

GSWS 4459G – A Business of Pleasure & Pain: Sex Work in Canada (Winter 2022)

***Tentative syllabus and subject to change before the first day of class**

1:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays

AHB-1B04

Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
Western University

We/I acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (Ah-nish-in-a-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ahpay-wuk) and Chonnonton (Chun-ongk-ton) Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. With this, we/I respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility as a public institution to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities through our teaching, research and community service.

Instructor: Prof. Georgina Gifford

Email: ggiffor@uwo.ca (Students can expect a response no later than 2-3 business days.)

Office Hours: TBA

Course Description:

Sex workers have been, and continue to be, at the forefront of feminism. While some view sex work as nothing more than a manifestation of the patriarchy through the sexual objectification of women, sex work can also be looked at as a threat to the patriarchy as it blurs the divide of the public/private, promotes bodily autonomy and complicates puritanical notions of sex and sexuality. Yet, many communities and scholars who proclaim a commitment to feminism continue to exclude sex workers and invalidate their lived experiences. Students will be invited to explore how sex work is not inherently oppressive and instead look towards how dominant social structures, laws and values marginalize sex workers and enable and perpetuate the injustices that sex workers are subjected to. Through the deconstruction of patriarchal and puritanical ideology, students will be equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to nuance and complicate the hegemonic (mis)understandings of what sex work is and who sex workers are. Overall, this course will draw attention and bring appreciation to what feminists and fellow advocates of social justice can learn from sex work/ers through the various challenges and struggles sex workers face; and, without forgetting the solidarity amongst and resilience and accomplishments of sex workers, the joy, and triumphs, too. **Prerequisite: GSWS 2220E, or permission of the Department.**

Course Objectives:

- Understand the racist, classist and colonial evolution of prostitution laws in Canada and how they persist into today.
- Identify how the current Canadian laws on sex work enables and fosters violence against sex workers and places sex workers in vulnerable and precarious positions.
- Explore the foundations of whorephobia and its ubiquitous nature as well as how it emerges and impacts sex workers in multiple ways.
- Orient sex work as work, what labour/work looks like under capitalism and what this means for the safety and protection of sex workers via labour rights.
- Consider how the sex workers' rights movement and sex work activism converges with other social justice aims and initiatives.
- Apply core tenets of intersectionality and feminism to the study of sex work to ascertain how social location and identity shape lived experience(s) of sex workers and the necessity of an intersectional framework in studies of sex work.
- Develop critical and nuanced perspectives on sex work that are informed by, and based upon, a diverse representation of sex workers' voices and their lived experiences.

Required Readings:

Other than the book *How Poetry Saved My Life: A Hustler's Memoir* by Amber Dawn (2013) which is required for the final assignment and can be purchased through the campus bookstore, all required course readings can be accessed online through the library or on OWL.

Student Evaluation and Assignments:

Students will receive further details about participation on the first day of class and about assignments closer to the due dates.

Participation – 30% (ongoing)

Students are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned weekly readings and meaningfully and thoughtfully contribute to class. As half the class will be lecture-based and the other half seminar, it is prudent for students to arrive to class prepared. To help facilitate and encourage their participation, students are asked to prepare 2-3 critical discussion questions, or “sparkers”, in advance and submit them to me by email before the beginning of class each week (except for Week 1 – January 4th, Week 6 – February 8th and Week 13 – March 29th). Students may miss one week without it affecting their participation grade.

Critical Analysis and Presentation – 20% (written) + 10% (presentation) = 30% (Due February 8th in class)

In this assignment, students will need to find a Canadian-based news or popular media article published in the last 3 years on sex work. This article can be about any issue that pertains to sex work in Canada. Students are asked to critically analyze how sex work is, or sex workers are, represented in their chosen article and the impact such representation may have on, or for, sex workers. Students will need to base their analysis on what they will have learnt thus far in the course and are expected to present their findings in class. The expected length of this assignment

will be 6-8 pages double spaced. Presentations are to include one discussion question for the class and should be between 10-15 minutes inclusive of class discussion.

Final Paper: Critical Book Review/Reflection – 40% (due April 1st by 11:59 p.m.)

For their final assignment students are required to read and critically engage with the book *How Poetry Saved My Life: A Hustler's Memoir* by Amber Dawn (2013). Students will be provided with a set of questions to consider and help guide them in writing a 10–12-page paper in which they will analyze and reflect on a theme of their choice that arises throughout this book and make connections to what was studied throughout the course.

