



Columbia University

Global Engagement | Paris

## Women Studies H3550.

### Women & Society – The Sex-Trade economy

Spring 2020

**INSTRUCTOR: Christelle TARAUD**

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**MEETING TIMES:**

**Monday: 12H30 pm-2H00 pm;  
and Tuesday: 5H15 pm-6H45 pm**

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Based on an interdisciplinary, intersectional, subalternist and post-colonial approach, this course is a general introduction to the **history, sociology and anthropology** of the **economy of the sex-trade** in Africa, America, Asia and Europe from the early nineteenth century to today. It aims to clarify: 1) the historiographical situation by questioning and analyzing **the French regulatory system** and its many avatars **in Europe, the United States and in the colonial world**, but also questioning the backlash to this system that consisted firstly of **the abolitionist** (born in England in the second half of the nineteenth century) and then **the prohibitionist movements**; 2) The relationship between class, “race” and gender in the sex market via **issues of human trafficking and sex tourism in Europe, America, Africa and Asia**; 3) The socio-economic issue - and its political connections – in the economy of sex with particular attention to **individuals** (prostitutes versus sex workers), their **voices**, their **legal status**, and even **their mobilization** (rallies and demonstrations, community collectives and trade unions, political and/or literary publications), but also the **many heated debates** that these demands for recognition and these mobilizations have provoked in places as diverse as **France, the Netherlands and India** to take only three specific examples in the world covered in the course.

In this course students will learn to work on the **entire gamut of primary sources** from the most traditional (e.g. essays, political statements, press reviews, administrative reports, demographic statistics, judicial archives, etc.) to less commonly used sources such as iconographic materials (e.g. paintings, photography, postcards, films) as well as private diaries, correspondence, etc. These primary sources will be studied in each session and will be contextualized in relation to secondary sources.



## COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS

- Attendance and participation are mandatory
- Each student is allowed one unjustified absence for the entire length of the course, with the exception of religious holidays
- Medical absences must be justified by a dated medical certificate from a French medical professional
- Each absence beyond the authorized threshold will lower the final grade by 1 point (i.e.: with one absence a 16 becomes a 15, etc.)
- In addition to attendance students should plan on being punctual. Please note that 3 lateness (10 minutes or more) are equivalent to 1 full absence
- All assignments handed in late without the authorization of the instructor will be penalized
- In addition to punctuality and motivation, students should do their best to be engaged critics and scholars, by participating actively in class, producing original work, and having pleasure in reading, writing and thinking

## CLASS RULES

- No eating
- No cell phones
- No laptops or other electronic devices
- Leaving the room once class has begun is considered very impolite in France

## COURSE MATERIALS AND, IF APPLICABLE, BIBLIOGRAPHY

In addition to the course handbook provided by the Columbia in Paris staff and compiled by the professor, students must **purchase and read** (throughout the semester) **Gayle S. Rubin & Judith Butler**, *Marché au sexe*, Paris, EPEL, 2002 ; **Christelle Taraud & All**, *Prostitution coloniale et post-coloniale*, Paris, ~~La~~ **Colonie** et La Découverte, 2020.

## ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING PROCEDURES

In addition to **regular attendance**, students must **complete advance readings** of the texts that accompany each session in order to **actively participate** in the discussion. The preparation of these readings entails making note (in French) of the arguments you intend to bring to the classroom discussion (your notes will be used by the instructor to assess the quality of your oral participation and as part of your ongoing evaluation). Please note that while the course is based on **primary source analysis**,



**secondary bibliographies** will also be used to enrich our understanding of the subjects. The reading of these sources is also **mandatory**.

**Overall course evaluation** is done under the following conditions:

- **Ongoing assessment** of your written notes prepared in advance for use during all class discussions : **20%**
- **Oral presentation** X 2 of a primary source (you may use notes, but you cannot read your presentation) for 30 to 40 minutes: **40%**
- **Research Paper** (10 à 12 pages): **40%**

## **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Students needing academic adjustments or accommodations because of a documented disability should contact the administrative staff directly. All discussions will remain confidential.

