

# Jeffrey Nicolaisen

407 Chapel Drive • Campus Box 90964 • Durham, North Carolina 27708  
[jeffrey.nicolaisen@duke.edu](mailto:jeffrey.nicolaisen@duke.edu) • <https://jeffreynicolaisen.wixsite.com/profile>

## EDUCATION

---

### **Duke University, Durham, North Carolina *Expected Graduation: 2019***

*Candidate for Ph.D., Asian Religions, Certificate for College Teaching*  
*M.A., Religious Studies, May 2016*

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 2013**

*M.A., Asian Studies*

### **Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan 2006**

*M.Eng., Civil Engineering*

**Thesis:** A Study on Nutrient Uptake and Growth of *Phragmites japonica* on Sand-bed River

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska 2002**

*B.A. (Honors Program), Japanese Language and Area Studies, Psychology, International Affairs, Economics*

**Thesis:** Nutrient Transport in Runoff as Affected by Crop Residue

**Certificate of Completion:** Center for Japanese Studies, Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan

## FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

---

East Asian Religions, Buddhist Studies, Political Ecology, STS, Indigenous Studies, Multi-Species Ethnography, and Animal Behavior

## PUBLICATIONS

---

Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Multi-Species Flourishing: Theory and Practice of Buddhist Ecology in Taiwan." *Science, Religion & Culture*, forthcoming, 2018.

Shi, Chao-hui. "An Exposition of the Buddhist Philosophy of Protecting Life and Animal Protection." Translated by Jeffrey Nicolaisen. In *Voices of the Margin: Critical Chinese Environmental Humanities Reader*, edited by Chia-ju Chang, forthcoming. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan, 2018.

Nicolaisen, J.E., J.E. Gilley, B. Eghball, and D.B. Marx. "Crop Residue Effects on Runoff Nutrient Concentrations Following Manure Application." *Transactions of the ASABE*. 50(3): 939-944. 2007.

## TEACHING

---

### **Taipei Medical University, New Taipei City, Taiwan 2015-2016**

*Visiting Researcher*

- Mentored master's student who served as research assistant for doctoral dissertation research
- Trained research assistant to assist with ethnographic data collection

### **Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 2015-2016**

*Teaching Assistant for Buddhism and Sexuality and Religion and Culture in Korea*

### **Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, New Taipei City, Taiwan 2015-2016**

*Co-organizer for reading group on Vimalakirti Sutra*

- Piloted informal course for a summer intensive Buddhist-text reading course

### **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 2011-2012**

*Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Japanese Culture*

## AWARDS AND HONORS

---

**Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship** 2017-2018  
**Duke Global Asia Initiative Seed Grant** 2016-2017 (co-PI)  
**James B. Duke Fellowship** 2013-2017  
**Chung-Hwa Fellowship for Graduate Students** 2016  
**Gurney Harriss Kearns Foundation Summer Research Fellowship** 2016  
**Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship** 2014, 2012-2013  
**Critical Language Scholarship** 2013  
**University of Illinois East Asian Languages and Cultures Departmental Fellowship** 2011-2012  
**American Society of Civil Engineers Freeman Fellowship** 2005  
**Japanese Government (*Monbukagakusho*) Scholarship** 2002-2006  
**Association of International Educators-Japan Scholarship** 1999-2000  
**Regent's Scholar** 1997-2002  
**World-Herald Scholar** 1997-2001

## SERVICE

---

### **Duke Global Asia Initiative (Duke U.), Durham, North Carolina 2016-present**

*Co-Primary Investigator, "Environment and Well-Being: A Cross-Cultural Study"*

- Arranged a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Taipei Medical University Research Center of Humanistic Innovation and Social Engagement (TMU ReCHISE) and Duke University Center for International and Global Studies (DUCIGS)
- Negotiated Development Fund Agreement between TMU ReCHISE and DUCIGS to form collaboration on Taiwan Religion and Ecology Project

### **Graduate School (Duke U.), Durham, North Carolina 2011-present**

- Made recommendations which resulted in the Graduate School hiring a new Fellowship Coordinator
- Wrote and proposed plan designed to increase the budget of the Graduate Program in Religion through providing incentives and support for graduate students to apply for external funding

### **East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) (U. Illinois), Urbana, Illinois 2012-2013**

*Graduate Student Representative*

- Achieved changes to preliminary exam format through negotiating with faculty
- Organized EALC graduate students to form a university-recognized student organization

### **Community of Urbana Cooperative Housing, Urbana, Illinois 2011-2013**

*Interim President, Vice President of Maintenance, Board Representative* 2013

- Managed nonprofit cooperative housing organization consisting of two 14-unit tenant houses

