

Updated November 25, 2025

Shinichi Aizawa is a sociologist of education whose research explores the mechanisms of social stratification and reproduction through education in modern and contemporary Japan. Combining quantitative and historical-comparative approaches, his work addresses topics such as educational expansion, the role of private schools, poverty, and cultural capital. He currently holds a tenured professorship at Sophia University and is a visiting researcher at the Free University of Berlin (2025–2026). Previously, he held an associate professorship at Chukyo University and was also a visiting researcher at the Free University of Berlin in 2016–2017.

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Current Position:

Professor (with tenure), Department of Education, Faculty of Human Sciences, Sophia University (Since 2023)

Visiting Researcher, Institute of Japanese Studies, Free University of Berlin (Since 2025)

Past Positions:

2023-2025 Chairperson of the Master's(Doctoral) Program in Education, Sophia University

2019-2023 Associate Professor (with tenure), Department of Education, Faculty of Human Sciences, Sophia University

2016-2017 Visiting Researcher, Institute of Japanese Studies, Free University of Berlin

2012-2019 Associate Professor, School of Contemporary Sociology, Chukyo University

2010-2012 JSPS Post-doctoral Research Fellow, The University of Tokyo, (Granted by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science)

2008-2010 Assistant Research Fellow, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, Seikei University

2007-2008 Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences, The University of Tokyo

EDUCATION

2009 Ph.D., The University of Tokyo (Education)
2003 M.A., The University of Tokyo (Education)
2001 B.A. Keio University (Policy Management)

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

2015 Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, University of Essex
2014 Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan
2011 Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, University of Essex
2004 Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, University of Michigan

MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive Areas: Sociology of Education, Social Stratification, Japanese society (Social impact on educational expansion, Aspiration and status attainment, Poverty and social inequality)

Methodological Areas: Quantitative methods, Qualitative historical, comparative analysis

PUBLICATIONS

Book Publication (in English)

Aizawa Shinichi, Mei Kagawa, and Jeremy Rappleye eds. 2019. *High School for All in East Asia: Comparing Experiences*. Routledge. 278 pages.

Refereed Articles (in English)

Aizawa, S. (2021). National vigor and international silence: The background and development of Japanese sociology of education. *International Sociology* 36 (2), 206-218. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809211005352>

Araki Satoshi, Aizawa Shinichi, and Okamoto Naoya. "Covid-19 and the Political Economy of the "September School Year Start" in Japan: Overlooked Victims and Foregone Revenues." *Journal of Information and Communication* 2, no. 2 (2021): 25-34.

Kagawa, Mei; Aizawa, Shinichi; Kodama, Hideyasu. 2017. "Can the Japanese Educational System Design the Future? The Historical Experience of Universalization in Upper Secondary Education" *Research in Educational Administration & Leadership*, v2 n2 pp.219-249.

Aizawa, Shinichi & Yutaka Koyama. 2016. "Japanese historical challenge of social inclusion: from the digitally restored household survey data on receiving social security in 1952". *International Journal of Pedagogy, Innovation and New Technologies*. 3. 74-84. <https://doi.org/10.5604/01.3001.0009.5103>.

AIZAWA, Shinichi. 2016. "A Comparative Sociological Study of Japanese and Taiwanese Upper Secondary Education, Educational Studies in Japan", Volume 10, pp. 33-48, <https://doi.org/10.7571/esjkyoiku.10.33>

Book Chapter Publication (in English)

Aizawa Shinichi. 2019. Comparative sociological analysis of ability and examinations in post-manufacturing societies from interview surveys in the United Kingdom and Japan. In: Onaka F. (eds) *Comparative Sociology of Examinations*. Routledge, Singapore, pp.152-67.

Aizawa Shinichi. 2018. Universal Participation in School Education as a Historical Process in Modern Japan. In: Yonezawa A., Kitamura Y., Yamamoto B., Tokunaga T. (eds) *Japanese Education in a Global Age*. Education in the Asia-Pacific Region: Issues, Concerns and Prospects, vol 46. Springer, Singapore, pp.35-52.

Aizawa, Shinichi, and Iso, Naoki. 2016. "The Principle of Differentiation in Japanese Society and International Knowledge Transfer between Bourdieu and Japan" in Derek Robbins eds. *Anthem Companion to Pierre Bourdieu*, Anthem Press, pp.179-200.

