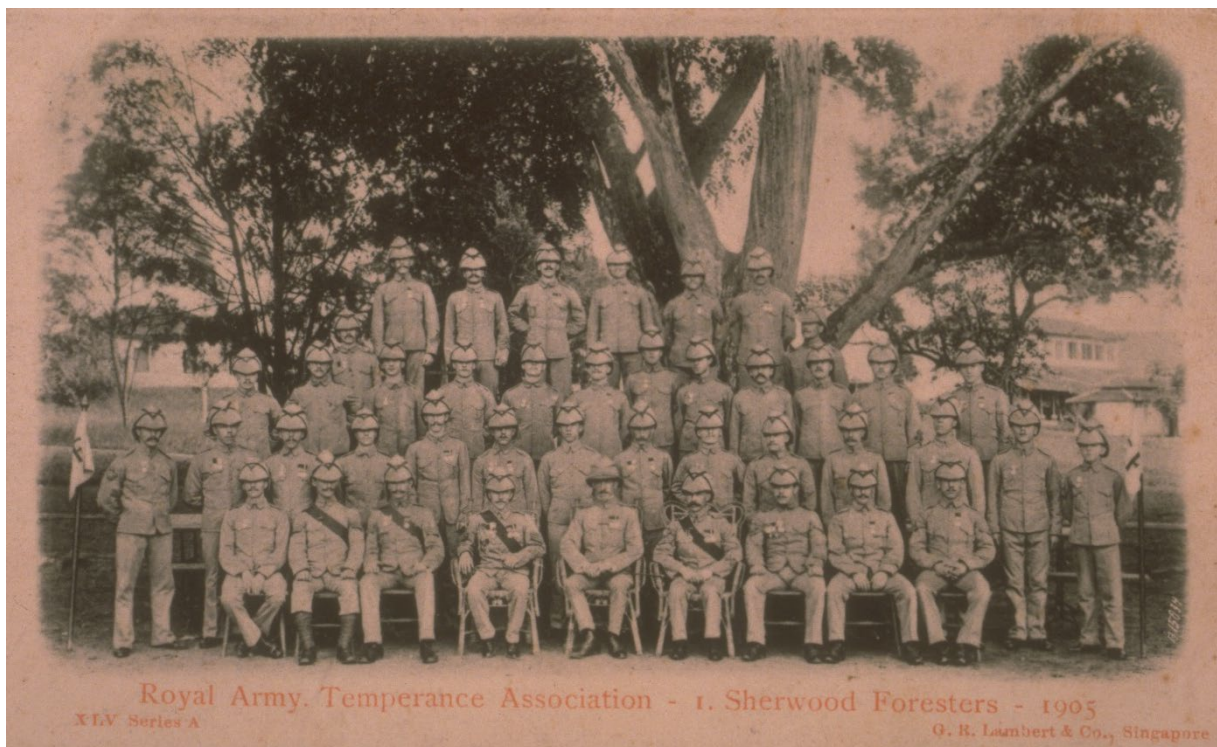


Deviance: Transgressions and Taboo in the Colonial World, ca. 1800-1940

Seminar Course

Professorship for the History of the Modern World

D-GESS, ETH Zürich



Royal Army Temperance Association – Sherwood Foresters – 1905. *Lim Kheng Chye Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore*

Time: Thursday (every fortnight) 10:15 – 11:45

Venue: CHN D 46

Lecturer: Zhi Qing Denise Lim, M. A. (zhiqingdenise.lim@gmw.gess.ethz.ch)

FS2024

Course Description

Offering students a refreshing approach to the social history of colonialism through the lens of deviance, the course critically engages with the discourse surrounding deviance and how deviance at once reaffirmed and challenged colonial hierarchies. To do so, it considers important developments in the history of the modern world, such as the eugenics movement in the late 19th century, global anti-vice and anti-trafficking campaigns, and the medicalization of alcoholism, addiction, and insanity. The course also looks at how scientific discourse had been incorporated into the discussions surrounding what deviance was and how to regulate or 'treat' deviance. The examination of the role of science in shaping deviance and the responses to it intends to foster students' awareness of the historical continuities in today's discussions surrounding deviant behaviour, such as homelessness and drug addiction, and how they are reflected in the built environment.

