

Chris Deacon

Lecturer in Politics and International Relations
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Current position

- 2024 – present **Lecturer in Politics and International Relations, SOAS University of London**
- Lecturer (equiv. Assistant Professor) in the Department of Politics and International Studies
 - Convening undergraduate and postgraduate modules in International Theory and the International Relations of East Asia

Visiting positions

- 2022 - 2023 **Visiting PhD Student, Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies, Waseda University**
- Five-month visiting research position in Tokyo
- 2022 **Visiting Scholar, Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University**
- Three-month visiting research position in Seoul

Higher education

- 2020 – 2024 **PhD International Relations, LSE**
- Supervisor: Professor William A. Callahan
 - Examiners: Professor Kevin Gray; Dr Felix Berenskötter
 - Thesis title: Unending past? Memory, relational identity and the 'history problem' in Japan-South Korea relations
 - Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council
- 2019 – 2020 **MSc International Relations (Research), LSE**
- Grade: Distinction
- 2017 – 2019 **MA Korean Studies & East Asian Politics with intensive Korean language, SOAS University of London**
- Grade: Distinction
- 2008 – 2012 **BA Asian & Middle Eastern Studies (Japanese Studies), University of Cambridge, Trinity College**
- Grade: First class honours

Other qualifications and training

Professional legal qualifications

- Admitted as a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales (2016)
- Legal Practice Course, BPP Law School (2014)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, BPP Law School (2012 – 2013)

Specialist methodology training in addition to core PhD training

- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-method Research (IQMR) 2021, Syracuse University
- MY400 Fundamentals of Social Science Research Design, LSE (Grade: Distinction)
- MY421 Qualitative Methods, LSE (Grade: Distinction)
- MY451 Introduction to Quantitative Methods, LSE (Grade: Distinction)
- MY528 Qualitative Text and Discourse Analysis, LSE (Grade: Distinction)

Professional experience

- 2016 – 2017 **Associate (qualified solicitor)**
EU, Competition & Regulatory Department, Slaughter and May, London
- 2016 **Foreign Legal Associate (seconded from Slaughter and May)**
Anderson Mori and Tomotsune, Tokyo
- 2014 – 2016 **Trainee Solicitor**
Slaughter and May, London and Brussels

Research publications

Journal articles

2024, Mnemonic encounters: the construction and persistence of international ‘history wars’ and the case of Japan-South Korea relations. *International Studies Quarterly* 68(3), sqae114. [\[Link\]](#)

2023, Perpetual ontological crisis: national division, enduring anxieties and South Korea’s discursive relationship with Japan. *European Journal of International Relations* 29(4), 1041-1065. [\[Link\]](#)

2022, (Re)producing the ‘history problem’: memory, identity and the Japan-South Korea trade dispute. *The Pacific Review* 35(5), 789-820. [\[Link\]](#)

Book chapter

2013, All the world’s a stage: herbivore boys and the performance of masculinity in contemporary Japan. In Brigitte Steger and Angelika Kock (eds.), *Manga Girl Seeks Herbivore Boy: Studying Japanese Gender at Cambridge*. Lit Verlag. (Adapted from undergraduate dissertation)

Works in progress

International history wars and everyday foreign policy: memory and Othering in South Korean and Japanese popular culture. (Shortly submitting to *International Political Sociology*)

(In)significant Others: relational imbalance in international politics. (In preparation)

Other publications

Japan's 'history problem' lingers on after Abe. *9DASHLINE*, 8 December 2022. [[Link](#)]

South Koreans want engagement with the North, but not reunification. *CapX*, 22 May 2018. [[Link](#)]

Conference papers

International history wars and everyday foreign policy: memory and Othering in South Korean and Japanese popular culture
European Workshops in International Studies 2024 (European International Studies Association). Istanbul, Turkey. 3-5 July 2024.

International history wars and everyday foreign policy: memory and Othering in South Korean and Japanese popular culture
British International Studies Association Conference 2024. Birmingham, UK. 5-7 June 2024.

Everyday inter/transnational history wars: memory and Othering in South Korean and Japanese popular culture
International Studies Association Convention 2024. San Francisco, USA. 3-6 April 2024.

Mnemonic encounters: the construction and persistence of international 'history wars' and the case of Japan-South Korea relations
International Studies Association Convention 2023. Montréal, Canada. 15-18 March 2023.

