



The Making of the “Nikkei”: Human Scientists and Japanese Settlers in Postwar Brazil



Miriam Kingsberg Kadia

Professor

Modern Japan

University of Colorado Boulder

Synopsis

This talk explores the origins of “Nikkei” (person of Japanese descent) as both a common referent and as an identity. Prior to World War II, constructions of Japanese outside Japan reflected broadly shared assumptions about the fixity of ethnoracial and cultural characteristics. Japan’s defeat in 1945 changed these assumptions, as well as the relationship of the diaspora to their point of origin. Through a collaboration between Japanese emigrants and their descendants in Brazil, and the human scientists who came from Japan to study them in the 1950s, the term “Nikkei” emerged to offer a new identity to American citizens of Japanese extraction, and to the postwar, post-imperial Japanese state itself.

Lunch will be provided for in-person attendees. RSVP before Jan 10th.



Register Online



RSVP for Lunch

FRI, JANUARY 13, 2023
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (AZT)
ZOOM

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