

GAS Special Workshop

Approaching the Academic Job Market: An Insider View from a Senpai

Time: 23 October 2026 10:00-11:30 JST

Venue: Conference Room 2, 3th Floor, Institute for
Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jesse LeFebvre

Assistant Professor, Department of Japanese Studies,
National University of Singapore

PhD Harvard, BA Shuchiin, MA Hawaii-Mānoa, BA Minnesota Twin Cities
Premodern and modern Japanese religious traditions, disaster and religious culture,
medieval Japanese visual and literary culture, legal violence and visual culture, gender
and religion, contemporary Korean religion and film

Moderator: Pattajit Tangsinmunkong

Associate Professor, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, University of Tokyo

Workshop Abstract:

There is no replacing a sensei, but sometimes it helps to hear from a senpai who just finished doing exactly what it is that you are attempting to do next. This workshop offers practical guidance for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows preparing to enter or navigate the academic job market. Led by an early-career scholar who has successfully navigated the job market twice (once in North America and once in Asia) in the last three years and has served on two faculty search committees over that same period, this workshop offers insights from both the candidate and committee perspectives. Topics will include identifying appropriate positions, developing impactful application materials, tailoring dossiers to different institutions and departments, preparing for interviews and campus visits, and understanding what it is a search committee is (and is not) looking for. The workshop will also create space for discussion of common challenges, questions, and misconceptions about the academic job search.



Please register before 20 October 2026

Registration: <https://forms.gle/4GbvtvSog9UcLDnV6>