## **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

The intellectual venture in which we are all engaged requires of faculty and students alike the highest level of personal and academic integrity. As members of an academic community, each one of us bears the responsibility to participate in scholarly discourse and research in a manner characterized by intellectual honesty and scholarly integrity. Scholarship, by its very nature, is an iterative process, with ideas and insights building one upon the other. Collaborative scholarship requires the study of other scholars' work, the free discussion of such work, and the explicit acknowledgement of those ideas in any work that inform our own. This exchange of ideas relies upon a mutual trust that sources, opinions, facts, and insights will be properly noted and carefully credited.

- In practical terms, this means that, as students,
  - you must be responsible for the full citations of others' ideas in all of your research papers and projects
  - you must be scrupulously honest when taking your examinations
  - you must always submit your own work and not that of another student, scholar, or internet agent
  - **In case of plagiarism, the student's assignment will be directly sent to the Director of the program and an F will be attributed to that particular assignment**



## COURSE SCHEDULE: 13 weeks

### WEEK 1 : January 27-31

Session 1 (**January 27**): *Presentation of the course: Sex-Trade Economy: Themes, questions and issues at stake; course syllabus; assignments and grading; distribution of classroom presentations; various instructions.*

Session 2 (**January 28**): *Methodology for comment (classroom presentation) and research paper (construction/comment of a corpus of primary sources).*

### WEEK 2 : February 3 - 7

Session 1 (**February 3**): *French regulationism: a model for the organization of prostitution for Europe?*

Session 2 (**February 4**): *French regulationism: a model for the organization of prostitution for Europe?*

#### **Primary sources:**

- Petit dossier de documents primaires comprenant : deux pages du registre des courtisanes, des peintures de prostituées, le catalogue des prix de l'amour, et divers éléments sur *Le Chabanais*.
- **Alexandre Parent Duchatelet**, « Généralités sur les maisons publics de prostitution », *De la prostitution dans la ville de Paris*, Paris, J.B Baillière, Tome 1, 1836, p.270-356. To be consulted on **Gallica** via the following link: <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k65208459.r=ParentDuch%C3%A2telet%2C%20Alexandre-Jean-Baptiste>
- **Bertrand Bonello**, *L'Apollonide. Souvenir de la maison close*, film, (2011).

#### **Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Alain Corbin**, "Commercial Sexuality in Nineteenth-Century France: A System of Images and Regulations", in *Representations*, n°14, *The Making of the Modern Body: Sexuality and Society in the Nineteenth Century*, University of California Press (Spring, 1986), p.209-219. To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2928440>



**WEEK 3 : February 10- 14**

Session 1 (**February 10**): *The New-Orleans's Storyville (USA) and his Red Light District in the 1910-1920's.*

Session 2 (**February 11**): *The New-Orleans's Storyville (USA) and his Red Light District in the 1910-1920's.*

**Primary sources:**

- Corpus of photography by **E.J Bellocq**. To be consulted via the following link: <http://www.atgetphotography.com/The-Photographers/Bellocq.html>
- **Louis Malle**, *La petite*, film, (1978).

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Pamela D. Arceneaux**, « Guidebooks to Sin: The Blue Books of Storyville», *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 28, No. 4 (autumn, 1987), p.397-405.
- **Craig L. Foster**, «Tarnished Angels: Prostitution in Storyville, New Orleans, 1900-1910», *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (Winter 1990), p.387-397.

**WINTER BREAK FEBRUARY 17 – 21**

**WEEK 4 : February 24- 28**

Session 1 (**February 24**): *Colonial era regulations: how the sex trade globalized via European imperialism: The Maghreb example from 1830 to 1962.*

Session 2 (**February 25**): *Colonial era regulations: how the sex trade globalized via European imperialism: The Maghreb example from 1830 to 1962.*

**Primary sources:**

- **E.A Duchesne**, *De la prostitution dans la ville d'Alger depuis la conquête*, Paris, J.B Baillièrre, 1853, p.20-34. To be consulted on **Gallica** via the following link: <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k28714x/f20.item.r=Prostitution%20en%20a%20lgerie>
- **Germaine Aziz**, *Les chambres closes*, Paris, Nouveau Monde Editions, 2007 [1980], p.66-97.