Ontological insecurity and the crisis of national division: securing the Korean Self through anti-Japanese nationalism.
International Studies Association Convention 2022. Nashville, USA. 28 March – 2 April 2022.

Othering to secure a divided Self: ontological insecurity, memory and anti-Japanese nationalism in South Korea
Association for Asian Studies Conference 2022. Honolulu, USA. 24-27 March 2022.

(Re)producing the 'history problem': memory, identity and the Japan-South Korea trade dispute.
Association of Korean Studies in Europe Conference 2021. La Rochelle, France. 28-31 October 2021.

Remembering to secure a divided national identity: memory, ontological insecurity and anti-Japanese nationalism in South Korea.
European International Studies Association Pan-European Conference 2021. Virtual conference. 13-17 September 2021.

(Re)producing the 'history problem': memory, identity and the Japan-South Korea trade dispute.
Asian Studies Conference Japan 2021. Tokyo, Japan. 3-4 July 2021. (paper accepted; conference later cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.)

Other invited presentations

LSE Department of International Relations 'Security & Statecraft' Research Cluster Workshop, 8 November 2023.

LSE Department of International Relations ‘Theory/Area/History’ Research Cluster Workshop, 9 February 2022.

Japan Foundation/British Association of Japanese Studies Postgraduate Workshop, 25-26 February 2021.

Teaching experience

Convening and lecturing

- 2024 – 2025 Convenor, lecturer and tutorial leader for ‘International Theory’ (SOAS University of London)
- Postgraduate course covering a range of theoretical approaches to the study of international politics
- Convenor, lecturer and tutorial leader for ‘International Relations of East Asia’ (SOAS University of London)
- Undergraduate course introducing students to important themes and case studies across the international politics of East Asia, utilising IR theories and concepts

Class teaching

- 2021 – 2022 Class teacher for ‘International Relations: Theories, Concepts and Debates’ (LSE)
- Undergraduate course introducing the discipline of International Relations and a broad range of mainstream and critical approaches to its study
 - Winner of Highly Commended LSE Class Teacher Award, as selected by Head of Department; nominated for LSESU ‘Inspirational Teaching’ award by students

Competitive funding awards

- 2019 – 2024 ESRC 1+3 Doctoral Studentship (c. £125,000)
- Full funding (fees, maintenance stipend, research costs) for four years to study for master’s and PhD degrees at LSE
 - Funding period extended by 22 weeks due to successful Difficult Language Training application
- 2022 – 2023 ESRC Overseas Fieldwork and Difficult Language Training funding (£8,100)
- Funding for PhD fieldwork in Seoul and Tokyo, as well as language training in Korean and Japanese
- 2022 – 2023 Sir Patrick Gillam Scholarship Fund (£5,000)
- Funding for PhD fieldwork in Seoul and Tokyo

- 2021 ESRC Overseas Institutional Visit Funding (£2,200)
- Award made for six-week visit to Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University
 - Subsequently unable to undertake trip due to Covid-19 restrictions
- 2021 IQMR Summer Institute 2021 (fully funded place)
- Award made for the costs of airfare, accommodation and subsistence
 - Institute subsequently moved to an online format due to Covid-19
- 2018 – 2019 Korea Foundation Graduate Studies Fellowship (£9,000)
- Funding contribution towards master's degree study at SOAS
- 2017 – 2019 Ruby and Will George Trust (£3,000)
- Funding contribution towards master's degree study at SOAS
- 2017 – 2019 Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust (£2,000)
- Funding contribution towards master's degree study at SOAS
- 2017 – 2018 SOAS Centre of Korean Studies (£6,000)
- Funding contribution towards master's degree study at SOAS

Prizes and honours

Martin Wight Dissertation Prize (Department of International Relations, LSE) for the best MSc International Relations (Research) dissertation of 2019-20

Trinity College, Cambridge Senior Scholarship (prize awarded for excellent final year degree results), 2012

Service roles and activities

Cohort representative, *LSE IR Department Staff-Research Student Liaison Committee* (2022 – 2023)

Editorial Board Member, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, Volume 50 (2020 – 2021)

Peer reviewer for: *European Journal of International Relations*, *Geopolitics*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *The Pacific Review*

Association membership

International Studies Association (2022 – *present*)

British International Studies Association (2020 – *present*)

European International Studies Association (2024 – *present*)

British Association of Japanese Studies (2017 – *present*)

British Association of Korean Studies (2017 – *present*)

Languages

English (native), Japanese (advanced), Korean (intermediate), Spanish (intermediate)