Book Publication (in Japanese)

Aizawa Shinichi, Watanabe Daisuke, Ishijima Kentaro, and Sato Kaoru., eds. 2024. *Poverty and social security in postwar Japan : households viewed through the reconstruction of social survey data* (『戦後日本の貧困と社会保障：社会調査データの復元からみる家族』), The University of Tokyo Press, 324p.

Tsutsui Junya, and Aizawa Shinichi., eds. 2024. *The Iwanami Sociology Series 11 Stratification and Education* (『岩波講座社会学 第11巻 階層・教育』), Iwanami Shoten, 252p.

Aizawa Shinichi, Isa Natsumi, Uchida Ryo, and Tokunaga Tomoko. 2023. Towards a New Sociology of Education (『これからの教育社会学』), Yuhikaku, 263p.

Aizawa, Shinichi, Kaori Takahashi, Kota Sakamoto, and Rina Wako. 2020. *How to live with music: From high-school students' university-entrance exams, studying abroad and careers* (『音楽で生きる方法 高校生からの音大受験、留学、仕事と将来』). Tokyo: Seikyusha.

Watanabe Daisuke, Aizawa Shinichi, Mori Naoto, and Center for Social Research and Data Archives, Institute of Social Science, The University of Tokyo., eds. 2019. *The Beginnings of a Full-fledged Middle Class - A Post-War History of Housing Complexes and Time Use* (『総中流の始まり』), Seikyusha, 176p.

Bennett, Tony et al. *Culture, Class, Distinction*. Tokyo: Seikyūsha, 2017. Translated into Japanese by Naoki Iso, Mei Kagawa, Jirō Morita, Ayumu Chinen, and Shinichi Aizawa.

Aizawa, Shinichi, Atsushi Tsuchiya, Yutaka Koyama, Naomi Kaida, and Eriko Motomori. 2016. *Japan's postwar history of children and poverty* (『子どもと貧困の戦後史』), Seikyusha, pp.168

Kagawa, Mei, Hideyasu Kodama, and Shinichi Aizawa. 2014. *Japan's postwar history of "high-school-education-for-all"* (『高卒当然社会の戦後史——誰でも高校に通える社会は維持できるのか』), Shinyosha, pp240.

Over 20 book chapter publications in Japanese until October 2025

Refereed Articles & Invited Articles (in Japanese)

Aizawa, S., & Ikeda, H. (2022). A Quantitative Analysis of Attitudes on Bullying among Boys and Girls in Single-Sex and Coeducational Schools: A Four-Country Comparison of Japan, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and Australia. *Japanese journal of educational research* 89 (4), 670-682. https://doi.org/10.11555/kyoiku.89.4_670

Aizawa, S., & Hori, K. (2022). Cultural Capital as an Analytical Tool in Japanese Society: A Quantitative Analysis Based on Culture, Class, Distinction. *The Journal of Educational Sociology* 110, 115-136. <https://doi.org/10.11151/eds.110.115>

Taki, H., Nakamura, T., Kagawa, M., Matsuoka, R., Aizawa, S., Arikai, T., & Kariya, T. (2021). School Coping with Covid-19 Pandemic: Initial Analyses of Nationwide Surveys Targeting Elementary and Lower Secondary Schools in Japan. *Sociological*

Theory and Methods 36 (2), 226-243. <https://doi.org/10.11218/ojjams.36.226>

Aizawa, S., & Hamamoto, S. (2019). Comments and Expectations on the Research of Higher Education from the Point of View of Social Mobility Research and Research on Secondary Education. *The Journal of educational sociology* 104, 147-167.
<https://doi.org/10.11151/eds.104.147>

Aizawa Shinichi, Koyama Yutaka, and Chung Kawol. 2013. "Critical Reconstruction of Social Survey Data for Historical Sociology" *Sociologos* 37: 65-89.

Aizawa Shinichi. 2013. "A Teaching Method for Social Studies to Learning Sociology" *Chukyo University Faculty of Contemporary Sociology Bulletin* 7, no.2: 43-68.

