

SEX AND THE GLOBAL CITY

Fall 2007

Professor Florence Babb

Graduate Assistant Tatiana Falcon

WST 3930 – Sec 4081; MWF 10:40-11:30; 2336 Turlington (F: half class in 21 And.); 3 Credits

Office hours (Babb): 1:00-3:00 Mondays, 11:30-12:30 Wednesdays, and by appointment

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Course description and objective:

Around the world, cities have always been places where diverse groups of people come together and interact. This course considers gender, sexuality, and urban space, drawing on feminist, anthropological, and other literature. We will read ethnographies (case studies) based in cities of the Global South and North in an effort to understand how urban lives vary depending on gender, race, sexuality, social class, nationality, and other social differences. Some of the themes we will examine include the following: the growth of urban centers and informal economic sectors as a result of neoliberalism and globalization; the emergence of youth cultures as populations expand; the increase of exclusionary practices that target specific groups in urban societies; the growth of social movements including those representing the citizenship rights of women and sexual minorities; the development of popular culture and new consumer practices. The course will highlight the gendered effects of accelerated change in cities as diverse as New York, Bangkok, and Mexico City. Videos and occasional recommended outside lectures will complement course material. In general, the course format will be lectures on Mondays and Wednesday, and discussion groups on Fridays.

Course books, available at Goerings Bookstore 1717 NW 1st Avenue:

Barbara Ehrenreich and Arlie Russell Hochschild, eds. *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*. Henry Holt and Company, 2002.

Nicole Constable, *Romance on a Global Stage: Pen Pals, Virtual Ethnography, and "Mail-Order" Marriages*. University of California Press, 2003.

Ara Wilson, *The Intimate Economies of Bangkok: Tomboys, Tycoons, and Avon Ladies in the Global City*. University of California Press, 2004.

Martin Manalansan, *Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora*. Duke University Press, 2003.

Denise Brennan, *What's Love Got to Do with It? Transnational Desires and Sex Tourism in the Dominican Republic*. Duke University Press, 2004.

Course requirements and policies:

Participation Full attendance and prompt arrival at all classes is essential and counts for course credit. Students are expected to come to class having done the reading and ready to participate in discussion. Everyone will have an opportunity to play a part in facilitating weekly discussions. [20% of course grade]

Papers Two “position papers” (5pp double spaced) will be required, based on readings for the course. These papers should be clearly written, well organized, and show insight into the course materials [15% each]

Exams There will be two exams based on course material, lectures, videos, and discussion. [25% each]

Academic Honesty:

The University of Florida’s honor code requires all students to be honest in their academic work. University policies on cheating, plagiarism, and related issues are available at:
<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>

Accommodations:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to me when requesting accommodation.

Course readings:

August 24 (F)	Gender, Sex, and Global Cities: Introduction to the course
August 27(M)	The Globalization of Love and Sex Ehrenreich and Hochschild (eds.), <i>Global Woman</i> , to p.30
August 29(W)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp.31-54
August 31(F)	Discussion
September 3(M)	Labor Day—no class
September 5(W)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp.55-114 Video: “Chain of Love”
September 7(F)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp. 115-153 Discussion - Guest: Lauren Fordyce, PhD candidate in Anthropology
September 10(M)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp.154-206

September 12(W)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp.207-253 Guest lecture: Rhoda Reddock, University of West Indies “Bling, Brands and Hypersexuality: Globalization and Cultural Constructions of Caribbean Masculinities and Femininities”
September 14(F)	Ehrenreich and Hochschild, pp.254-274
September 17(M)	Love on the Internet: “Mail Order” Marriages Constable, <i>Romance on a Global Stage</i> , to p.30
September 19(W)	Constable, pp.31-62
September 21(F)	Constable, pp.63-90
September 24(M)	Constable, pp.91-115 Video: “In the Name of Love”
September 26(W)	Constable, pp.116-144
September 28(F)	Constable, pp.145-174
October 1(M)	Constable, pp.175-209
October 3(W)	Constable, pp.210-227 Position Paper 1 due
October 5(F)	Discussion and review
October 8(M)	Exam 1
October 10(W)	Intimacy and Economy in a Global City: Bangkok Wilson, <i>The Intimate Economies of Bangkok</i> , to p.28
October 12(F)	Wilson, pp.29-67
October 15(M)	Wilson, pp.68-101
October 17(W)	Wilson, pp.102-132
October 19(F)	Discussion
October 22(M)	Wilson, pp.133-162 Video clip: “Beautiful Boxer”
October 24(W)	Wilson, pp.163-188
October 26(F)	Wilson, pp.189-195

October 29(M)	Gay Identity and Globalization: New York Manalansan, <i>Global Divas</i> , Preface and to p.20
October 31(W)	Manalansan, pp.21-44
November 2(F)	Homecoming—no class
November 5(M)	Manalansan, pp.45-88 Video clip: “Paris is Burning”
November 7(W)	Manalansan, pp.89-125
November 9(F)	Discussion
November 12(M)	Veteran’s Day—no class
November 14(W)	Manalansan, pp.126-183
November 16(F)	Manalansan, pp.184-191
November 19(M)	Sex Tourism and Transnational Desires Brennan, “What’s Love Got to Do With It?,” to p.50
November 21(W)	Brennan, pp.51-90
November 23(F)	Thanksgiving break—no class
November 26(M)	Brennan, pp.91-153
November 28(W)	Brennan, pp.154-184 Video: “Heading South” Guest: Traci Yoder, PhD candidate in Anthropology
November 30(F)	Discussion
December 3(M)	Brennan, pp.185-219 Review
December 5(W)	Test 2
Exam week	Position Paper 2 due Monday, December 10