All assignments are to be uploaded to OWL and handed in at the beginning of class.

Missed Assignments and Participation Policies

Unless a pre-determined extension has been approved by this instructor or a student receives academic accommodation or consideration, any late assignments will be docked 2% per day up to and including 7 days. Furthermore, should a student be absent from their in-class presentation without having received academic accommodation or consideration they shall receive a 0. If a student should receive academic accommodation or consideration for said absenteeism, an alternative arrangement will be mutually agreed upon by instructor and student. Lastly, in classes without final examinations, persistent absenteeism (defined by the Department as three [3] weeks in half courses, and six [6] weeks in full courses) may be rendered grounds for failure in the course as per Department policy. Keep in mind that participation is worth 30% of your final grade and that while participation is much more than simply showing up, that showing up and being present is the very first step!

Note for students with disabilities: Please contact gwsugchair@uwo.ca if you require any information in plain text format, or if any other accommodation can make the course material and/or physical space accessible to you. You may also contact aew@uwo.ca to find out the full range of services available to you.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (January 4th): Intro to Course and History of Sex Work in Canada

Valverde, M. (2019). The White Slavery Panic in *The Age of Light, Soap, and Water* (pp. 77–103). University of Toronto Press.

Further reading:

Backhouse, C. (1985). Nineteenth-Century Canadian Prostitution Law: Reflection of a Discriminatory Society. *Social History* 18, 387-423.

Shaver, F. M. (1994). The regulation of prostitution: Avoiding the morality traps. *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*, 9, 123–145.

Week 2 (January 11th): The Law, Bedford and PCEPA

*If you did not read the week before, read: Valverde, M. (2019). *The White Slavery Panic in The Age of Light, Soap, and Water* (pp. 77–103). University of Toronto Press.

Sampson, L. (2014). “The obscenities of this country”: Canada v. Bedford and the reform of Canadian prostitution laws. *Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy*, 22(1), 137–172.

Barreto, D. (2020, February 6). *Why it Matters that Bedford is Black: Misogynoir and Sex Work in Canada*. <https://medium.com/shareyournuance/why-it-matters-that-bedford-is-black-misogynoir-and-sex-work-in-canada-b38cce6d16d1>

van der Meulen, E., & Durisin, E. M. (2008). Why Decriminalize?: How Canada’s Municipal and Federal Regulations Increase Sex Workers’ Vulnerability. *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law*, 20(2), 289–311.

Further reading:

Backhouse, C. (1985). Nineteenth-Century Canadian Prostitution Law: Reflection of a Discriminatory Society. *Social History* 18, 387-423.

Benoit, C., Unsworth, R., Healey, P. *et al.* Centering Sex Workers’ Voices in Law and Social Policy. *Sex Res Soc Policy* (2021).

Benoit, C., Jansson, M., Smith, M., & Flagg, J. (2017). “Well, It Should Be Changed for One, Because It’s Our Bodies”: Sex Workers’ Views on Canada’s Punitive Approach towards Sex Work. *Social Sciences (Basel)*, 6(2), 1-17.

Bruckert, C., & Hannem, S. (2013). Rethinking the Prostitution Debates: Transcending Structural Stigma in Systemic Responses to Sex Work. *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*, 28(1), 43–63.

Gillies, K. and Bruckert, C. (2018). Pimps, Partners, and Procurers: Criminalizing Street Based Sex Workers’ Relationships with Partners and Third Parties (p. 82-93) in E. Durisin, E., van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Gillies, K. (2013). A Wolf in Sheep’s Clothing: Canadian Anti-Pimping Law and Policy Reform (p. 269-278) in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.), *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.

Krusi, A., Belak, B. and Sex Workers United Against Violence. (2018). Harassing the Clients Is Exactly the Same as Harassing the Workers: Street-Based Sex Workers in Vancouver (p. 213-223) in E. Durisin, E., van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Lowman, J. (2013). Crown Expert-Witness Testimony in Bedford v. Canada: Evidence-Based Argument or Victim-Paradigm Hyperbole (p. 230-250) in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.), *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.

Sayers, N. (2019). The (Un)Constitutionality of PCEPA: A Necessary Discussion (p.20-35) in A. Lebovitch and S. Ferris (Eds.), *Sex Work Activism in Canada: Speaking Out, Standing Up*. ARP Books.