Aizawa, Shinichi, Hideyasu Kodama, Mei Kagawa. 2009. "The Role of Private High Schools in the Regional Variation of Japanese Educational Expansion in the 1960s" *Review of Asian and Pacific Studies* 34: 57-78.

Aizawa, Shinichi & Mei, Kagawa. 2008. "Intra-Generational Mobility of High School Graduates in the Era of Educational Expansion: An Investigative Time-Series Analysis of Social Mobility Research Using JGSS Cumulative Data" *Annual Review of Sociology* 21: 131-142

Kagawa, Mei & Shinichi Aizawa. 2006. "Changes in the Meanings of High School Diplomas in Postwar Japan: An Attempt at Basic Educational Sociological Analysis through a Re-analysis of SSM Data" *Review of Educational Sociology* 78: 279-301.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2005. "The Criticism of Ability Grouping as Movement Ideology: The Debate Over Grouping in Teaching English from 1957 to 1969 as an Example" *Annual Review of Sociology* 18: 124-135.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2005. "Japanese Educational Structure from the Perspective of Student's Ability to Learn, 1957 to 1969: The Analysis of Educational Movement Discourse through the Case Study of English Teaching" *Review of Educational Sociology* 76: 187-205.

Japanese journal of educational research: Official refereed journal of Japanese Educational Research Association

Review of Educational Sociology: Official refereed journal of Japanese Society of Educational Sociology

Annual Review of Sociology: Official refereed journal of Kantoh(=Tokyo and

surrounded Metropolitan Area) Sociological Society

Review of Asian and Pacific Studies: Official refereed journal of Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, Seikei University

Around (40) non-refereed papers and working papers in Japanese until October 2025

Refereed Conference Presentations (English)

Aizawa, S. (2025, Oct.23). "Reconsidering Cultural Capital through Local Traditions: Insights from the Onbashira Festival in Suwa, Japan". Annual Conference of the Association of Social Scientific Japan Studies 2025, Vienna.

Aizawa, S. (2024, Dec.6). "Social Reproduction of the Ruling Class in Modern Japan: Focusing on Credentialism and Hereditary Succession". Social Figurations: Long-term processes, present concerns and future directions, Prague, Czech Republic.

Aizawa, S., Horiguchi, S., Aoki, Y., & Kodama, H. (2024, Jun.14). "The Role of the Religious Sector in Upper Secondary Education: A Quantitative Survey of Private High Schools in Japan". 2024 EASP&FISS Joint Conference, Kyoto, Japan.

Aizawa, S. (2023, Jun.29). "The Changing Memory of Schooling By Social Class Structural Reorganization through Societal Industrialization: Focusing on Japanese and German Postwar Educational Practices". XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Melbourne, Australia.

Aizawa, S. (2023, Jun.26). "Examining the Traditional Rite of Inheriting Traditional Arts within the Social Class Structure in Japan's Regional Cities". XX ISA World Congress of Sociology.

Aizawa, S., & Hori, K. (2022, Apr.20). « Lifestyle space and cultural capital in Japanese society». British Sociological Association Virtual Annual Conference 2022.

Aizawa, S., Hori, K., & Tanioka, K. (2021, Oct.). "Social Class Structure in Japan: Measuring Social Class Using Capitals and Assets". The 2nd Congress of East Asian Sociological Association.

Aizawa, S., Hori, K., & Tanioka, K. (2021, Apr.13). "The Structure of Social Class in Japan: Application of the Great British Class Survey Experiment to a Japanese National Representative Dataset". British Sociological Association 70th Anniversary virtual conference 2021.

Takahashi, K., & Aizawa, S. (2020, Jul.15). "The network of Berlin-based Japanese visual artists: Their use of languages to form connections to formal institutions". Sunbelt 2020 XL (Virtual).

Aizawa, S. (2019, Aug.6). "Higher educational expansion from the 1990s under deregulation and rising inequality in Japan". World Education Research Association, Tokyo, Japan.

Aizawa, S. (2019, Jul.24). "Utopian Education? Possibilities and Challenges of Establishing a Secure Society through Japanese Schooling". Middle-Term Conference, RC04 Sociology of Education, International Sociological Association (ISA).

