

APPLICATION CHECKLIST
Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant

Deadline February 12th

Please print and complete this checklist and attach it as the cover page of your grant application.

Faculty information

Name: Lianying Shan

Dept: MLC

Email: lshan@gustavus.edu

Rank: Assistant Professor

Checklist

☐ **Description of previous projects (and outcomes) funded by RSC grants**

☐* **Complete project description, including separate statements of:**

1. **Purpose.** What are the intellectual, conceptual, or artistic issues? How does your work fit into other endeavors being done in this field?
2. **Feasibility.** What qualifications do you bring to this project? What have you done/will you do to prepare for this project? What is the time period, i.e. summer, summer and academic year, academic year only? Is the work's scope commensurate with the time period of the project?
3. **Project Design.** This should include a specific description of the project design and activities, including location, staff, schedules or itineraries, and desired outcomes.

☐* **RSC Budget Proposal Form attached as last page of application**

☐* **Nine (9) copies of completed application and budget (including this checklist) to be submitted to the John S. Kendall Center for Engaged Learning (SSC 119)**

If successful, my proposal can be used as an example to assist future faculty applications. This decision will not in any way influence the evaluation of my application. Yes / No (please circle one)

Additional Explanation

Last year I applied for and received a Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant for my proposed summer research project. However, I had to decline the offer because I had an opportunity to study in a language program in Japan for two months during the summer and was therefore unable to conduct the proposed research project under the RSC grant. I will resume my research project this year, and therefore I am applying for the RSC grant once again. The proposed research project is the same as last year, but I made some minor changes to the description of the project. I also attached a new budget proposal.

Purpose

I am applying for a Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant to fund my summer research that will lead to a journal article. The topic that I will investigate is the cultural significance of Japanese women's travel and migration to China in both the early 20th century and the contemporary period. A large number of Japanese women traveled or immigrated, either by themselves or with their families, to China during the Japanese occupation of China in the early half of the 20th century. Since the 1990s, there appears a second wave of Japanese women traveling to major Chinese cities to study or work under the contemporary context of economic globalization. Japanese women's mobility and cross-cultural experience in China in both periods needs yet to be systematically studied.

My project will closely examine modern and contemporary novels, short stories, travelogues, and essays written by Japanese women writers who depict either their real experience or imagined experience in China in the two contexts mentioned above. It explores the relationship between travel and identity, language and experience, gender and colonialism, and gender and globalization. What is unique about my research project is its investigation of the importance of the Chinese setting in Japanese women's imagination of their identity, their negotiation with the domestic and social constraints in Japan, and their resistance to sexual oppression and gender inequality. Moreover, my project addresses how the condition of colonialism and globalization complicates the issue of gender. I see my project as a challenging one as it deals with multiple issues and theories, such as women's transnational experience, gender, colonialism, and globalization in East Asia. For this reason, I will need to consult a variety of primary and secondary sources both in Japanese, English, and also in Chinese. I am excited about this challenging project because it will enable me to contribute to the current debate on gender and imperialism, migration and identity in the field of Japanese literary and cultural studies.

Feasibility

I became interested in the gendered aspect of transnational migration and travel in East Asia in the process of writing my dissertation. My dissertation examines Japanese literature about experience in Manchuria and Shanghai during the Japanese occupation of these areas in the early half of the 20th century. It focuses on five authors' use of various discourses, such as discourses of nationalism, anti-nationalism, memory, and nostalgia to construct postwar identity and consciousness that emerge from the experience of living in semi-colonized China. Among these five authors Hayashi Kyoko is a female author. Different from the four male authors studied in

my dissertation, Hayashi focuses more on the domestic and private sphere and on the development of an ambivalent female identity in the colonial setting. Her writing enables me to understand the fact that colonial experience is not simply a result of one nation dominating another, but conditioned by a set of complex socially constructed divisions, such as gender, class, and race. Since the completion of my dissertation in 2007, I have been reading Japanese literature by and about women with regard to experience in China. For example, I have studied Yosano Akiko's travelogue, Fujiwara Tei and Miyao Tomiko's autobiographical novels, and Kirino Natsuo's fiction. These writers illustrate the different ways in which Japanese colonialism and nationalism had influenced women's experience and subjectivity. At the same time, their focus on women's colonial and transnational experience provides a new perspective for scholars and general readers to understand the hitherto overlooked aspects of history, politics, gender, and society of modern Japan.

My proposed project consists of two parts. The first part focuses on Japanese women's experience in China under the colonial context of the early 20th century. Japanese women's travel and migration to China in this particular historical context reveals the complex relationship between women and colonialism. Japanese women/young girls who lived in China have to negotiate their female consciousness with Japanese nationalism and imperialism. The result is varied. While some women are able to frame their sense of self within the national framework others find their identity at odds with the national ideology. Through literature about Japanese women's experience in China, I will examine the various relationships of Japanese women with colonialism and the national identity. Moreover, I will demonstrate how women's literature remains to be the most important medium for women to record, conceptualize, and reconstruct their colonial and postcolonial experience and subjectivity and for them to participate in the ongoing debate on the intersection between gender, history, and memory.

