

MARGARET (MEG) WEEKS

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Florida, Center for Latin American Studies 2023-present
Assistant Professor of Social Movements of Gender and Sexuality
Co-coordinator of the MA Specialization in Race, Gender, Diaspora, and Sexuality

EDUCATION

Harvard University 2023
Ph.D., History with a Secondary Field in the Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Dissertation: “From the House to the Street: Sex Workers and Domestic Laborers in Brazil’s Democratic Transition”
Committee: Sidney Chalhoub (chair); Alejandro de la Fuente; Cassia Roth, James N. Green; Sueann Caulfield

Harvard University 2018
M.A., History

Brown University 2011
B.A. (Honors, Magna cum laude), History
Advisor: James N. Green

RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS

Modern Latin American History Labor, Gender, and Sexuality	Twentieth-century Brazil Reproductive Justice	Race in Latin America Second and Third-Wave Feminisms
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VISITING POSITIONS

Visiting Doctoral Student, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro 2022

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Book Introduction and Scholarly Annotation

Annotation of *Daughter, Mother, Grandmother, and Whore: The Story of a Woman Who Decided to be a Puta* by Gabriela Leite;

Introduction co-authored with Laura Murray and Esther Teixeira; forthcoming from Duke University Press (2024).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“A Prostitutes’ Jamboree: The World Whores’ Congresses of the 1980s and the Rise of a New Feminism,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, vol. 31, no. 3 (2022).

Winner of the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians 2022 Prize for the Best Article in the fields of the history of women, gender, and/or sexuality

“Meninas desamparadas? A Pastoral da Mulher Marginalizada e o nascimento do movimento brasileiro de prostitutas,” (“Helpless Girls? The Pastoral da Mulher Marginalizada and the Birth of the Brazilian Prostitutes’ Movement”) *Philia* (humanities journal of the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil) vol. 3, no.1 (2021).

Article in an Edited Journal Special Issue

With Joaze Bernardino-Costa and Renata Lima, “Ativismo das Trabalhadoras Domésticas: da cozinha à arena nacional e internacional.” *Cadernos de Pesquisa* (Fundação Carlos Chagas) Trabalho Doméstico: casa, mercado, e trabalho, forthcoming (2023).

Articles Under Peer Review

“Without Our Rights There Is No Democracy: Brazilian Domestic Workers at the National Constituent Assembly, 1987–88,” *Hispanic American Historical Review*.

With Cassia Roth. “When Will We Be the Ones to Decide? The Movement to Decriminalize Abortion during Brazil’s Democratic Transition,” *Journal of Latin American Studies* (first and corresponding author).

Book Reviews

Review of Elyse Ona Singer’s *Lawful Sins: Abortion Rights and Reproductive Governance in Mexico* (2022); *The Latin Americanist*, vol. 67, no. 3 (2023).

Review of Moisés Lino e Silva’s *Minoritarian Liberalism: A Travesti Life in a Brazilian Favela* (2022); *Radical Americas*, vol. 8, no. 1 (2023).

Review of Ashley Mears’s *Very Important People: Status and Beauty in the Global Party Circuit* (2020); *Anthropology of Work Review*, vol. 43, no. 1 (2022).

Review of Heather Berg’s *Porn Work: Sex, Labor, and Late Capitalism* (2021); *Sexualities*, vol. 25, no. 8 (2022).

Editing

Revista Cantareira (peer-reviewed journal of the History Department of the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niterói, Brazil); Co-editor, with historians Gabriel Alencar e Souza and Amanda Calabria, of a special issue collecting interdisciplinary writings on sex work (2024).

SELECTED PUBLIC WRITING

“The Base of the Labor Pyramid,” *New York Review of Books* (2023).

“A Luso-Tropical Holy Grail,” (review of Katrina Dodson’s translation of *Macunaíma* by Mário de Andrade), *The Baffler* (2023).

“É hora de descriminalizar a prostituição no Brasil,” *Nexo: Políticas Públicas* (2023).

“Chronicles of a Financial Collapse: Carla Zaccagnini’s *Cuentos de Cuentas*,” *Hyperallergic* (2022).

“The Brilliant Orbit of Clarice Lispector,” *Frieze* (2022).

“Decriminalised Futures’ at the London Institute of Contemporary Arts,” *Artforum* (2022).

“Em nome da mãe: a saga da brasileira que deixou Roraima para fazer um aborto legal na Colômbia,” *piani* (2022).

“Eye to Eye with the Beast: The Fight to Decriminalize Abortion in Brazil,” *n+1 magazine*, vol. 39 (2021).

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Papers

“From the Slaves’ Quarters to the Maid’s Room: Politicized Domestic Workers During Brazil’s Military Dictatorship,” Sixty Years Later: Rethinking the History of the Brazilian Military Dictatorship Conference, Brown University (2024)

“Putas Políticas: The Brazilian Prostitutes’ Movement During Redemocratization,” American Historical Association Conference (2024)

“Endangered Archives and Post-custodial Archival Management: Preserving the Records of the Federação Nacional das Trabalhadoras Domésticas,” American Historical Association Conference (2024)

“Struggles for Reproductive Justice in Transition-Era Brazil,” Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies Annual Conference (2023)

“Political Whores: Work, Sexual Ethics, and the Brazilian Prostitutes Network,” UCLA Thinking Gender Annual Conference (2023)

“Without Our Rights There Is No Democracy: Brazilian Domestic Workers at the National Constituent Assembly, 1987–88,” Latin American Studies Association Annual Conference (2022)

“A Prostitutes’ Jamboree: The World Whores’ Congresses of the 1980s and the Rise of a New Feminism,” *Crossing Boundaries: Disruption, Disturbance, and Defiance*, Rutgers University Susman Graduate Conference (2022)