Shaver, F. M. (1994). The regulation of prostitution: Avoiding the morality traps. *Canadian Journal of Law and Society*, 9, 123–145.

van der Meulen, E. and Durisin, E. (2018). Sex Work Policy: Tracing Historical and Contemporary Developments (p.27-47) in E. Durisin, E., van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

van der Meulen, E. (2010). Illegal lives, loves, and work: how the criminalization of procuring affects sex workers in Canada. *Wagadu*, 8, 217–240.

Week 3 (January 18th): Decolonizing Sex Work and Anti-Racist Approaches

- Hunt, S. (2013). Decolonizing Sex Work: Developing an Intersectional Indigenous Approach (p. 82-100) in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.) *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.
- Maynard, R. (2018). Do Black Sex Workers' Lives Matter?: White-Washed Anti-Slavery, Racial Justice and Abolition (p. 281-292) in E. Durisin, E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.
- Huard, A. and Pelland, J. (2020, September 10). *Sexual sovereignty*. <https://briarpatchmagazine.com/articles/view/sexual-sovereignty>

Further reading:

- Hele, C., Sayers, N. and Wood, J. (2015, September 14). *Missing from the Conversation on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*. <https://the-toast.net/2015/09/14/whats-missing-from-the-conversation-on-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women/>
- Suprihmbé. (2019, September 19). *A New Sex Positivity Dichotomy*. <https://lpeproject.org/blog/a-new-sex-positivity-dichotomy/>

Week 4 (January 25th): Whorephobia and Respectability Politics

- Queen, C. (1997). Sex Radical Politics, Sex Positive Feminist Thought, and Whore Stigma (p. 125-135) in Nagle, J. (Ed.) *Whores and Other Feminists*. Routledge.
- Suprihmbé. (2019, September 9). *Heauxthots: Defined/Definers: My thoughts on common terminology around erotic labour & trafficking*. <https://medium.com/hauxthots/hauxthots-defined-definers-my-thoughts-on-common-terminology-around-erotic-labor-trafficking-f9df45ea2b9a>
- Love, V. (2018). Champagne, Strawberries and Truck-Stop Motels: On Subjectivity and Sex Work (p. 181-188) in E. Durisin, E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Further reading:

- Chapkis, W. (2018). Commentary: Response to Weitzer "Resistance to sex work stigma." *Sexualities*, 21(5-6), 743–746.
- gsver23. (2020, April 30). *Looking Up at the Whorearchy from the Bottom*. <https://streethooker.com/2020/04/30/looking-up-at-the-whorearchy-from-the-bottom/>
- Leigh, C. (1997). Inventing Sex Work (p.226-231) in J. Nagle (Ed.), *Whores and Other Feminists*. Routledge.
- Tempest, T. (2019). Relationship boundaries, abuse, and internalized whorephobia. *Sexual and Relationship Therapy*, 34(3), 335–338.
- Weitzer, R. (2018). Resistance to sex work stigma. *Sexualities*, 21(5-6), 717–729.

Week 5 (February 1st): The Work of Sex Work

- Lime Jello. (2015, January 13). *A Tunnel, Not a Door: Exiting Conditioned, Generational Sex Work*. <https://titsandsass.com/a-tunnel-not-a-door-exiting-conditioned-generational-sex-work/>
- James, E. (2018). Indigenous, Indoors, and Incognito: Thoughts and Experiences of an

Irish and Objiwe Female Sex Worker (p. 159-166) in E. Durisin, E., van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

van der Meulen, E. (2012). When Sex is Work: Organizing for Labour Rights and Protections. *Labour (Halifax)*, 69(69), 147–167.

Further reading:

Benoit, C., Smith, M., Jansson, M., Healey, P., & Magnuson, D. (2021). The Relative Quality of Sex Work. *Work, Employment and Society*, 35(2), 239–255.

Benoit, C., Ouellet, N., Jansson, M., Magnus, S., & Smith, M. (2017). Would you think about doing sex for money? Structure and agency in deciding to sell sex in Canada. *Work, Employment and Society*, 31(5), 731–747.

Brooks, E. (2021, August 24). *How Sex Work Saved Me from Academia*. <https://ellisbrooks.medium.com/how-sex-work-saved-me-from-academia-ab0c900d8c74>

Clemen, J., Gillies, K., and Salah, T. (2013). Working for Change: Sex Workers in the Union Struggle (p. 113-129) in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.), *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.

Gallant, C. (2019). Fuck You, Pay Me: The Pleasures of Sex Work (p. 177-188) in A.M. Brown (Ed.), *Pleasure Activism: The Politics of Feeling Good*. AK Press.