### **Civil Engineering International Student Organization (Nagoya U.) 2004-2006**

- Founded organization of more than 30 members
- Garnered support of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Japan Section

### **American Scandinavian Student Exchange International, Omaha, Nebraska 1999**

*Program Administrator*

- Coordinated 4-week intensive summer English language program for Asian students

### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska 1998-1999**

*Leadership Program Assistant*

- Chaired Women's Leadership Conference planning committee
- Researched and proposed new leadership programs for students

**Student Impact Team (U. Nebraska) 1997-1999**

- Chair 1998-1999, Community Service Committee President 1997-1998

**United Way of the Midlands, Omaha, Nebraska 1996**

*Board of Directors*

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

**Environmental Resources Management, Appleton, Wisconsin 2006-2011**

*Assistant/Associate Engineer*

- Participated in stakeholder engagement and communications
- Assisted in field tasks related to ecology, water quality, air quality, and health and safety
- Formed working group to coordinate work with transnational Japanese clients
- Performed air quality permitting and modeling
- Conducted environmental site assessments
- Responded to emergency environmental incidents

**RESEARCH**

---

**Taipei Medical University Taipei, Taiwan, January 2017-present**

*Visiting Researcher, Taiwan Religion and Ecology Project, Dissertation Research*

**Dharma Drum Institute of Liberal Arts, New Taipei City, Taiwan, Summer 2014, Summer 2015, Summer 2016-Summer 2017**

*Visiting Researcher, Dissertation Research*

**Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 2013-2014**

*Research Assistant*

- Assisted with copy-editing of *Selected Works of D. T. Suzuki* series edited by Richard Jaffe

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 2011-2012**

*Research Assistant*

- Assisted with book research on history of Japanese Buddhism for Brian Ruppert

**United States Department of Agriculture, Lincoln, Nebraska 2000-2002**

*Biological Aid, National Phosphorus Project*

- Conducted rainfall simulation studies about effects of crop residue on transport of phosphorus and nitrogen in runoff from farmland

**INVITED LECTURES**

---

Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Buddhist Environmental Ethics." Dharma Drum Institute of the Liberal Arts, New Taipei City, Taiwan, June 13, 2017. (in Chinese)

Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Monkey-Human Relations in the Galluscene." Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, May 28, 2017. (in Chinese)

Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Religion and Politics." National University of Tainan, Tainan, Taiwan, October 20, 2016. (in Chinese)

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

---

Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Monkey-Human Relations in the Galluscene," Environmental Humanities in Asia: Environmental Justice and Sustainable Citizenship, Kunshan, China, May 22-24, 2017.

- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Sustainable Citizenship and the Taiwanese Canine: Who is Included in the Anthropocene Citizenry?" Duke Global Asia Initiative: Environmental Humanities for Sustainable Citizenship in Asia, Durham, North Carolina, January 22-23, 2017.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Buddhist Animal Welfare and Environmental Activism in Taiwan." AAS-in-Asia, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-27, 2016.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Multi-Species Ethnography in Taiwanese Buddhism." Altruism and Bodhisattva Thought/Fourteenth International Conference on the Theory and Practice of Master Yin-shun's Thought. Hsinchu City, Taiwan, May 28-29, 2016.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Buddhist Animal Welfare and Environmental Activism in Taiwan." The Florida State University Department of Religion Graduate Student Symposium, Tallahassee, Florida, February 19-21, 2016.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Cultural Differences in the Reception of Master Sheng Yen's Spiritual Environmentalism." Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 23-25, 2014.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Cows, Horses, and the Tale of Jōzon." Association of Asian Studies Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, Durham, North Carolina, January 17-19, 2014.
- Nicolaisen, Jeffrey. "Hydroponics experiments related to *Phragmites japonica* nutrient uptake." Japan Society of Civil Engineers Central Japan Conference, Gifu, Japan, March 2006. (in Japanese)

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

---

English: native  
Chinese: superior-level reading, writing, aural, and oral skills  
Japanese: superior-level reading, writing, aural, and oral skills  
Classical Chinese: proficient  
Classical Japanese (*bungo* and *kanbun*): proficient

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

---

**Certificate of College Teaching** (Duke U.) 2013-present  
**Responsible Conduct of Research** (Duke U.) 2013-2015 – series of research ethics training forums  
**Graduate Academy for College Teaching** (U. Illinois) 2011  
**Chancellor's Leadership Class** (U. Nebraska) 1997-1999

- Alumni Planning Committee

**LeaderShape** (U. Nebraska) 1998 – one-year program focusing on integrity and vision development  
**Operation Enterprise** 1997 – ten-day business leadership and management training program  
**Dale Carnegie Course** 1996 – twelve-week program on public speaking and human relations  
**Eagle Scout** 1995