

Aki Nakai

Department of Political Science
Boston University
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EDUCATION:

Boston University, Department of Political Science, Boston, MA, 2008 – present

Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, expected May 2016

Fields of study: International Relations, Comparative Politics and East Asian Studies

Dissertation: “A Theory of Alliance Restructuring – the Cases in East Asia, 1946-2000,”
(Dissertation Advisors: Thomas U. Berger; William W. Grimes; Ivan Arreguin-Toft; and
Rosella Cappella Zielinski)

Tufts University, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Medford, MA

Master of Arts, Law and Diplomacy, 2008

Fields of study: International Security Studies and Pacific Asia

Thesis: “Suits, Uniforms and Statesmen: Expanding Roles and Missions of the Japanese Self-
Defense Forces and its Impact on the Civil-Military Relations,” (Advisor: Alan M. Wachman)

Waseda University, School of Political Science and Economics, Tokyo, Japan

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1994

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Tufts University, Department of Political Science, Medford, MA

International Relations of East Asia (Lecturer, Fall 2015) – Undergraduate seminar

Boston University, Department of Political Science, Boston, MA

Introduction to International Relations (Instructor, Summer 2015) – Undergraduate lecture
Introduction to International Relations (Teaching Fellow, Fall 2013) – Undergraduate
discussion section

U.S. Naval War College, Electives Program, Newport, RI

International Relations of the Asia-Pacific (Visiting Professor, Spring 2013) – Graduate
Japanese Security and Politics (Visiting Professor, Fall 2012) – Graduate

PUBLICATIONS:

“China’s Naval Modernization: Reflections on a Symposium,” *Occasional Papers on Asia*, No.1 (Boston, MA: Boston University Center for the Study of Asia, 2011)

Book Reviews:

Robert S. Ross and Zhu Feng, eds., *China’s Ascent: Power, Security, and the Future of International Politics* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2008) in *Senryaku Kenkyu* [Journal of Strategic Studies], No. 8 (Tokyo, Japan: Fuyo shobo, 2010), pp. 98-100.

Takehiko Yamamoto, *Anzenhoshō Seisaku: Keiseisaimin, Shin-Chiseigaku, Anzenhoshōkyōdotai* [Security Policy: Statecraft, New-Geopolitics, and Security Community] (Tokyo: Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha, 2009) in *Kokusai Anzenhoshō* [Journal of International Security], Vol. 37, No. 3 (Tokyo, Japan: Naigai shuppan, 2009), pp. 131-135.

Op-ed:

“*Futenma Mondai: Nihon wa Shidoryoku wo Shimese*” [On Futenma, a Chance for Japan to Lead], *SEIRON*, February 2010 Issue (Tokyo, Japan: Sankei Shinbun Sha, December 2009), pp. 313-314. (with James L. Schoff, Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis)

WORKING PAPERS:

“Alliance Restructuring: How Do Capabilities Shifts Matter?” (Under Review)

“Rationalist Explanations for the Philippine Decisions in the 1990-91 US-RP Base Talks.”

“Why Did the DPJ Fail to Restructure the Alliance with the United States in 2009-2010?”

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Alliance burden sharing, Alliance entrapment and entanglement, Territorial disputes and conflicts escalation

GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS/SCHOLARSHIPS:

Research Grant for the Summer Semester, Boston University, 2014

Teaching Fellowship for the Fall Semester, Boston University, 2013

Visiting Scholarship, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica (Taipei, Taiwan), 2013

Graduate Research Abroad Fellowship for the Spring Semester, Boston University, 2012

Visiting Scholarship, Yuchengco Center, De La Salle University (Manila, Philippines), 2012

Young Scholars Research Grant, Japanese Society for Asian Studies, (Kyoto, Japan), 2012

Asiatic Research Institute Fellowship for Northeast Asian Studies, Korea University (Seoul, South Korea), 2011

RESEARCH POSITIONS:

Research Assistant for Professor Rosella Cappella Zielinski, Department of Political Science, Boston University, 2013 – 2015, research project: “Power and Economic Statecraft during Wartime”

Research Assistant, Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis, Cambridge, MA, 2008 – 2012, research projects: “U.S.-Japan Alliance and Future of Extended Deterrence,” and “Democratic Party of Japan and its Foreign and Security Policy”

PRESENTATIONS:

Invited:

“Capabilities Shifts and State’s Decisions of Alliance Restructuring,” presentation at Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, February 11, 2014

“From Rhetoric to Reality: Foreign-Policy Making under the Democratic Party of Japan” presentation at Contemporary Japanese Politics Study Group, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, April 26, 2012. (with Weston S. Konishi, Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis)

Academic Conferences:

“Capabilities Shifts and State’s Decisions on Alliance Dissolution,” presentation at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, April 11, 2013

“Capabilities Shift, Regime Change, Level of Institutionalization and Alliance Dissolutions,” presentation at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, April 14, 2012

“State Leadership Change and Alliance Dissolutions,” presentation at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, April 1, 2012

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

Rapporteur, “Development of the Regional Architecture in East Asia,” Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan – Boston University Center for the Study of Asia Retreat, 2009

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

American Political Science Association, 2008 – present

International Studies Association, 2011 – present

Midwest Political Science Association, 2012 – present

Association for Asian Studies, 2014 – present

LANGUAGES:

English (Fluent), Japanese (Native), Mandarin (New HSK Level III – Intermediate (writing test, 2012, passed))

COMPUTER SKILLS:

STATA (version 13), R, Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint

REFERENCES:

Thomas U. Berger (First Reader)
Professor of International Relations
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William W. Grimes (Second Reader)
Professor of International Relations and Political Science
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Ivan Arreguin-Toft (Third Reader)
Assistant Professor of International Relations
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Rosella Cappella Zielinski (Fourth Reader)

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