**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Bruce W. Dunne**, « French Regulation of Prostitution in Nineteenth-Century Colonial Algeria », in *The Arab Studies Journal*, Vol. 2, n°1 (Spring 1994), p. 24-30. To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link:: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27933632>
- **Christelle Taraud**, « De l'enfermement systématique à la surveillance des conduite », in *La prostitution coloniale*, Paris, Payot, 2003, p.215-264.

**WEEK 5 : March 2-6**

Session 1 (**March 2**): *Abolitionism and (neo)regulationism in the XIX<sup>th</sup> and XX<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

Session 2 (**March 3**): *Abolitionism and (neo)regulationism in the XIX<sup>th</sup> and XX<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Joséphine Butler**, *Une voix dans le désert*, Neuchâtel, Bulletin du Comité Continental, 1876, p.1-60. To be consulted on **Gallica** via the following link: <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k54691653/f6.double.r=Josephine%20Butler>
- **Maria Deraismes**, *Ce que veulent les femmes*. Articles and speeches from 1869 to 1894. Preface, notes and commentaries by Odile Krakovitch, Paris, Syros, 1980, p.60-62. To be consulted via the following link: <http://www.marievictoirelouis.net/document.php?id=76&themeid=78>
- **Alexandra Kollontai**, *Les problèmes de la prostitution*, in *La Bataille Socialiste*, 1909. To be consulted via the following link: [https://www.marxists.org/francais/kollontai/works/1909/00/akoll\\_1909\\_prosti.htm](https://www.marxists.org/francais/kollontai/works/1909/00/akoll_1909_prosti.htm) ; *Prostitution and ways of fighting it*. Speech by Alexandra Kollontai to the third all-Russian conference of heads of the Regional Women's Departments, 1921. To be consulted via the following link: <https://www.marxists.org/archive/kollonta/1921/prostitution.htm>

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Judith R. Walkowitz**, "Male Vice and Female Virtue: Feminism and the Politics of Prostitution in Nineteenth-Century Britain", in D. Kelly Weisberg (Eds.), *Applications of Feminist Legal Theory*, Temple University Press (1996). To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt14bs8md.17>



- **Vincent Guillin**, « Biopolitique, utilitarisme et libéralisme John Stuart Mill et les Contagious Diseases », *Archives de Philosophie*, Vol. 73, No. 4, Histoire et philosophie de la médecine (Ocotibre-Décembre 2010), p. 615-629.

### WEEK 6 : March 9-13

Session 1 (**March 9**): *White slavery: questions at the heart of the sex trade at the end of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> century.*

Session 2 (**March 10**): *White slavery: questions at the heart of the sex trade at the end of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> century.*

#### **Primary Sources:**

- **Albert Londres**, « La responsabilité est sur nous », *Le chemin de Buenos Aires (la traite des blanches)*, Paris, Le serpent à plumes, collection « Motifs », 1994, p.255-263. To be consulted on **Gallica** via the following link: <http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k2057893.r=albert%20londres>
- **Affiches des films** de Luigi Comencini, *La Traite des Blanches*, (1952) et de Georges Combret, *La Traite des Blanches*, (1965).

#### **Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Donna J. Guy**, "White Slavery, Public Health, and the Socialist Position on Legalized Prostitution in Argentina, 1913-1936", in *Latin American Research Review*, Vol. 23, n°3 (1988), p.60-80. To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2503424>
- **Magaly Rodríguez García**, « La Société des Nations face à la traite des femmes et au travail sexuel à l'échelle mondiale », in, *Le Mouvement social*, n°241, Travail et mondialisations (Octobre-Décembre 2012), p.105-125. To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43497908>

### **Premier Point sur les Research Paper**

### WEEK 7 : March 16-20



Session 1 (**March 16**): *Trafficking in human beings and sexual Migration: assessing the situation today.*

Session 2 (**March 17**): *Trafficking in human beings and sexual Migration: assessing the situation today.*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Circular** from January 22, 2015 criminal policy against trafficking of human beings. NOR: JUSD1501974C. Official Bulletin of the Ministry of Justice, France. To be consulted via the following link: [http://www.textes.justice.gouv.fr/art\\_pix/JUSD1501974C.pdf](http://www.textes.justice.gouv.fr/art_pix/JUSD1501974C.pdf)
- **Amos Gitai**, *Terre promise*, film, (2005).