Students approach the history of colonialism through the lens of deviance in various contexts, especially—though not exclusively—in South, South-east and East Asia, from around 1800 to 1940. Specifically, students are sensitized to the circumstances under which behaviour, persons or situations were constructed as deviant and the ways in which such designation was used to reinforce or challenge colonial hierarchies by different actors. At the same time, students become aware of the connections between construction of deviance in colonial settings and global developments.

This course is structured thematically and uses theoretical texts from multiple disciplines, as well as empirical case studies. By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to a) develop new perspectives on the history of colonialism; b) familiarize themselves with the relevant topics and themes examined by recent scholarship; c) understand how norms and deviance were defined in different historical contexts; d) think critically about how norms and deviation are defined in their own disciplines and today's society.

Course Requirements

- Regular attendance of sessions (min. 5 sessions) and active participation in class (10%)
- Reading of mandatory texts (readings will be uploaded on Moodle) and submission of a list of 4 highlights for each mandatory text on **Wednesday noon** on the week class is held (max. 120 words per text; min. 5 sessions) (15%)
- Completion of a short literature review assignment using at least 3 mandatory and recommended texts in a particular session (choose between sessions 2-6; max. 500 words, by **30 June 2024**) (35%)
- Completion of a take-home examination (series of short-answer questions based on course content) by **30 June 2024** (40%)

Session Outline

Session 1 (22.02.24) Introduction: 'Deviance' in Colonial History

Mandatory reading:

Jackson, Will, and Emily J. Manktelow. "Introduction: Thinking with Deviance." In *Subverting Empire: Deviance and Disorder in the British Colonial World*, edited by Will Jackson and Emily J. Manktelow, 1-21. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.

Deviance and Colonial Hierarchies: Gender, Race and Class

Mandatory reading (pick one):

Jackson, Will. *Madness and Marginality: The Lives of Kenya's White Insane*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013. 45-79.

Kozma, Liat. "Prostitution and Colonial Relations." In *Selling Sex in the City: A Global History of Prostitution, 1600s-2000s*, edited by Magaly Rodríguez García, Lex Heerma van Voss, and Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk. 730-747. Leiden: Brill, 2017.

Winkelman, Tessa. *Dangerous Intercourse: Gender and Interracial Relations in the American Colonial Philippines, 1898-1946*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2023. 86-119.

Recommended readings:

Bosma, Ulbe, and Remco Raben. *Being "Dutch" in the Indies: A History of Creolisation and Empire, 1500-1920*. Translated by Wendie Shaffer. Singapore: NUS Press, 2007. 219-257.

Collingham, E.M. *Imperial Bodies: The Physical Experience of the Raj, c.1800-1947*. Cambridge: Polity, 2001. 150-193.

Ernst, Waltraud. "European Madness and Gender in Nineteenth-Century British India." *Social History of Medicine* 9, no. 3 (1996): 357-382.

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 25-88.

Jackson, Will. *Madness and Marginality: The Lives of Kenya's White Insane*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013. 1-44.

Stoler, Ann Laura. "Rethinking Colonial Categories: European Communities and the Boundaries of Rule." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 31, no. 1 (1989): 134-161.

Stoler, Ann Laura. "Making Empire Respectable: The Politics of Race and Sexual Morality in 20th-Century Colonial Cultures." *American Ethnologist* 16, no. 4 (1989): 634-660.

Session 2 (07.03.24) Embodying Deviance: Race, Gender, Disease, and Morality*Mandatory readings:*

Levine, Philippa. *Prostitution, Race, and Politics: Policing Venereal Disease in the British Empire* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 199-229.

(pick one):

Coleborne, Catharine. *Insanity, Identity and Empire: Immigrants and Institutional Confinement in Australia and New Zealand, 1873-1910*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2015. 164-189.

Dutta, Manikarnika. "The Sailors' Home and Moral Regulation of White European Seamen in Nineteenth-Century India." *Cultural and Social History* 18, no. 2 (2021): 201-220.

