

# Behind the Scenes of *NihonGO NOW!*: A Language Educational Web Series Meets Hollywood

Hiroki Ohsawa, Director



**Wednesday, September 11, 2019 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Mendenhall Lab Room 191**  
**Open to the public.**

Award-winning film director, writer, producer, and editor **Hiroki Ohsawa** will show his latest work *NihonGO NOW!* Web Series, a Japanese language educational media based on a textbook series by the same name, produced by OSU faculty **Mari Noda** (Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures) and her colleagues. Ohsawa will give behind-the-scenes look at the making of *NihonGO Now!*.

The web series is an innovative artwork to accompany a beginning-level language material. It portrays three Americans who learn and use Japanese to participate in Japanese culture in Japan and in the US. Ohsawa will also discuss his journey as a foreign filmmaker in the US. Language learners, teachers, filmmakers, and anyone interested in Japanese, language pedagogy, film, and web series as a new media are welcome.



Hiroki Ohsawa studied filmmaking and media literacy at Waseda University in Japan. While there as a undergraduate student, he directed and produced two award-winning documentaries as well as a number of narrative films. After two years of working at Bandai Namco Group, consumer toy sales operations, Hiroki moved to Los Angeles in 2015. He earned his MFA in filmmaking at the New York Film Academy. His work has earned 7 awards, including Best Drama from the LA Shorts Awards, and has been nominated for 10 awards. His thesis film “The Alc-Man” was screened at TCL Chinese Theater, the most iconic landmark in Hollywood. Hiroki is currently working on feature/short films, TV/web series, promotion videos, and more in USA and in Japan. In addition to being director, producer, writer, and editor, he is also active as motion graphics designer and illustrator, certified in Japan as 1st-class Caricaturist.

Website <https://hirokihsawa.wixsite.com/hirokihsawa>

This event is co-sponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS), and the Graduate Students of East Asian Languages & Literatures (GREALL).