Law, T., & Raguparan, M. (2020). “It’s a Puzzle You Have to Do Every Night”: Performing Creative Problem Solving at Work in the Indoor Canadian Sex Industry. *Work, Employment and Society*, 34(3), 424–440.

Law, T. (2013). Transitioning Out of Sex Work: Exploring Sex Workers’ Experiences and Perspectives (p. 101-110) in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.), *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.

Piper, R. (2020, September 7). *The Cost of Feigning Intimacy at Work*.

<https://peepshowmagazine.com/2020/09/07/the-cost-of-feigning-intimacy-at-work/>

van der Meulen, E. (2011). Sex Work and Canadian Policy: Recommendations for Labor Legitimacy and Social Change. *Sexuality Research & Social Policy*, 8(4), 348–358.

Week 6 (February 8th): Violent Manifestations of Stigma

Critical Analysis Due and Presentations (*Break from preparing and submitting weekly discussion questions.*)

Ferris, S. (2015). Chapter 2: Anti-Prostitution Reporting, Policing and Activism in Canada’s Global Cities (p. 43-63) in *Street Sex Work and Canadian Cities: Resisting a Dangerous Order*. The University of Alberta Press.

Lazarus, L., Chettiar, J., Deering, K., Nabess, R., & Shannon, K. (2011). Risky health environments: Women sex workers’ struggles to find safe, secure and non-exploitative housing in Canada’s poorest postal code. *Social Science & Medicine*, 73(11), 1600–1607

Orchard, T., Murie, A., Elash, H.-L., Bunch, M., Middleton, C., Sadakhom, D., Oiamo, T., & Benoit, C. (2019). “People like us”: spatialised notions of health, stigma, power and subjectivity among women in street sex work. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 21(4), 478–494.

Further reading:

Benoit, C., Maurice, R., Abel, G., Smith, M., Jansson, M., Healey, P., & Magnuson, D. (2020). “I dodged the stigma bullet”: Canadian sex workers’ situated responses to occupational stigma. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 22(1), 81–95.

Janzen, C., Strega, S., Brown, L., Morgan, J., & Carrière, J. (2013). “Nothing Short of a Horror Show”: Triggering Abjection of Street Workers in Western Canadian Newspapers. *Hypatia*, 28(1), 142–162.

Redwood, R. (2018). Myths and Realities of Male Sex Work: A Personal Perspective (p. 167-180) in E. Durisin,

E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Winters, L. and MacDonald, G. (2018). Hypocrisy in “Sin City”: Space, Place and Sex Work Stigma in St. John’s (234-243) in E. Durisin, E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Week 7 (February 15th): Racialized and (Im)Migrant Sex Workers’ Experiences

Raguparan, M. (2017). “If I’m gonna hack capitalism”: Racialized and Indigenous Canadian sex workers’ experiences within the Neo-liberal market economy. *Women’s Studies International Forum*, 60, 69–76.

Jeffrey, L. A. (2005). Canada and migrant sex-work: Challenging the “foreign” in foreign policy. *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*, 12(1), 33–48.

Lam, E. and Lepp, A. (2019). Butterfly: Resisting the harms of anti-trafficking policies and fostering peer-based organising in Canada, *Anti-Trafficking Review*, 12, 91-107.

Further reading:

Burke, N.B. (2018). Double Punishment: Immigration Penalty [sic] and Migrant Trans Women Who Sell Sex (p. 203-212) in E. Durisin, E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Ham, J. (2015). Intuiting illegality in sex work in *The Routledge Handbook on Crime and International Migration* (206–219). Routledge

Lam, E., Shih, E., Chin, K., and Zen, K. (2021). The Double-Edged Sword of Health and Safety: COVID-19 and the Policing and Exclusion of Migrant Asian Massage Workers in North America. *Social Sciences (Basel)*, 10(157), 157.

Liew, J. C. Y. (2020). The Invisible Women: Migrant and Immigrant Sex Workers and Law Reform in Canada. *Studies in Social Justice*, 2020(14), 90–116.

Week 8 (February 22nd): Reading Week

No class or assigned readings but I highly recommend getting started on the final paper by reading How Poetry Saved My Life

Week 9 (March 1st): Queer and Trans Workers’ Experiences

Lyons, T., Krüsi, A., Pierre, L., Kerr, T., Small, W., & Shannon, K. (2017). Negotiating Violence in the Context of Transphobia and Criminalization: The Experiences of Trans Sex Workers in Vancouver, Canada. *Qualitative Health Research*, 27(2), 182–190.

