



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS IN PARIS

**Women Studies OC3550. Women & Society –
The Sex-Trade economy
Autumn 2018**

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MEETING TIMES:

Tuesday: 2H30 pm-4H00 pm;

And Thursday: 2H00 pm-4H00 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 medical certificate
- Each absence beyond the authorized threshold will lower the final grade by ½ point (i.e.: with two absences a 19 becomes an 18, 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

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

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.

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, **note that you will not obtain an A if you read your exposé**) for 30 to 40 minutes: **30%**
- **Primary text commentary** (8 to 10 pages, **note that you will not obtain an A if the Bibliography of the Primary text commentary does not contain, at least, 3 or 4 academic articles and 1 book chapter**): **20%**
- **Final Exam**: **30%**

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: 12 weeks

WEEK 1 : September 24 – 28

Session 1 (**September 25**): *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 (**September 27**): *Methodology for comment (classroom presentation) or writing a commentary of a primary source.*

WEEK 2 : October 1 - 5

Session 1 (**October 2**): *French regulationism: a model for the organization of prostitution for Europe?*

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

Primary sources:

- **Petit dossier de documents primaires** comprenant : trois pages du **registre des courtisanes** (archives de la préfecture de police, registre BB/1 des femmes soupçonnées de prostitution clandestine, fichées par les agents de la police des mœurs dans les années 1860-1870), des **peintures de prostituées** (*Olympia* d'Edouard Manet (1863) ; *Le Salon de la rue des Moulins* d'Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1894-1895) ; *Le salon I* d'Otto Dix (1921), *Filles au lupanar* de Robert West (1942)) ; le **catalogue des prix de l'amour** ; et **divers éléments sur *Le Chabanais*** (Affiche publicitaire vantant les mérites de la maison, un jeton du *Chabanais*, « La célèbre Margot » vers 1900, fauteuil à étriers métalliques d'Edouard VII).
- **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, France (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 : October 8 - 12

Session 1 (**October 9**): *The New-Orleans's Storyville (USA) and his Red Light District in the 1910-1920's.*

Session 2 (**October 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, USA (1978)
- "A visit to Storyville, New Orleans's most famous red light district". Reportage, USA. To be consulted via the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZL0INRZS98>

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Pamela D. Arceneaux**, « Guidebooks to Sin: The Blue Books of Storyville», *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 28, N°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, N°4, Winter 1990, p.387-397.

WEEK 4 : October 15-19

Session 1 (**October 16**): *Colonial era regulations: how the sex trade globalized via European imperialism: The Maghreb example from 1830 to 1962.*

Session 2 (**October 18**): *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 Baillière, 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>
- **Julien Duvivier**, *Pépé le Moko*, film, France (1937).
- **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 : October 22-26

Session 1 (**October 23**): *Abolitionism and (neo)regulationism in the XIXth and XXth centuries.*

Session 2 (**October 25**): *Abolitionism and (neo)regulationism in the XIXth and XXth 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 ; *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>

HOLIDAY BREAK OCTOBER 29 – NOVEMBER 2

WEEK 6 : November 5-9

Session 1 (**November 6**): *White slavery: questions at the heart of the sex trade at the end of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century.*

Session 2 (**November 8**): *White slavery: questions at the heart of the sex trade at the end of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth century.*

Primary Sources:

- **Albert Londres**, « La responsabilité est sur nous », *Le chemin de Buenos Aires (la traite des blanches)*, Paris, Le serpent à plumes, 1994, p.255-263 [Première édition 1927]. 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).
- « **Edgar Morin à propos de la rumeur d'Orléans** », Archives de l'INA (1969). To be consulted on INA Archives via the following link: <http://www.ina.fr/video/I08016656/edgar-morin-a-propos-de-la-rumeur-d-orleans-video.html>

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Jean Michel Chaumont**, *Le mythe de la traite des blanches*, Paris, La Découverte, 2009, p.22-84.
- **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, Octobre-décembre 2012, p.105-125. To be consulted on **JSTOR** via the following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43497908>

Commentary on a Primary Source Text is due in Week 6!

