

<招聘教授・研究員の情報 / Guest Professor・Guest Scholar>

氏 名	カーミル・ヴァレーリオ・リスター
Name	Camil Valerio Ristè
所属機関(派遣元)	ボローニャ大学
Affiliation (Home Organization)	Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
現在の職名	博士課程者
Position	PhD student
招聘期間 (日本への入国日から出国日)	5月1日～7月27日
Invitation Period (from the date of entry to departure)	1 May - 27 July
専攻	日本文学とポップカルチャー
Field of Research	Japanese literature and pop culture
ホスト教員氏名と所属学部研究科等	藤本由香里 (国際日本学部)
Name of host teacher and affiliation at Meiji University	Fujimoto Yukari (School of Global Japanese Studies)

<外国人研究者からの報告 / Foreign Researcher Report>

①研究課題 / Research Theme

Analysing queerness representation in Japanese comics and animation from the 1990s to contemporary times

②研究概要 / Outline of Research

This project investigates representations of queerness in Japanese comics (manga) and animation (anime) from the 1990s to the present. The research is structured in three parts. The first section examines the conceptual frameworks of queerness in European and North American contexts, providing a foundation for cross-cultural comparison. The second section explores how queerness is perceived and expressed within Japanese society and media. The third section offers a close analysis of selected works—three manga titles from each decade, encompassing genres such as Boy’s Love (BL), Girl’s Love (GL), and those broadly categorized as LGBT. While the primary focus is on manga, two anime series are included as case studies to highlight how queerness is portrayed in Japanese popular media beyond print. These examples serve to illustrate evolving narratives and cultural attitudes toward gender and sexuality in Japan.

③招聘期間中の研究活動の実績 / The research results as Guest Professor・Guest Scholar

Over the course of a three-month research residency at Meiji University, I conducted an in-depth study on queer representation in Japanese popular culture, with a particular focus on manga and anime from the 2020 onwards as the last part of my research project. This period was instrumental in advancing the analytical chapters of my dissertation, allowing me to engage directly with primary sources, academic discourse, and cultural institutions.

My research activities included attending lectures and seminars led by Professor Yukari Fujimoto, a leading scholar in gender and media studies. These sessions provided critical theoretical frameworks and enriched my understanding of the socio-cultural dynamics surrounding queer narratives in Japanese media. In July, I was invited to present a lecture on a segment of my research during one of Professor Fujimoto’s classes, which offered valuable feedback and fostered academic exchange with local students.

Beyond the university setting, I participated in several conferences related to manga, gender, and queer theory, and visited key cultural sites such as the Kyoto International Manga Museum and various exhibitions across Tokyo. I also made extensive use of the Yonezawa Yoshio Memorial Library of Manga and Subcultures at Meiji University’s Surugadai campus, where I accessed a wide range of texts spanning multiple decades and genres, including Boy’s Love (BL), Girl’s Love (GL), and works labeled as LGBT.

One of the most significant insights to emerge from this research period was the clear divide between depictions of lived queer experiences and the commodified, consumer-driven representations often found in mainstream media. This tension—between authenticity and marketability—will serve as a central theme in my dissertation’s critical analysis.

Overall, the residency provided a rich and immersive environment for academic inquiry, cultural engagement, and scholarly development. It deepened my understanding of Japanese media and its complex relationship with gender and sexuality, while also strengthening the international dimension of my research.