Fletcher, Tor. (2013). Trans Sex Workers: Negotiating Sex, Gender, and Non-Normative Desire (p. 66-73) in in E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.) *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.

Ross, B. (2018). Whoreganizers and Gay Activists: Histories of Convergence, Contemporary Currents of Divergence, and the Promise of Non-Normative Futures (p. 256-271) in E. Durisin, E.,van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Further reading:

Jefferies, D. (2020). Seawater/C-cup: Fishy Trans Embodiments and Geographies of Sex Work in Newfoundland. *Imaginations (Edmonton, Alberta)*, 11(1), 17–35.

Laidlaw, L. (2018). Challenging Dominant Portrayals of the Trans Sex Worker: On Gender, Violence, and

- Protection. *Manitoba Law Journal* (1966), 41(4), 351.
- Khan, U. (2020). Homosexuality and prostitution: A tale of two deviancies. *The University of Toronto Law Journal*, 70(3), 283–305.
- Matthen, P., Lyons, T., Taylor, M., Jennex, J., Anderson, S., Jollimore, J., & Shannon, K. (2018). I Walked into the Industry for Survival and Came Out of a Closet: How Gender and Sexual Identities Shape Sex Work Experiences among Men, Two Spirit, and Trans People in Vancouver. *Men and Masculinities*, 21(4), 479–500.

Week 10 (March 8th): Online Sex Work

- Moses Moon. (2021, May 6). *Face-to-Face, Street-Based, or in Cyberspace – We Are All Prostitutes*. <https://peepshowmagazine.com/2021/05/06/face-to-face-street-based-or-in-cyberspace-we-are-all-prostitutes/>
- Simonpillai, R. (2021, February 11). *The State of sex work: Risks and Rewards in the era of Onlyfans*. <https://nowtoronto.com/lifestyle/the-state-of-sex-work-toronto-onlyfans>.
- Sterling, A. (2018). New Risk-Spaces, New Spaces for Harm: The Effects of the Advertising Offence on Independent Escorts (p. 94-103) in E. Durisin, E., van der Meulen and C. Bruckert (Eds.), *Red Light Labour: Sex Work Regulation, Agency, and Resistance*. UBC Press.

Further reading:

- Argento, E., Taylor, M., Jollimore, J., Taylor, C., Jennex, J., Krusi, A., & Shannon, K. (2018). The Loss of Boystown and Transition to Online Sex Work: Strategies and Barriers to Increase Safety Among Men Sex Workers and Clients of Men. *American Journal of Men's Health*, 12(6), 1994–2005.
- Jiao, S., Bungay, V., and Jenkins, E. (2021). Information and Communication Technologies in Commercial Sex Work: A Double-Edged Sword for Occupational Health and Safety. *Social Sciences (Basel)*, 10(1), 1-13.
- Jones, A. (2015). Sex Work in a Digital Era. *Sociology Compass*, 9(7), 558–570.
- Mia, V. (2020). The Failures of SESTA/FOSTA: A Sex Worker Manifesto. *Transgender Studies Quarterly*, 7(2), 237–239.
- Strohmayr, A., Clamen, J. and Laing, M. (2019). Technologies for Social Justice: Lessons from Sex Workers on the Front Lines in 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Proceedings (CHI 2019), May 4–9, 2019, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.

Week 11 (March 15th): Sex Work Activism and Solidarity

- Blewett, L. and Law, T. (2018). Sex Work and Allyship: Reflections on Femme-, Bi- and Whorephobia in Queer Communities. *Feral Feminisms*, 7, 58-65. *Resistance*. UBC Press.
- Arthur, J., Davis, S., and Shannon, E. (2018). Overcoming Challenges: Vancouver's Sex Worker Movement (pp. 130-146) E. van der Meulen, E. Durisin and V. Love (Eds.) *Selling Sex: Experience, Advocacy and Research on Sex Work in Canada*. UBC Press.
- Amber Dawn. (n.d.). *Sex Work Solidarity as Healing: in four parts*. <https://roommagazine.com/sex-work-solidarity-as-healing-in-four-parts/>

Further reading:

- Lebovitch, A., & Ferris, S. (2019). *Sex work activism in Canada: speaking out, standing up*. ARP Books.