Aizawa, S. (2018, Jul.18). "Educational Expansion from the 1990s Under Deregulation and Rising Inequality in Japan". XIX ISA World Sociology of Congress, International Sociological Association, Tronto, Canada.

Aizawa, S. (2017, Sep.1). "Universal Participation in School Education as a Historical Process in Japan". 13th Conference of the European Sociological Association, Athens, Greece.

Aizawa, S. (2017, Aug.3). "Youth Schooling as Social Inclusion in East Asian Countries: A Comparative Historical Analysis of the Formation of the Secondary Education System". The 14th East Asian Social Policy Research Network Annual Conference, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2015. "Comparative Study of Educational Development and Inequality in Non-European Countries", 12th European Sociological Association Conference, Prague

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2015. "Opportunity for High School Education, Social Welfare Policy and East Asian Egalitarianism", 12th EASP(East Asian Social Policy Network) International Annual Conference, Singapore.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2015. "British and Japanese Comparative Study of Ability and Learning in Post-Manufacturing Societies from Interview Surveys", British Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Glasgow, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2014. "Does Embodied Musical Experience Remain In Children's Memory?: A Study of Longitudinal Analysis of Japanese Junior High School Students", 18th International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama,

Japan.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2014. "Comparative Study of Ability and Examination in Post-Manufacturing Societies, from Interview Surveys in the United Kingdom and Japan" 18th International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan.

Iso, Naoki and Aizawa, Shinichi. 2014. "Applying Bourdieu's Theoretical Concepts to Contemporary Secondary Education in Japan", British Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Leeds, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi, and Yuk-Man Cheung. 2014. "Educational Achievements and the Role of Private High Schools in Japan, Taiwan and Britain", British Sociological Association Annual Meeting, Leeds, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi, and Yutaka Koyama. 2013. "Japanese Historical Challenge of Social Inclusion: From the Household Survey Data on Receiving Social Security in 1952", International Sociological Association RC19 Annual Meeting, Budapest, Hungary.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2013. "Educational Achievements and the Role of Private High Schools in the Era of Educational Expansion", 7th Annual International Conference on Sociology, ATINER, Athens, Greece.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2012. "The British Poverty Research Tradition and Japanese Applications in the 1950s and 1960s", International Sociological Association RC08 Interim Meeting, Dublin, Ireland.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2010. "New discrepancy between the meaning of schooling in individual perceptions and the function of diplomas in the Japanese society", 17th International Sociological Association World Congress of Sociology, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Invited Talks (English)

Aizawa, Shinichi. (2024, May.17). "Public-Private Relationships and Characteristics of Private Schools in the Upper Secondary Education in Japan". 30th Taiwan Forum of Sociology of Education.

Aizawa, Shinichi. (2021, Sep.24). "The Structure of Social Class in Japan". UK-Japan collaborative research workshop II Culture, Class, Connection: Class and Inequality in the UK and Japan 'SOCIAL CLASS, REGIONAL INEQUALITIES & HISTORICAL

CHANGE'.

Aizawa, Shinichi. (2020, Feb.28). "Comparative sociological analysis of ability and examinations in the United Kingdom and Japan. Culture", Class, Connection: Class and Inequality in the UK and Japan, Newcastle, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi. (2017, Mar 1). "Bourdieu in Japan: Transnational Knowledge Transfer and the Transcultural Life of Sociological Concepts", London SOAS, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2013. "Japanese and Taiwanese educational Achievements and the Role of Private High Schools in the Era of Educational Expansion: Taking Japan and Taiwan as Examples of Late-Industrialized Countries", in Annual Conference in Taiwanese Association of Sociology of Education, Taipei, Taiwan.

Kagawa, Mei., and Aizawa, Shinichi. 2012. "Opportunities for High School Education and Social Change in Postwar Japan: Focusing on the Role of Private High Schools" in Nissan Seminar Series, Oxford, United Kingdom.

Aizawa, Shinichi. 2011. "Equal but Useless? Analysis of Discourses on Japanese English Education of the 1950s and 1960s", in Graduate Research Seminar in Japanese Studies, Oxford, United Kingdom.