Manderson, Lenore. "Colonial Desires: Sexuality, Race, and Gender in British Malaya." *Journal of the History of Sexuality* (1997): 372-388.

Tracol-Huynh, Isabelle. "Prostitution in Colonial Hanoi (1885-1954)." *Selling Sex in the City: A Global History of Prostitution, 1600s-2000s*, edited by Magaly Rodríguez García, Lex Heerma van Voss, and Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk. 538-566. Leiden: Brill, 2017.

Wright, Ashley. "Maintaining the Bar: Regulating European Barmaids in Colonial Calcutta and Rangoon." *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 45, no. 1 (2017): 22-45.

Recommended readings:

Coleborne, Catharine. *Insanity, Identity and Empire: Immigrants and Institutional Confinement in Australia and New Zealand, 1873-1910*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2015. 114-138 or 139-163.

Hinchy, Jessica. "Gender, Family, and the Policing of the 'Criminal Tribes' in Nineteenth-Century North India." *Modern Asian Studies* 54, no. 5 (2020): 1669-1711.

Kimber, Julie. "'A Nuisance to the Community': Policing the Vagrant Woman." *Journal of Australian Studies* 34, no. 3 (2010): 275-293.

Piper, Alana. "'A Growing Vice': The Truth about Brisbane Girls and Drunkenness in the Early Twentieth Century." *Journal of Australian Studies* 34, no. 4 (2010): 485-497.

Upton, Susan. *Wanted, A Beautiful Barmaid: Women Behind the Bar in New Zealand, 1830-1976*. Wellington: Victoria University Press, 2013. 56-91.

Wald, Erica. "Governing the Bottle: Alcohol, Race and Class in Nineteenth-Century India." *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 46, no. 3 (2018): 397-417.

Wu, Jialin Christina. "Disciplining Native Masculinities: Colonial Violence in Malaya, 'Land of the Pirate and the Amok'." In *Violence, Colonialism and Empire in the Modern World*, edited by Philip Dwyer and Amanda Nettelback. 175-196. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.

Session 3 (21.03.24) Science of Deviance: Race, Medicalization, and Classification*Mandatory readings:*

Levine, Philippa. *Prostitution, Race, and Politics: Policing Venereal Disease in the British Empire* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 61-90.

(pick one):

Edington, Claire. *Beyond the Asylum: Mental Illness in French Colonial Vietnam*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019. 20-54.

Gopalakrishnan, D. R. "Anthropometry and Lock Hospitals in Nineteenth-Century Madras." *Society* (2023).

Jackson, Will. *Madness and Marginality: The Lives of Kenya's White Insane*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013. 129-149.

Manderson, Lenore. *Sickness and the State: Health and Illness in Colonial Malaya, 1870-1940*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. 166-200.

Yoo, Theodore Jun, *It's Madness: The Politics of Mental Health in Colonial Korea*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2016. 45-76.

Recommended readings:

Edman, Johan. "Temperance and Modernity: Alcohol Consumption as a Collective Problem, 1885–1913." *Journal of Social History* 49 no. 1 (2015): 20-52.

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 25-88.

Kamenov, Nikolay. *Global Temperance and the Balkans: American Missionaries, Swiss Scientists and Bulgarian Socialists, 1870-1940* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), 99-134.

Keller, Richard. "Madness and Colonization: Psychiatry in the British and French Empires, 1800–1962." *Journal of Social History* 35, no. 2 (2001): 295-326.

Ng, Beng Yong. "Work and Occupation for the Mentally Ill" *Till the Break of Day: A History of Mental Health Services in Singapore, 1841-1993* (Singapore: NUS Press, 2016): 103-114.

Sen, Indrani. *Gendered Transactions: The White Woman in Colonial India, c. 1820-1930*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2017. 172-203.

Winther, Paul C. *Anglo-European Science and the Rhetoric of Empire: Malaria, Opium, and British Rule in India, 1756-1895* (Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2003), 1-32.

Session 4 (11.04.24) Spaces and Sociality of Deviance: Bars, Barracks, Brothels, and Opium Dens*Mandatory readings:*

Wald, Erica. *Vice in the Barracks: Medicine, the Military and the Making of Colonial India, 1780-1868* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), 118-56.

