

Call for Papers
17th Annual Generative Anthropology Summer Conference

Rapprochements East & West: Culture, Philosophy, Religion

Tokyo, Japan June 13-15, 2024
Natuluck Korakuen Conference Room

Hosted by the Generative Anthropology Society and Conference (GASC)

With support from the Institute for the Study of Christian Culture, Kinjo Gakuin University

The Generative Anthropology Society and Conference (GASC) is pleased to announce its 17th annual conference. This, our third conference in Japan, will be held in central Tokyo. Our conference returns to dialogue between East and West, with particular attention to Eastern and Western philosophy, and to Buddhism in comparison to Judeo-Christian traditions. Like its progenitor mimetic theory, Generative Anthropology (GA), makes universal claims regarding the origin and constitution of the human, yet it emerges out of Western religion, culture and philosophy. Conscious of this bias, GA has sought especially in the last ten years to engage Eastern points of view. Now, we invite in particular scholars of Buddhism and other spiritual and intellectual traditions of Asia to deepen this ongoing engagement in what we expect will be a mutually enriching dialogue. With GA's origins closely connected to René Girard's mimetic theory, we also warmly welcome participation from Girard scholars.

The range of generative anthropology also encompasses language, aesthetics, art, literature, film and other media, as well as social and political developments in society and the world at large. With all of this in mind, we invite proposal submissions related to, but not limited to, the following areas:

- **Buddhism, Christianity and interfaith dialogue**
- **Philosophical traditions East and West**
- **Mindfulness, mysticism and cognitive science**
- **Religion, myth and folklore in Asian and Western traditions**
- **Narrative in the East and West: literature, theater, film, television**
- **The global reach of anime, manga and Asian popular culture**
- **Art and aesthetics in Asia and the West**
- **Eastern and Western anthropological perspectives**
- **Language, consciousness and symbolic representation**
- **Westernization, globalism and secularization**
- **Unipolar vs. multipolar worlds (Francis Fukuyama vs. Samuel Huntington)**

We hope that proposals take into account fundamental concepts of generative anthropology or mimetic theory. Introductions to GA can be found [here](#).

Submit short proposals for a 20-minute paper in either Word or PDF format. Proposals should be 500 words or less and include a working title. Please indicate whether you intend to participate in person or remotely (see note below). **The submission deadline is April 15, 2024.** Send your proposal to conference organizers Matthew Taylor <taylor@kinjo-u.ac.jp>, Ian Dennis <idennis@uottawa.ca> or Kiyoshi Kawahara <itrkawahara@gmail.com>.

Students are encouraged to apply for the GASC Student Award. See details at [this link](#).

The language of the conference is English. The conference will be in person, with accommodations for remote presentations (via Zoom). Those presenting remotely from Europe and the Western hemisphere should also note that convenient times are difficult to arrange, due to incompatible time zones.