

Coordinator and Lecturer Profile (Education in Japan, 2026 Sophia Summer Session)

Coordinator

Maria Manzon is associate professor at the Department of Education in Sophia University. She is a core faculty of the Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures (SPSF). Her research focuses on the intersection of comparative education, religion and sustainability. She has worked at the University of Hong Kong, the National Institute of Education in Singapore, and the Education University of Hong Kong. Her book entitled *Comparative Education: The Construction of a Field* (Springer) has been acclaimed for its path-breaking conceptualization.



Lecturers

Ayaka Nakano (中野綾香) is a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellow at Sophia University. She received a Ph.D. in Education at the University of Tokyo in 2023. Her research aims to understand how to ensure educational equity for all children through creating sustainable and inclusive public education. She currently focuses on issues such as inclusion/exclusion in educational activities, involvement of diverse actors in public schools, and caring for children through collaborative networks.



Fumiya Uchikoshi (打越文弥) is an Academy Scholar at the Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies, housed at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. In May 2024, he completed his PhD in Sociology at Princeton University. He received his M.A. in Sociology from the University of Tokyo in 2017 and his bachelor's degree from the University of Tokyo in 2015. His research interests include social stratification, family demography, sociogenomics, and East Asia. His current research examines low fertility in East Asia, gender inequality in higher education and the labor market, educational assortative mating, and sources of Asian Americans' family stability. His work has been published in *Demography*, *Demographic Research*, and *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, among other outlets.