Over Sixty (60) conference presentations in English and in Japanese until October 2025

RESEARCH GRANTS (AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR)

2025-2027, "A Comprehensive Study on the Mechanisms of Modernization and Industrialization in Japan and Europe: Focusing on Heredity and the Principles of Reproduction", Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research – Fostering Joint International Research, (15,080,000 Yen \doteq 104,500 USD)

2023-2027, "A Historical Study of the Formation of Social Stratification in the Power Structures of Modern Japan: With a Focus on Heredity and Social Reproduction", Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B), (18,590,000 Yen \doteq 139,850 USD)

2019-2024, "The Structural and Dynamic Effects on Social Networks of the School-to-Work Transition in the Era of Globalization", Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory), (6,370,000 Yen \doteq 58,000USD)

2020-2023, “Inheritors of Traditional Japanese Culture: Focusing on the social class, social stratification and social capital of the local community”, Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C), (3,900,000 Yen ≒ 35,000USD)

2019-2023, “The Mechanisms of Social Class Formation through Education in Developed Societies: Historical and Comparative Sociological Analyses”, Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B), (17,290,000 Yen ≒ 157,000USD)

2014-2017, “Curriculum Construction for Future Users of Social Sciences: From Studying Sociology”, Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research, (2,000,000 Yen ≒ 16,000USD)

2013-2016, “International Comparative Study of Upper Secondary Education in the Late Industrialized Countries”, Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists(A), (16,500,000 Yen ≒ 137,500USD)

2012-2013, “Poverty and Effect of Social Policy in the Postwar Japan”, Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up, (1,200,000 Yen ≒ 10,000USD)

2010-2012, "Inequality and Poverty in the Contemporary Japan", Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows #22-7746(1,900,000 Yen ≒ 15,800USD)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2023- Co-Investigator, Research Committee of the 2025 Social Stratification and Social Mobility Surveys, The University of Tokyo

2014-2018 Co-Investigator, Research Committee of the 2015 Social Stratification and Social Mobility Surveys, The University of Tokyo

2011-2014 Co-Investigator, Historical Sociology of the Formation of the Post-War Japanese Society, Waseda University

2011-2014 Co-Investigator, Relation between Cultural Capital and Social Capital: From the Survey of the Music Festival, Shinshu University

2011-2014 Co-Investigator, Comparative Sociology of Examination and Ability, Japan Women's University

2010-2013 Core Member, "Opportunities for High School Education and Social Change in Japan", Rikkyo University.

2008-2010 Exclusive Research Fellow, Social Inequalities in Asian and Pacific Areas: Empirical Research, Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, Seikei University

2005-2009 Adjunct Researcher, JGSS(Japanese General Social Survey) Research Center, Osaka University of Commerce

2004-2008 Co-Investigator, Research Committee of the 2005 Social Stratification and Social Mobility Surveys, Tohoku University

2003-2004 Co-Investigator, Survey Research of Private Junior High School Students in Tokyo Metropolitan Area, Graduate School of Education, the University of Tokyo

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Selected)

Taught undergraduate and graduate courses in the following areas since 2007:

- Sociology of Education
- Social Research Methods
- Social Statistics
- Survey Research
- Sociology

at various universities, including Gakushuin University, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Musashi University, Seikei University, Chukyo University, University of Tsukuba, Tohoku University, Waseda University, Japan Women's University, Keio University, and Kyoto University.

Since 2019 – Sociology of Education, Sophia University (Undergraduate and Graduate level; one-year course in Japanese, one-semester course in English)

Since 2020 – Social History of Education, Sophia University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Sociological Association

British Sociological Association

Japanese Sociological Society

Japan Society of Educational Sociology

Executive Member of Department of International Affairs (2013-2015)

Japanese Educational Research Association

Kantoh Sociological Society

REFREES IN JOURNALS

(both in English and Japanese)

Social Science Japan Journal (Oxford University Press)

International Journal of Comparative Sociology (Sage)

Educational Studies in Japan (Official English Journal in Japanese Association of Educational Research)

Japanese Sociological Review (Japan Society of Sociology)

Sociological Theory and Methods (Japanese Association of Mathematical Sociology)
Annual Review of Sociology (Kantoh Sociological Society)
Society and Survey (Japanese Social Research Association)

LANGUAGES

Japanese (native speaker)
English (professional proficiency)
German (intermediate proficiency)