“*Beijo da rua: Brazilian Prostitutes Speaking for Themselves*,” Brazilian Studies Association Biennial Conference (2022)

“Meninas Desamparadas? A Pastoral da Mulher Marginalizada e o nascimento do movimento brasileiro de prostitutas,” Simpósio Internacional da Casa Rui Barbosa (2020)

“The International Committee on Prostitutes’ Rights,” Feminisms and Pornography Conference, Harvard University (2018)

“‘Urbanization Yes, Removal Never!’: Favela Removal and Popular Resistance During Brazil’s Military Dictatorship,” Brazil from Dictatorship to Democracy Conference, Brown University (2014)

Invited Talks

“The Brazilian Domestic Workers’ Movement: Past and Present Struggles for Racial, Gender, and Economic Justice,” Brazil Studies Seminar, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University (2023)

“When Will We Be the Ones to Decide? The Movement to Decriminalize Abortion during Brazil’s Democratic Transition,” Globalizing Roe v. Wade Discussion Series, University of Georgia (2023)

“The Historical Memory of the Brazilian Domestic Workers’ Movement,” University of Texas Symposium on Gender, History & Sexuality (2022)

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION

Book

Daughter, Mother, Grandmother, and Whore: The Story of a Woman Who Decided to be a Prostitute by Gabriela Leite (memoir of the founder of Brazil’s sex-worker movement), forthcoming from Duke University Press (2024)

Essays and Journalism

“There is No Safe That Can Hold Life” by Ailton Krenak, *Kaserne* Basel (2023)

“Entreabrir: The Poemobiles of Julio Plaza and Augusto de Campos,” by Gonzalo Aguilar, *Revista Rosa*; included in a bilingual book on the work of Brazilian concrete poet Augusto de Campos (2022)

“Clear the Books” by Ana Clara Costa, *pianí* (2022)

Fiction

“A True Story,” by Natalia Timerman; *Asymptote* (2023)

“Natalina’s Children” by Conceição Evaristo; *Adi* (2022)

“The Box,” by Veronica Stigger; *Two Lines* (2021)

Simultaneous Interpretation

Best Practices Policy Project Event, “Sex Work is Work: Centering our Rights in Economic Empowerment;” Provided simultaneous interpretation for Brazilian activist and congressional candidate Indianarae Siqueira (2022)

Training and Prizes

Short-listed finalist: Cornell University’s Institute for Comparative Modernities Global South Translation Fellowship (2022)

Literary Translation Workshop, UCLA Extension School, taught by Elisa Wouk Almino (2020)

ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION, CURATION, AND PUBLIC HISTORY PROJECTS

Be Yourself, LGBT Rio

Co-curator of an archival exhibition on the history of Brazil’s sex-worker movement as part of Rio’s Pride Month (2022)

University of California at Los Angeles Modern Endangered Archives Program; grantee, co-coordinator with Joaze Bernardino-Costa of the Universidade de Brasília and Danielle Alves de Oliveira of the Universidade Federal da Paraíba; received a \$15,000 Planning Grant to coordinate the organization, processing, and preparation for digitization of the archival collection of Brazil’s National Federation of Domestic Workers (2021-2023)

Received a \$50,000 Project Grant to digitize the archive of Brazil’s National Federation of Domestic Workers (2023-2025)

Harvard Library Pforzheimer Fellowship • Worked with Schlesinger Library staff to use library collections to create a curriculum for a Harvard College course, plan a conference, and curate an exhibition on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* (2021)

GRADUATE SCHOOL TEACHING

Undergraduate Thesis Adviser, Harvard College

Studies of Women Gender, and Sexuality

2021–22

Teaching Assistant, Harvard College

“Ancestry,” Maya Jasanoff, Gen. Ed.

Spring 2021

“Brazil Since Independence,” Sidney Chalhoub, History

Fall 2019

“History of Modern Mexico,” Kirsten Weld, History

Spring 2019

“Early Modern Europe,” Tamar Herzog, History

Fall 2018

Tutorial Instructor, Harvard College

Taught a seminar on reproductive justice to a group of concentrators in the Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality as part of the WGS Junior Tutorial 2021

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

International Women’s Day Commemoration at the Rio Film Festival, Rio de Janeiro
Moderated a panel on abortion politics in Brazil after a screening of the film *Lingui: Sacred Bonds* (2022)

PRIZES AND DISTINCTIONS

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians 2022 Prize for Best Article in the fields of the history of women, gender, and/or sexuality, “A Prostitutes’ Jamboree: The World Whores’ Congresses of the 1980s and the Rise of a New Feminism”

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University (2018-2019)

Christian Yegen Prize for an Outstanding Honors Thesis in the Discipline of History, Brown University (2011)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Brazil Cities Grant, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies	2022
Jens Aubrey Westengard Scholarship, Harvard University	2022
Jorge Paulo Lemann Research Fellowship, DRCLAS	2022
History Department Publication Grant, Harvard University	2022
Writing Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs	2021
Merit Term-Time Scholarship, GSAS, Harvard University	2020
John H. Coatsworth Latin American History Fellowship, Harvard University	2020
Brazil Research Grant, DRCLAS	2020
Travel Grant, DRLCAS	2017-19
Travel Grant, Afro-Latin American Research Institute, Harvard University	2017-19
History Department Summer Travel Grant, Harvard University	2017-22
Whipple V.N. Jones Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University	2017

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (fluent)
Spanish (fluent)

French (intermediate)

AFFILIATIONS

Brazilian Studies Association
Latin American Studies Association
American Historical Association
Portuguese English Literary Translators Association

REFERENCES

Prof. Sidney Chalhoub
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Prof. Cassia Roth
Department of History
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Brown University
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Additional teaching references

Prof. Maya Jasanoff
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