

JAPANESE TRANSLATION OF NON-JAPANESE SPEECH: INTER-LINGUAL CONSTRUCTION OF GENDER



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NOVEMBER 15 (TUESDAY)
16:00-17:30

HITOTSUBASHI UNIVERSITY
EAST CAMPUS
FACULTY BUILDING 3, LEVEL 3
東キャンパス・第3研究館3階

This talk will discuss how Japanese translations of the speech of non-Japanese people constructs Japanese gender. While Japanese femininity and masculinity are often defined by their differences from non-Japanese counterparts, the talk will demonstrate that translation plays a crucial role in constructing and maintaining ideal Japanese gender by creating a particular relationship with non-Japanese gender.

Japanese translators use different linguistic styles to translate the speech of non-Japanese speakers. Focusing on female and male speech styles, this talk shows how these gendered styles have been used to translate the speech of non-Japanese speakers. The translated speech of heroines from Scarlett O'Hara in *Gone with the Wind* to Hermione Granger in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* has been rendered into the stereotypical female style. In contrast, the translated speech of laidback men like Brandon and Dylan in the popular TV drama, *Beverly Hills, 90210*, has been translated not into male style but into a peculiar style rarely used by Japanese men.

The talk concludes with a discussion of how the distinctive use of gendered styles serves to define Japanese gender in its relationship with non-Japanese gender.

Momoko Nakamura, Ph.D. is Professor of English at Kanto Gakuin University. Her recent publications include *Gender, Language and Ideology* (2014), *Onnakotoba to Nihongo [Women's Language and Japanese]* (2012), *Onnakotoba wa tsukurareru [Constructing Women's Language]* (2007), and *Sei to Nihongo [Sex and Japanese]* (2007). She has contributed chapters to *The Handbook of Language, Gender, and Sexuality* (2014), *The Political Economy of Affect and Emotion in East Asia* (2014), *Femininity, Feminism and Gendered Discourse* (2010), *The Language and Sexuality Reader* (2006), and *Japanese Language, Gender, and Ideology* (2004).

Picture is of *Honyaku ga tsukuru Nihongo [Translation Constructing Japanese Language]* (2013).

Venue map: <http://www.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/about/direction/guide/campus/e-campus/>

For more information, contact Sonja Dale (sonja.dale@r.hit-u.ac.jp)