017, December) *Vision and the Ownership of English: A Pathway from False Confidence to True Confidence* [Conference Presentation]. Waseda University Annual English Language and Literature Conference, Tokyo, Japan.

Presentations: Second language studies & phonetics/phonology

Invited talks

- Iwamoto, K.** (2024, October 19). *'Redundant' acoustic cues for second language learners* [Invited talk]. 東京音韻論研究会 [Tokyo Circle of Phonologists (TCP)], Tokyo, Japan.
- Iwamoto, K., & Darcy, I.** (2023, October 6). *Can pitch be repurposed? Tone language speakers use their pitch sensitivity to make segmental distinctions in a second language* [Invited talk]. Indiana University-National Taiwan University Symposium on Language, Brain, Society, Indiana, United States.

Conference talks

- Iwamoto, K.,** Darcy, I., & de Jong, K, J. (2024, June 26-29). *Can pitch be repurposed? Tone language speakers use their pitch sensitivity to identify voicing categories in a second language: A cue-based transfer approach* [Oral presentation]. The 19th Conference on Laboratory Phonology (LabPhon 19), Seoul, South Korea.
- Iwamoto, K.,** & Darcy, I. (2023, September 6-8). *Can tone language speakers generalize their learned sensitivity to pitch in syllables into segments?* [Oral presentation]. 14th Pronunciation in Second Language Learning and Teaching Conference, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2023, August 7-11). *f0 enhancement in Japanese voicing contrast by Japanese native speakers and its implication to L2 perception/production* [Poster presentation]. 20th International Congress of Phonetic Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic.
- Iwamoto, K.,** & Kawaoto, L. (2023, May 26). *Maximizing voicing contrast in modern Tokyo Japanese: the effect of phonological focus on f0 cue enhancement* [Oral presentation]. UC Davis Symposium on Language Research, Davis, California, United States.

Colloquia and campus talks

- Iwamoto, K.** (2024, November 15). 第二言語習得における音響的冗長性の役割 [Oral presentation]. ことばの科学プロジェクト研究所 2024 年度研究発表会 [Institute of Language and Speech Science, 2024 Annual Conference], Tokyo, Japan.
- Iwamoto, K.** (2024, August 30). *The perceptual weighting of 'redundant' cues by second language learners and its potential for phonological learning* [Dissertation Proposal Defense]. Indiana University Bloomington Department of Second Language Studies' Colloquium, Indiana, United States.
- Iwamoto, K.,** & Darcy, I. (2023, September 15). *Can tone language speakers generalize their learned sensitivity to pitch in syllables into segments?* [Oral presentation]. Indiana University Bloomington Department of Second Language Studies' Colloquium, Indiana, United States.

Honors/Awards

Indiana University Bloomington

Hamilton School of Global and International Studies (Summer Language Workshop)

- 2025 Distinguished service as section manager for intensive Japanese Language & Culture
- 2025 Distinguished service as lead instructor for intensive 3rd-year Japanese Language & Culture
- 2023 Distinguished service as lead instructor for intensive 2nd-year Japanese Language & Culture
- 2022 Distinguished service as lead instructor for intensive 1st-year Japanese Language & Culture

University of Mississippi

- 2019 Outstanding Student of the Year Award

Waseda University

- 2018 Salutatorian of the Department of Education (副総代)

Financial Support

Internal (Indiana University)

- 2025 College of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2025-2026. Amount: **\$25000** (Awarded, declined).
- 2024 Indiana University Global: Primary Partner Graduate Student Grant. Amount: **\$5350**. Support: expenses for research travel.
- 2024 Spring Indiana University GPSG (Graduate & Professional Student Government) Research Awards. Amount: **\$1000**. Support: research.

- 2024 Spring Harry Gradman Travel Award from the Department of Second Language Studies (Indiana University). Amount: **\$500**. Support: conference travel.
- 2023 Fall Harry Gradman Travel Award from the Department of Second Language Studies (Indiana University). Amount: **\$700**. Support: conference travel.
- 2023 Spring Travel Award from Indiana University Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences. Amount: **\$300**. Support: conference travel.

External

- 2024 Language Learning Dissertation Grant. Amount: **\$2000**. Project title: *The perceptual weighting of 'redundant' cues by second language learners and its potential for phonological learning*
- 2024 Travel Grant from Central Association of Teachers of Japanese. Amount: **\$300**. Support: conference travel.
- 2023 Travel Grant from UC Davis Symposium on Language Research. Amount: **\$250**. Support: conference travel.
- 2023 National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) Graduate Student Research Award. Amount: **\$2500**. Project title: *The effect of the lexical function of pitch in L1 on cue weighting strategies for L2 segmental contrast*.

Professional Work

Interpreter (English and Japanese)**University of Mississippi (Office of Global Engagement)**

March 2019 with Kobe Gakuin University football team (a delegation team)

Research Assistant**Waseda University**

August 2017 Fluency Analysis [Pause analysis in English learners' speech (Praat)]

March 2017 Segmental sound analysis [Analysis of the formants of /ɹ/ (Praat)]

Professional Development

Laboratory Participation**Indiana University Bloomington**

2023-2025 PhlegMe (Phonetics & Phonology reading group)

2021-present Second Language Psycholinguistics Lab (PI: Isabelle Darcy)

2020-2021 Statistics Reading Group (R)

Teacher Training**Washington University in Saint Louis**

Summer 2018 ALLEX Chinese and Japanese Teacher Training Institute

Service

Manuscript Review

2023 Indiana University Linguistics Club Working Papers

Conference Abstract Review

2025 New Sounds

Others**Indiana University Bloomington**2023, 2024 Institute for Curriculum and Campus Internationalization Conference: *Volunteer*2023 Global Gateway for Teachers (School of Education): *The host nation consultant*2023 Japanese Olympiad of Indiana (JOI): *Volunteer*2021-2022 Japanese Conversation Table: *Organizer*

Waseda University

2016

Yujin Gakuen (Japanese-English immersion school, Eugene, Oregon): *Intern*

Languages

Tokyo Japanese: native

English: fluent (TOEFL iBT 107, 2019)

Mandarin: intermediate

Qualification

Teacher license (English) at junior high and high school in Japan (Government Certification).

Skills

Pavlovia, PsychoPy, Praat, Qualtrics, R