

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Scott T. Kurashige, assistant professor of American culture and assistant professor of history, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

2000	Ph.D.	University of California, Los Angeles
1996	M.A.	University of California, Los Angeles
1990	B.A.	University of Pennsylvania

Professional Record:

2000 – present Assistant Professor, Program in American Culture and Department of History, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching – Professor Kurashige developed a range of compelling courses where he employs a very contemporary interdisciplinary methodology that draws upon geography, urban studies, cultural studies, and comparative studies in race and ethnicity. He is also very committed to the success of community service learning. His involvement with graduate students in American Culture and History is also worth special attention.

Research – Professor Kurashige is a truly interdisciplinary scholar whose work speaks to and across multiple fields of practice: history, urban sociology, ethnic studies, community-based scholarship, and public practice. His forthcoming book project, *Gateway to a New World: Los Angeles and the Shifting Ground of American Race Relations*, is a richly-documented manuscript that studies the changing attitudes, practices, and interactions among different ethnic groups in the city and its suburbs. Reviewers affirmed that it is a first-rate work that will surpass the better ethnic urban histories of the past two decades. Professor Kurashige has also published four articles in scholarly journals outline the continuing intellectual growth of his scholarship, especially in its conceptualization of race in American history and its evocation of a multiracial past that maps possibilities for the future.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Gateway to a New World: Los Angeles and the Shifting Ground of American Race Relations, under contract with Princeton University Press for the *Politics and Society in Twentieth-Century America* series, W, Chafe, et al., forthcoming 2006.

“The many facets of brown: Integration in a multiracial society,” *Journal of American History*, 91(1), 2004, pp. 56-68.

Review of *An Absent Presence: Japanese Americans in Postwar American Culture, 1945–1960*, by C. C. Simpson, *Journal of American History*, 90(2), 2003, pp. 714-715.

“Detroit and the legacy of Vincent Chin,” *Amerasia Journal*, 28(3), 2002, pp. 51-55.

“Pan-ethnicity and community organizing: Asian Americans United’s Campaign Against Anti-Asian Violence,” *Journal of Asian American Studies*, 3(2), 2000, pp. 163-190.

Service – Professor Kurashige has provided significant service to three units: Program in American Culture, the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program, and the Department of History. He provides leadership in his departmental service activities and on the Provost's Committee on Diverse Democracy, the President's Diversity Summit, as well as advising two student conferences sponsored by the United Asian American Organizations and the Midwest Asian American Student Union Conference. He has served as consultant to a number of programs developed by the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies; Center for Japanese Studies; Center for Research on Learning and Teaching; Ginsberg Center for Community Service Learning; College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives; and the Residential College.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

"His work is characterized by careful, meticulous scholarship and nuanced reading of findings. ...Kurashige consistently demonstrates a sophisticated comprehension of how ethnic histories implicitly exceed geographical, racial and historical categorization."

Reviewer (B)

"Professor Kurashige's book will undoubtedly be an important theoretical and empirical contribution to the study of twentieth-century urban politics and race relations. ...Kurashige works at the cutting edge of urban history and comparative race and ethnic studies."

Reviewer (C)

"He is a very careful historian... What claims he makes are scrupulously backed-up by his considerable research. Much of the material he presents is not known, so his archival work once it is made available will do a great service to the profession."

Reviewer (D)

"[*Gateway to a New and Better World: How Los Angeles Transformed American Race Relations* is a] formidable body of deeply researched, adventuresome and closely argued scholarship..."

Reviewer (E)

"Professor Kurashige writes with the sure hand of a mature scholar. His prose is incisive and crystal clear, sometimes compelling."

Reviewer (F)


"He has a book manuscript that... will make a major impact in the academic community. He also has a collection of good articles in important journals. His curriculum vitae reveals that he has received a number of awards to support his research, service, and teaching. Overall, Scott has a strong academic profile as well as a vision for the importance of historical study for understanding central issues in American society."

Reviewer (G)

“Prof. Kurashige’s expertise spans a wide range of fields, including Asian American history/studies, comparative race and immigration in the U.S., urban history/studies, and twentieth century social history. ... Kurashige’s work evokes the tradition in which the scholarly enterprise and the production of knowledge are viewed as part of processes in which progressive people have worked toward a more just and equitable society.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Kurashige will continue to produce outstanding research in his field, and his contribution to the teaching and service missions of the College have been substantial. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that assistant professor Scott T. Kurashige be promoted to the rank of associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, with tenure.



Terrence J. McDonald, Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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