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Kristina Abiala**, "The Republic of Moldova: prostitution and trafficking in women", in *International approaches to prostitution*, Bristol University Press, Policy Press. (2006).
- **Bonny Ling**, "Prostitution and Female Trafficking in China", *China Perspectives*, No. 1-2 (113) (2018), p.65-74.
- **Florence Lévy et Marylène Lieber**, « La sexualité comme ressource migratoire Les Chinoises du Nord à Paris », *Revue française de sociologie*, Vol. 50, No. 4 (Oct. - Dec., 2009), p. 719-746.

**WEEK 8 : March 23-27**

Session 1 (**March 23**): *The birth of sexual tourism in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century in the East and the West.*

Session 2 (**March 24**): *The birth of sexual tourism in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century in the East and the West.*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Gustave Flaubert**, *Cinq Lettres d’Egypte*, Paris, Les Mille et Une nuits, 2002, p.36-49.
- **Dossier de photos orientalistes et de cartes postales coloniales.**

**Secondary Bibliography:**





- **Martine Geronimi**, « L'Orient, géographie imaginaire : les écrivains français et les villes de désir », *Téoros* [Online], 25-2 | 2006, Online since 01 October 2011, To be consulted via the following link: <http://teoros.revues.org/1470>
- **Jean-François Staszak**, « Tourisme et prostitution coloniales : la visite de Bousbir à Casablanca (1924-1955) », *Via@*, 2 (8), 2015. To be consulted via the following link: <http://viatourismreview.com/fr/2015/10/varia-art1/>

**WEEK 9 : March 30-April 3**

Session 1 (**March 30**): *From the prostitution of minors in Thailand to the prostitution of men in Haiti: sex-trade economy composed according to criteria of gender, class and « race ».*

Session 2 (**March 31**): *From the prostitution of minors in Thailand to the prostitution of men in Haiti: sex-trade economy composed according to criteria of gender, class and « race ».*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Laurent Cantet**, *Vers le Sud*, film, 2005.
- *Brochure ECPAT contre l'exploitation sexuelle des enfants dans les voyages et le tourisme*
- « **Fragile** », affiche contre la prostitution des enfants en Thaïlande.

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Franck Michel**, « Le tourisme sexuel en Thaïlande : une prostitution entre misère et mondialisation », *Téoros* [Online], 22-1 | 2003, Online since 01 May 2012. To be consulted via the following link: <http://teoros.revues.org/1822>
- **Heather Montgomery**, «Buying innocence: child-sex tourists in Thailand», *Third World Quarterly* 5 (2008), p.903-917. To be consulted via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20455082>

**Second Point sur les Research Paper**

**SPRING BREAK APRIL 6 -13**



**WEEK 10 : April 14-May 17**

Session 1 (**April 14**): *Prostitution or Sex work?*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Marie Victoire Louis**, « Abolir la prostitution », *L'Humanité*, Tribune Libre, February 20, 2003.
- **Maîtresse Nikita et Thierry Schaffhauser**, *Fières d'être putes*, Paris, L'Altiplano, 2007.
- **Ovidie**, *Là où les putains n'existent pas*, film documentaire, France (2018).

