



Recruitment of Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Research)
Tohoku University, Faculty of Education, Graduate School of Education

Position Overview: The Graduate School of Education, Faculty of Education at Tohoku University invites applications for a Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Research). This position is part of a high-impact global initiative for the University for International Research Excellence at Tohoku University (*UREX-Tohoku Project*). The selected applicant will work under International Distinguished Professor Greg William Misiaszek (Tohoku University) and Associate Professor Jing Liu (Tohoku University).

We are seeking an ambitious researcher to join an academic environment focused on improving education that deepens and widens students' critical thinking grounded in social and environmental justice globally, and planetary sustainability. This role offers an exceptional opportunity to engage in transformative research that is grounded in critical theories and education, environmental/sustainability pedagogies, and comparative education methodologies.

Job Details

- **Job Title:** Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Research) -equivalent to a full-time postdoctoral researcher
- **Number of Positions:** 1
- **Work Location:** Graduate School of Education, Tohoku University (Kawauchi Campus)
 - **Address:** 27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, JAPAN
- **Research Focus:** The successful candidate will play a central role in critical and comparative/international research on ecopedagogy.

Key Responsibilities

1. Research & Analysis:

- Conduct literature reviews and engage with research on ecopedagogy, (post)critical theories, and comparative/international education.
- Design and conduct qualitative and theoretical-based ecopedagogical research.
- Analyze data, interpret findings, and generate original theoretical and applied insights.

2. Dissemination & Application:

- Write manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals and present findings at international conferences and stakeholder meetings.
- Draft research proposals for external funding in collaboration with senior colleagues.
- Develop online publications and other materials to disseminate ecopedagogical teaching, methodologies, and theoretical (re)invention

- Develop policy recommendations and training materials for in/non-formal education levels

3. Project Management:

- Manage research projects and liaise with internal and external collaborators
- Co-Manage an international network of ecopedagogue researchers and practitioners
- Ensure high standards of research rooted in ethics, justice, peace, and sustainability

Note: This is a research-focused position with no teaching duties.

Qualifications Essential

- PhD in Education, or a closely related field (obtained by the start date).
- Track record of peer-reviewed publications as lead author in education focused on criticality and environmental/sustainable pedagogies.
- Strong proficiency in qualitative methods
- Ability to work collaboratively in multidisciplinary and international teams.
- English: Ability to communicate research effectively.

Desirable

- Experience with comparative and international education methodologies
- Experience in proposal writing and project management

Employment Terms

- **Start Date:** October 1, 2026 (Negotiable)
- **Contract Term:** Annual contract, renewable based on performance and budget, up to a maximum of March 31, 2028.
- Probationary period: 6 months.
- **Salary & Benefits:**
 - Salary determined under the Annual Salary System in accordance with Tohoku University regulations.
 - Insurance: MEXT Mutual Aid Association, Employment Insurance, Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance.
 - Commuting allowance available (car commuting permitted with parking fee).
- **Working Hours:** Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work (Specialized Professional Work System).
- **Holidays:** Weekends (Sat/Sun), national holidays, and year-end/New Year holidays.

Application Instructions Please submit the following documents via email by the deadline. Submissions should be in English.

1. **Curriculum Vitae**
2. **List of Research Achievements**
3. **Summary of Research Achievements** (Max. 1 page)
4. **Statement of Aspirations** (Max. 1 page)
5. **Contact Information for References** (2 people)

Submission Email: greg.misiaszek.e3@tohoku.ac.jp

- Please replace "*" with "@" if copying from a protected source.
- *Subject Line:* "Application for Project Assistant Professor - [Your Name]"

Deadline (Priority): Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Contact: Greg William Misiaszek, Tohoku University, email: greg.misiaszek.e3@tohoku.ac.jp

Note: Travel expenses for interviews will not be reimbursed. Applications will be kept confidential and documents will not be returned.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Tohoku University promotes activities to increase Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) and encourages people of varied talents from all backgrounds to apply for positions at the university.

- Tohoku University's website about the DEI Declaration is here:
<https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/about/>
- Pursuant to Article 8 of the Act on Securing, Etc. of Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment, Tohoku University shall, as a measure for increasing the presence of women among the academic staff, prioritize the hiring of women deemed qualified for each job opening, based on impartial evaluation.
- Tohoku University has published 'Tohoku University - Live as Who You Are - Guidelines for Gender and Sexual Diversity' to provide explanations and details of how those at the university should respond with respect to diverse sexuality. The purpose of the guidelines is to create an environment in which all students, faculty, and staff respect diverse sexuality in their academic, research, and professional activities.
- Please see the Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Tohoku University website:
https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/support_program/consulting/for_minority/
- Tohoku University has the largest on-campus childcare system of all Japanese national universities. This network comprises three nurseries: Kawauchi Keyaki Nursery school (capacity: 22) and Aobayama Midori Nursery school (116), both open to all university employees, as well as Hoshinoko Nursery school (120), which is open to employees working at Tohoku University Hospital. In addition, Tohoku University Hospital runs a childcare room for mildly ill and convalescent children, which is available to all university employees.

- See the following website for information on these and other programs that Tohoku University runs to assist work-life balance, to support researchers, and to advance gender equality, including measures to promote childcare leave among male employees.
- Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Tohoku University website:
https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/support_program/consulting/for_family/
- Human Resources and Planning Department website:
<https://c.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/jinji-top/external/a-4-kosodate/>