Week 12 (March 22nd): Sex Workers' Resistance and Resilience

- Sibley, M. A. (2018). Owing Risk: Sex Worker Subjectivities and the Reimagining of Vulnerability and Victimhood. *British Journal of Criminology*, 58(6), 1462–1479.
- Tigchelaar, A. (2019). Sex Worker Resistance in the Neoliberal Creative City: An auto/ethnography. *Anti-Trafficking Review*, 12, 15–36.

Further reading:

- Lam, E. (2020). Pandemic sex workers' resilience: COVID-19 crisis met with rapid responses by sex worker communities. *International Social Work*, 63(6), 777–781.
- Orchard, T., Salter, K., Bunch, M., & Benoit, C. (2021). Money, Agency, and Self-Care among Cisgender and Trans People in Sex Work. *Social Sciences (Basel)*, 10(1), 6.

Week 13 (March 29th): Sex Work as Anti-Work

*Instead of instead of preparing and submitting weekly discussion questions, come prepared to discuss *How Poetry Saved My Life*. The final paper is due this Friday, April 1st.

- Merteuil, M. (2015). *Sex Work Against Work*. <https://viewpointmag.com/2015/10/31/sex-work-against-work/>
- femi Babylon and Berg, H. (2021). Erotic Labor within and without Work: An Interview with femi babylon. *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 120, 631–640.

Further reading:

- Berg, H. (2014). Working for Love, Loving for Work: Discourses of Labor in Feminist Sex-Work Activism. *Feminist Studies*, 40(3), 693–721.
- Fritsch, K., Heynen, R., Ross, A. N., & van der Meulen, E. (2016). Disability and sex work: developing affinities through decriminalization. *Disability & Society*, 31(1), 84–99.
- Suprihmbé. (2019, September 9). *Thotscholar: a working theory of proheaux (woman)ism [1] [revised 2019] w/ blog commentary*. <https://medium.com/hauxthots/thotscholar-a-working-theory-of-proheaux-woman-ism-1-revised-2019-w-blog-commentary-2775fc27f1a8>

Final Paper due Friday, April 1st by 11:59 p.m.

University Policies

Prerequisites:

“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.” https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/courseoutlines.pdf

Turnitin:

“All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of

the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between the University and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com.>) (<https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/TurnItIn.html>)”

Academic Offences:

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>
<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/courseoutlines.pdf>”

Missed assignments and academic accommodation:

Academic Accommodation must be requested within 28 days of the missed assignment.

Requests for Academic Consideration for Student Absence:

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year (between September and April) to use an online portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student’s final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructor no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form in order to initiate arrangements to make up for missed work indicated in the course syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g. December exam)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student’s final grade
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a self-reported absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner if the absence is medical or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty Academic Counselling Office to obtain more information about relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling Office of a student’s home Faculty.

For more information on the Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences— Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs, please see:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

Women's Studies Grading Criteria

A+ (90 to 100) – One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level

A (80 and up) – Superior work which is clearly above average

- Challenging and specific thesis that is clearly developed
- Correct and interesting sentence structure
- Sophisticated writing style
- Appropriate documentation
- Quotations well integrated into the text, with proper documentation
- Evidence of originality or independence of thought
- Provision of strong analysis
- Complexity, and subtlety in approach to subject
- Well-organized with a logical development of the argument

B (70 to 79) – Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory

- Clear development of a specific thesis, with proper paragraphs
 - Correct sentence structure
 - Adequate documentation
 - Allowance for some (minor) problems such as:
 - errors in factual content or interpretation
 - some minor errors in terminology or general writing skills
 - occasional lapses in clarity, including vagueness, incompleteness, flaws in structure
 - Provision of some analysis
- (Note: A grade in the range of 75-79 indicates an essay that borders on an A but has some significant flaw that prevents giving out the higher grade.)

C (60 to 69) – Competent work, meeting requirements

- Generally, correct but tends to provide more description than analysis
- Tends to be too general or superficial in the handling of material
- Weaknesses in argument including a descriptive thesis, a mechanical approach, lack of adequate evidence, documentation, or support
- Problems with grammar or matters of style
- Simplicity of thought, structure, or expression

D (50 to 59) – Fair work, minimally acceptable

- Does not provide an argument or a line of thought
- Major difficulties with logical structure, and expression of ideas
- Topic has not been thought through
- Errors of grammar and diction interfere with understanding
- Over-generalization with inadequate support, evidence, or documentation

F (49 and down) – Fail

- Assignment submitted does not apply to course
 - Basic requirements of the assignment are not met
- Plagiarism with intent to deceive (to be handled by the department)