Department of History, National Taiwan University

Priority of Recruitment

For the recruitment of full-time faculty, the Department of History at National Taiwan University has a fixed guideline of preferences. We publicize it here for the reference of those who are interested in applying.

The department emphasizes the balance between history teaching and research. Our recruitment has therefore the double mission of maintaining the complete course coverage and expanding to newly emergent research fields. In accordance with our course offerings, the faculty is organized into three divisions, i.e., World History, Chinese History, and History of Taiwan.

1. World History: Majority of our faculty in this division work on the history of the West. Among others, early-modern and modern Europe, especially Western Europe, are well covered. To further strengthen this concentration on European history, we welcome applications from scholars of Central, Eastern, and Southern European histories. Within the field of the history of the West, we are interested in candidates with specialties in ancient history, American history, and twentieth to twentieth-first century history. In addition, we hope to go beyond Western history and develop a concentration on Asian history. Adding to the current team of Japan scholars, we intend to recruit historians of Central Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. Finally, this department lacks specialist of Islam, and therefore considers it our priority, too.

2. Chinese History: Approximately half of the department’s faculty members are China specialists, who offer a wide range of courses on Chinese history. Still, due to the emergence of new methods, research areas, and materials, as well as several recent retirements from the department, we seek to fill positions in the following fields. (1) Qing history. The field has witnessed some breakthroughs in methodology and materials, and we hope to find someone who can use the Manchu language for research and teaching. (2) Ming-Qing history. This has been a stronghold of Taiwan's historical research, and a field where Taiwanese historians have played a lead role in shaping the research agenda internationally. (3) The histories of Liao, Jin, and Yuan. The department has not been able to offer any course on the history of these conquest dynasties since the retirements of previous specialists. We hope to recruit someone working in these areas and make our course coverage more complete. (4) Modern Chinese history. This used
to be the department's strength. There also exist rich primary sources in Taiwan. Because of recent retirements, we now have vacancies that need to be filled.

3. History of Taiwan: This division has been growing rapidly and we now have a strong team to cover the periods during the Qing rule, the Japanese rule, and post-war era. We plan to expand on this focus with the following priorities: (1) the seventeenth century and before, (2) Aboriginal history (priority goes to those who can use Chinese and Japanese materials, and with solid historical training and acute anthropological awareness), (3) Taiwan under the Qing rule or any thematic and cross-period concentration, such as economic history, and (4) Post-war Taiwan.

We welcome applications from these specified fields and will consider them according to their academic merits.

Finally, these three divisions are created for teaching coordination, and we welcome candidates whose specialties cut across the divisions, for example, Central Asian history in combination with the histories of Liao-Jin-Yuan, or Southeast Asian studies in combination with Taiwanese aboriginal history. Furthermore, these priorities are not meant to exclude those whose foci fall beyond our list. We welcome applications from all talented scholars, even when their specialties overlap with those of our current faculty. For example, although the department now has three historians of Taiwan under the Japanese rule, we remain open to applicants from this field. The same is applicable to the divisions of World History and Chinese History.