Although women have different views of colonialism among themselves, their relationship with colonialism is different from that of men. The gendered aspect of colonialism shows that rather than based on a unified body of colonial thought shared by all citizens, Japanese colonialism is a result of the ideology of the dominant class. Japanese colonialism produces various effects on its own people due to the interplay of various social factors, such as gender and class. Compared to Japanese men, Japanese women occupy a marginalized position within the imperialist social context. Although female travelers could usurp the power of the male gaze and achieve imperial subjectivity through traveling and writing, many Japanese women's mobility in the colonial period is not necessarily a privileged condition. An important part of my project is to examine the association between illness, prostitution, and exile and Japanese women in China. The image of Japanese prostitutes in China links women's mobility to their low social and economic status back home. Their colonial experience in China is often characterized less by the antagonist relationship with the occupied Chinese than by the unequal relationship with Japanese men on the social, economic, and political levels. These women are often associated with various types of illness, especially TB, which serves as a symbol for their oppressed and exilic condition. The circumstances of Japanese women in China demonstrate the fact that when considering the cultural and social impact of Japanese imperialism a significant part of the question is gender and class difference among Japan's own citizens.

Application for a Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant
Lianying Shan, Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

The second part of my project examines Japanese women's travel to China under the contemporary global context as depicted in fiction and travelogues by Kirino Natsuo, Chino Yukiko and Takagi Nobuko. The democratic political condition and economic prosperity in postwar Japan and the global flow of people and technology have enabled Japanese women to travel across national borders. Contemporary migration and travel for women is never a pure leisure activity. Travel becomes an important means for women to achieve independent female subjectivity as indicated in Tawada Yoko's literature based on her extensive travel in Europe. At the same time, women's travel occurs in a contemporary economic context, which both opens new opportunities for women and reinforces structural inequality between women and men.

In the second part of my project, I will focus on three main questions regarding Japanese women's travel to China in the current global context: in what ways does the post-socialist Chinese context enable the construction of transnational female subjectivity? What are the differences between the current post-socialist context and the past semi-colonial context of China in influencing Japanese women's consciousness? How does Japanese women's migration to major Chinese cities in the "economic developing zone" indicate the persistent social and economic limits imposed on them by Japanese society? When addressing the third question, I will give particular attention to the image of Japanese OLs (office ladies) who study in universities or work in metropolitan cities, such as Hong Kong and Shanghai. Their migration to China brings them more career opportunities and economic gains. Yet, their mobility is a reaction to the continuing inequality between men and women on social and economic grounds in Japan.

Project Design

My summer research consists of two parts: library research in a major East Asian Studies library and the thinking and writing part that will take place at home in St. Peter during the summer. Most of the primary texts that I need are not translated into English and are unavailable in the U.S. Therefore, I will need the grant to make purchases directly from Japan. For journal articles and other secondary sources, I will rely on interlibrary loans. For Japanese and Chinese texts, I will have to use libraries that have a large East Asian collection. However, big East Asian libraries, such as those in Princeton, Columbia, and Harvard do not lend books outside their library consortium. Therefore, I plan to make a trip to Princeton University and Columbia University, with which I am most familiar to do library research and make copies of needed material during the summer.

My goal for the summer is to gather and read all the primary texts on female migration and travel to China written by Japanese women writers. (I have already done some of the research for this project, especially on literature about Japanese women's experience in China in the early 20th century.) I will also study secondary readings, such as theoretical and critical books and articles on gender and migration and gender and colonialism. After studying both the primary and secondary sources, I will start writing a paper that will become a conference paper and eventually a journal article. My work during the summer will enable me to produce the main ideas for the paper, but I will continue writing and revising the paper during the next academic year. I anticipate that the time frame for the completion of the project is by the end of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant BUDGET INFORMATION

Faculty Stipend

(\$500 professor; \$600 associate professor; \$700 assistant professor)

Expenses

Faculty may apply for up to \$1500 to pay for the cost of equipment, materials, personnel, and travel associated with the project to be funded by the RSC Grant. All expenses must be necessitated by the project to be funded by the RSC Grant.

| ITEM | | AMOUNT |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|
| Equipment (e.g., transcription machine, camera, cassette recorder— but not to include computer hardware) | | \$ |
| 1: | Cost: | |
| 2: | Cost: | |
| 3: | Cost: | |
| Materials (e.g., books, printing, software, lab supplies) | | \$ |
| 1: books | Cost: \$200 | \$ 400 |
| 2: copy | Cost: \$200 | |
| 3: | Cost: | |
| Personnel (e.g., typist, transcriptionist, student assistant) | | \$ |
| 1: | | |
| 2: | | |
| Travel Costs (cannot include conference travel; see http://gustavus.edu/finance/travel.php for allowable travel expenses) | | \$ |
| Airfare: | | \$1320 |
| Mileage: Number of miles: to Princeton University, round trip 2400 miles @ \$0.55/mile | | |
| Lodging: 7 days | | \$ 350 |
| Meals: 9 days | | \$ 200 |
| Other Expenses | | \$ |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | \$ |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$1500 |
| AMOUNT REQUESTED (not to exceed \$1500 + stipend commensurate with rank) | | \$1500 + stipend = \$2200 |

Have you applied for, or received funding from, another source to help support this project? NO

Funding Source:

Amount:

Please explain how the RSC will be used in addition to the other funding.