

Suicide and Suicide Prevention Strategies in Japan

Presenter: A/Prof. Michiko Ueda

**Monday 18 December 12.30pm-1.30pm
Room 410, Level 4, 207 Bouverie Street**

Suicide is a particularly serious problem in Japan, where from 1998 to 2011, the annual number of suicides has exceeded 30,000. In the 2000s, the suicide rate in Japan has ranked eighth in the world and third among the OECD countries. This seminar begins with an overview of suicide and suicide prevention strategies in Japan, including its national suicide prevention programs which started in the mid-2000s, as well as its recent 30 percent reduction in the suicide rate. The second half of the seminar discusses some of the recent findings using data from Japan. It will encompass recent research on the effectiveness of prevention measures of railway and subway suicides, factors related to suicides among schoolchildren and adolescents, as well as the impact of media reporting on prominent suicides.



Michiko Ueda is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Political Science and Economics at Waseda University, in Tokyo, Japan. Prior to joining Waseda University, she has taught at Syracuse University and California Institute of Technology. Her research interests include suicidology, suicide prevention, and political science, and her work has appeared in *International Journal of Epidemiology*, *Preventive Medicine*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *Plos One*, and *Journal of Affective Disorders*, among others. Her latest publications include "Economic Analysis of Suicide Prevention" (co-authored, 2017, Springer) and "Tweeting celebrity suicides" (*Social Science and Medicine*, 2017). She received her Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).