Monday, 21 November 2016
“The Other Great Game: The Opening of Korea and the Birth of Modern East Asia, 1876-1905”
Professor Sheila Miyoshi Jager, Oberlin College

This talk briefly chronicles the “Other” Great Game in East Asia that took place at the close of the nineteenth century when China, Japan and Russia fought over the impoverished but strategically important Korean peninsula. A late comer to the imperialist age, Korea had stubbornly and successfully fought off all efforts by foreign powers to penetrate her borders. When she was finally pried opened by Japan in 1876, the rapidly developing connections and competition for control over the peninsula transformed East Asia. Korea became an enduring international security conundrum and the regional instability that ensued not only fractured the previous international harmony within the Confucian world, but provided Western countries with both the incentive and opportunity to intervene more vigorously in East Asian affairs. From this globalization of politics the modern East Asian order was born, with results that affect international relations in the region to this day.

For further information contact:
Dr Matthew Shores
University Lecturer in Japanese Studies
mws42@cam.ac.uk / 44 (0)1223-335173
Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Sidgwick Avenue Cambridge, CB3 9DA
Web: http://www.ames.cam.ac.uk

LIKE US, FOLLOW US!
facebook.com/CambridgeEastAsia
twitter.com/CamEastAsia