Writing through the 1980s and into the 90s, Japanese detective author Yamamura Misa's *Katherine* series uses mystery and romance to explore the changing dialogue surrounding individual identity within Japan during an era of increasing globalization and cultural influence. By examining how characters relate to and manipulate assumptions about one another (and thus manipulate those of the reader), I discuss how Yamamura's depictions of an American girl in Japan encourage readers to justify and perhaps modify their own perceptions of gender and nationality on both sides of the Pacific.

**Friday, February 23, 2018**
12:00 noon, Room 4130 WWPH