

Afrasia Research Centre  
AY2018 Research Seminar

# Manhunt Presidency: Obama, Race and the Third World

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Speaker:

**Prof. Sankaran Krishna** (University of Hawaii at Manoa)

Discussant:

**Prof. William S. Bradley** (Ryukoku University)

**Date: February 13, 2019 (Wed.)**  
**14:00~17:00**

**Venue: Afrasia Research Centre**

Ryukoku University Fukakusa  
Campus, Shikōkan 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Language: English

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## Manhunt Presidency: Obama, Race and the Third World

マンハント・プジデンシー：オバマ、人種、第三世界

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(Ryukoku University Fukakusa Campus Shikōkan 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

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(Political Science, University of Hawaii at Manoa)

Discussant:

**Prof. William S. Bradley**

(International Studies, Ryukoku University)

President Obama's commitment to a creedal narrative of American exceptionalism and his understanding of the third world as a space of ontological deficit together made for a presidency that could neither mitigate the structural racism of the United States nor deflect a racist foreign policy premised on an unending war against terror. By examining the murders of two American teenagers – Trayvon Martin and Abdulrahman Al-Awlaki– this study argues that the very self-fashioning narratives that propelled Obama to the presidency of the United States rendered him incapable of effecting any substantive changes in the deeply structured racism than animates both its domestic and foreign policies.

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