**“Here in The Western World: A Comparison Between Japanese Manga**

**in America and American Comics”**

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This project, “Here in the Western World: A Comparison between Japanese Manga in America and American comics”, examines the structural and compositional differences between Japanese Manga and American comics. Specifically, it focuses on the ways in which the two similar mediums split from each other in the early 60’s to become two distinct “genres” in the comic book world.  The project examines the effects of the “localization” of Japanese manga to fit more “western” sensibilities regarding both art and content on the integrity of the work. Methodologically, it draws from a range of comic-book scholarship including Scott McCloud’s “Understanding Comics.” Examining firsthand a large number of both American comics and Japanese manga on a structural, authorial, and compositional level enabled a tentative conclusion:  Japanese manga, though inspired by American comics and cartoons, adopted many Japanese cultural traits that succeed in differentiating manga significantly from the comics that inspired them.