WEEK 7 : November 12-16

Session 1 (**November 13**): *Trafficking human beings and sexual Migration: assessing the situation today.*

Session 2 (**November 15**): *Trafficking 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
- **“Bulgarie, femmes à vendre”**, reportage réalisé dans le cadre du magazine *Avenue de l'Europe* (13 janvier 2016). To be consulted via the following link: https://www.francetvinfo.fr/replay-magazine/france-3/avenue-de-l-europe/video-avenue-de-l-europe-bulgarie-femmes-a-vendre_1267471.html
- **Naël Marandin**, *La Marcheuse*, film, France (2016).

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Jelena Bielica**, *Prostitution : l'esclavage des filles de l'Est*, Paris, Paris-Méditerranée, 2005, p.27-78 et p.153-165.
- **Florence Lévy et Marylène Lieber**, « La sexualité comme ressource migratoire Les Chinoises du Nord à Paris », *Revue française de sociologie*, Volume 50, n°4, Octobre – Décembre 2009, p.719-746.

WEEK 8 : November 19-23

Session 1 (**November 20**): *The birth of sexual tourism in the XIXth century in the East and the West.*

Session 2 (**November 22**): *The birth of sexual tourism in the XIXth century in the East and the West.*

Primary Sources:

- **Gustave Flaubert**, *Cinq Lettres d'Égypte*, Paris, Les Mille et Une nuits, 2002, p.36-49.
- **Dossier de photos orientalistes et de cartes postales coloniales** (datant des années 1880-1930) prises en Algérie, en Tunisie et au Maroc.

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Martine Geronimi**, « L'Orient, géographie imaginaire : les écrivains français et les villes de désir », *Téoros*, 25-2 | 2006. 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 : November 26-30

Session 1 (**November 27**): *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 (**November 29**): *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, France (2005) ; et **Ulrich Seidl**, *Paradis : Amour*, film, Allemagne (2012)
- **Brochure ECPAT** contre l'exploitation sexuelle des enfants dans les voyages et le tourisme ; et « **Fragile** », Affiche contre la prostitution des enfants en Thaïlande
- « **Scandale sexuel : Oxfam présente ses excuses aux autorités haïtiennes** », Le Monde du 19 février 2018. To be consulted via the following link: http://www.lemonde.fr/ameriques/article/2018/02/19/scandale-sexuel-oxfam-presente-ses-excuses-aux-autorites-haitiennes_5259432_3222.html

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Sébastien Roux**, « Thaïlande. La naissance d'une cause : la lutte contre le tourisme sexuel impliquant des enfants des années 1980 à nos jours », in Blanchard Véronique, Révenin Régis & Yvrel Jean-Jacques (dir.), *Jeunes, jeunesse et sexualité : 19^e-21^e siècles*, Paris, Autrement, 2010, p.280-288.
- **Franck Michel**, « Le tourisme sexuel en Thaïlande : une prostitution entre misère et mondialisation », *Téoros* [Online], 22-1 | 2003. To be consulted via the following link: <http://teoros.revues.org/1822>
- **Heather Montgomery**, «Buying innocence: child-sex tourists in Thailand», *Third World Quarterly*, N°5, 2008, p.903-917. To be consulted via the JSTOR following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20455082>

WEEK 10 : December 3-7

Session 1 (**December 4**): *Prostitution or Sex work?*

Session 2 (**December 6**): *Prostitution or Sex work?*

Primary Sources:

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

Secondary Bibliography:

- **Timothy J. Gilfoyle**, « Prostitutes in History: From Parables of Pornography to Metaphors of Modernity », in *The American Historical Review*, Vol.104, n°1 February 1999, p.117-141. To be consulted via the **JSTOR** following link: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2650183>
- **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
- **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>

WEEK 11 : December 10-14

Session 1 (**December 11**): *The mobilization of prostitutes around the world: an economy of exploitation and challenging domination.*

Session 2 (**December 13**): *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
- **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 : December 17-21

Session 1 & 2 (December 20): *Final Exam*.