



Special Seminar: Evaluating Catastrophic Risks

Organized by Kyoto University, Graduate School of Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability
in conjunction with University of Cambridge, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk

March 18th, 2024 - Kyoto University Tokyo Office

Recently, there are several different risks that exist in modern society which might produce catastrophic ends. Mankind should evaluate and prepare against these risks by dealing with immediate risk evaluation which affects daily life. In this seminar, we focus on catastrophic risk evaluation in our current society, prioritize them, and find ways to evaluate and link with current mechanisms.



Matthew Connelly
Director; Centre for
the Study of the
Existential Risk
University of
Cambridge

Professor Matthew Connelly, an expert in international and global history at Columbia University, has directed various research initiatives on planetary threats, including nuclear war, pandemics, and climate change. He teaches courses on related topics and has extensive policy experience, advising organizations like the World Bank, and the Department of Homeland Security. Connelly's publications, such as "The Declassification Engine" and "Fatal Misconception," critically examine historical and contemporary challenges. He has taught at several prestigious institutions worldwide while contributing to academic journals and media outlets. Currently, he is working on a book analyzing institutional responses to catastrophic threats throughout history.

Seminar Schedule:

13:30- 14:30

Lecture: The History of Predicting and Preparing for Catastrophic Threats

Professor Matthew Connelly

Director, Centre for the Study of Existential Risk
University of Cambridge

14:40-15:10

Lecture: Prioritization of Different Kinds of Natural Disasters and Low-Probability, High-Consequence Events

Dr. Moe Fujita

15:10-15:40

Lecture: Prioritization of Different Kinds of Natural Disasters and Low-Probability, High-Consequence Events – Space and Terrestrial Disasters

Professor Yosuke Yamashiki

15:50-16:50

Discussion: Communication and Resilience
By Kiana Tomita, GSAIS Kyoto University
and

Dr. Matt Connelly, Dr. Yosuke Yamashiki, Dr.
Dr. Moe Fujita



Professor Yosuke Yamashiki
GSAIS Kyoto University



Dr. Moe Fujita



Ms. Kiana Tomita
GSAIS Kyoto University

Applications for the seminar will be limited to students with relevant major and professional in the private sector, seats are limited so please apply soon.

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