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Lilian Mathieu**, « De l'objectivation à l'émotion. La mobilisation des chiffres dans le mouvement abolitionniste contemporain », *Mots. Les langages du politique*, n°100, 2012. To be consulted via the following link: <http://journals.openedition.org/mots/20989> ; DOI : 10.4000/mots.20989
- **Jay Levy et Pye Jakobsson**, "Abolitionist feminism as patriarchal control: Swedish understandings of prostitution and trafficking", in *Dialectical Anthropology*, Vol. 37, No. 2, Special Issue: Anti-Anti-Trafficking? Toward Critical Ethnographies of Human Trafficking (June 2013), p.333-340.
- **Morgane Merteuil et Damien Simonin**, « Les travailleuses du sexe peuvent-elles penser leur émancipation ? Sur quelques effets excluants des discours abolitionnistes », *Contretemps*, 2013. To be consulted via the following link: <https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-00947710/document>

**Attention, pas de cours les 20 et 21 Avril 2020. Ces cours seront remplacés par une Rencontre-Débat (date et horaires précisés ultérieurement).**

**WEEK 11 : April 27-May 1**

Session 1 (**April 27**): *The mobilization of prostitutes around the world: an economy of exploitation and challenging domination.*

Session 2 (**April 28**): *The mobilization of prostitutes around the world: an economy of exploitation and challenging domination.*

**Primary Sources:**

- **Margo St. James interviewed by Jan Legnitto**, Pacific Radio, entretien audio, 1973. To be consulted via the following link: [https://archive.org/details/pacifica\\_radio\\_archives-BC1668](https://archive.org/details/pacifica_radio_archives-BC1668)



- **Sex Workers Make History: 1985 & 1986 – The World Whores’ Congress**, Presentation by Gail Pheterson and Margo St. James. To be consulted via the following link: <https://www.walnet.org/csis/groups/icrse/brussels-2005/SWRights-History.pdf>
- **Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee (DMSC)**, *Manifesto of sex workers in Calcutta*, Inde, 2002.
- **Parliament March: Sex workers movement against the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act**, reportage, Inde, March, 8, 2006. To be consulted via the following link <https://vimeo.com/21139708>

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Valerie Jenness**, « From Sex as Sin to Sex as Work: COYOTE and the Reorganization of Prostitution as a Social Problem », *Social Problems*, Volume 37, n°3 (August 1990), p.403-420.
- **Margo St. James**, “Economic Justice for Sex Workers”, *Hastings Women Law Journal*, volume 10, issue I, 1999. To be consulted via the following link: <https://repository.uchastings.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1075&context=hwlj>
- **Shyamal Kumar Das & Indrajit Kundu**, “‘My Body, My Talk’: Empowerment and Disempowerment Trajectories of Sex Workers in Bangladesh”, in *Sociological Bulletin*, Vol. 58, n°3 (September - December 2009), p.403-421. To be consulted via the JSTOR following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23620666>

**WEEK 12 : May 4-8**

Session 1 (**May 4**): *Grisélédís Réal et la « Révolution des putes » de 1975.*

Session 1 (**May 5**): *Grisélédís Réal et la « Révolution des putes » de 1975.*

**Primary Sources:**

- **1975 - Les prostituées de Lyon parlent**, reportage audio. To be consulted via the following link: <http://8mars.info/les-prostituees-prennent-la-parole>
- **Loveless : la révolte des prostituées de Lyon adaptée au théâtre, 43 ans après**, *Culture Box, France Info* (regarder les deux petites vidéos sur le spectacle). To be consulted via the following link: <https://culturebox.francetvinfo.fr/theatre/theatre-contemporain/loveless-la-revolte-des-prostituees-de-lyon-adaptee-au-theatre-270575>



- **Grisélédís Réal**, « Se prostituer est un acte révolutionnaire », *Marge* n°13, novembre-décembre 1977. To be consulted via the following link: <http://archivesautonomies.org/IMG/pdf/autonomies/marge/Marge-n13.pdf>
- **Marie-Eve de Grave**, *Belle de nuit - Grisélédís Réal, autoportraits (Belle de nuit - Grisélédís Réal, Self Portraits)*, film documentaire, Belgique (2016).

**Secondary Bibliography:**

- **Catherine Deschamps**, « Mobilisations parisiennes de prostitué-es », in Marie Elisabeth Handman and Janine Mossuz Lavau, *La prostitution à Paris*, Paris, La Martinière, 2005, p.91-120.

**WEEK 13 : May 11-15**

Session 1 (May 11): **Présentation orale des Research Paper 1 et discussion collective**

Session 1 (May 12): **Présentation orale des Research Paper 2 et discussion collective**