(pick one):

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 109-130.

Howell, Philip. "Race, Space and the Regulation of Prostitution in Colonial Hong Kong." *Urban History* 31, no. 2 (2004): 229-248.

Levine, Philippa. "Space and Place: The Marketplace of Colonial Sex." *Prostitution, Race, and Politics: Policing Venereal Disease in the British Empire* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 297-322.

Vann, Michael G. "Sex and the Colonial City: Mapping Masculinity, Whiteness, and Desire in French Occupied Hanoi." *Journal of World History* 28, no. 3/4 (2017): 395-435.

Wright, Ashley. "Not Just a 'Place for the Smoking of Opium: The Indian Opium Den and Imperial Anxieties in the 1890s." *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* 18, no. 2 (2017), <https://doi.org/10.1353/cch.2017.0021>.

Recommended readings:

Alagirisamy, Darinee. "Toddy, Race, and Urban Space in Colonial Singapore, 1900-59." *Modern Asian Studies* 53, no. 5 (2019): 1675-1699.

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 220-232.

Hsu, Hung Bin. "'Nothing Less Than Gentleman': Social Activities and Spaces of Opium Smoking in Taiwan from the Qing Period to the Japanese Colonial Period." In *Drugs and the Politics of Consumption in Japan*, edited by Judith Vitale, Oleg Benesch, and Miriam Kingsberg Kadia. 119-140. Leiden: Brill, 2023.

Legg, Stephen. "Governing Prostitution in Colonial Delhi: From Cantonment Regulations to International Hygiene (1864-1939)." *Social History* 34, no. 4 (2009): 447-467.

Tambe, Ashwini. *Codes of Misconduct: Regulating Prostitution in Late Colonial Bombay*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2009. 52-78 or 79-99.

Tambe, Ashwini. "Hierarchies of Subalternity: Managed Stratification in Bombay's Brothels, 1914-1930." In *The Limits of British Colonial Control in South Asia: Spaces of Disorder in the Indian Ocean Region*, edited by Ashwini Tambe and Harald Fischer-Tiné. 192-207. Oxon: Routledge, 2009.

Warren, James F. *Ah Ku and Karayuki-san: Prostitution in Singapore 1870-1940*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. 225-256.

**Session 5 (25.04.24) Institutions of Deviance: Lunatic Asylums, Prisons,
Workhouses and Lock Hospitals***Mandatory readings:*

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 165-185.

(pick one):

Dikötter, Frank. "A paradise for rascals': Colonialism, Punishment and the Prison in Hong Kong (1841-1898)." *Crime, Histoire & Sociétés* 8, no. 1 (2004): 49-63.

Loh, Kah Seng. "Mental Illness in Singapore: A History of a Colony, Port City, and Coolie Town." *East Asian Science, Technology and Society: An International Journal* 10, no. 2 (2016): 121-140.

Mills, James H. *Madness, Cannabis and Colonialism: The 'Native-Only' Lunatic Asylums of British India, 1857-1900*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2000. 43-65.

Wald, Erica. *Vice in the Barracks: Medicine, the Military and the Making of Colonial India, 1780-1868*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. 48-83.

Wu, Harry Yi-Jui. "Relaying Station for Empires' Outcasts: Managing 'Lunatics' in Pre-World War II Hong Kong." *History of Psychiatry* 33, no. 3 (2022): 319-332.

Recommended readings:

Coleborne, Catharine. *Insanity, Identity and Empire: Immigrants and Institutional Confinement in Australia and New Zealand, 1873-1910*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2015. 51-113.

Edington, Claire. *Beyond the Asylum: Mental Illness in French Colonial Vietnam*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019. 55-120.

Ernst, Waltraud. *Mad Tales from the Raj: Colonial Psychiatry in South Asia, 1800-58* (London: Anthem Press, 2010. 39-67.

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 233-323.

Jackson, Will. *Madness and Marginality: The Lives of Kenya's White Insane*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013. 80-105.

Mills, James H. *Madness, Cannabis and Colonialism: The 'Native-Only' Lunatic Asylums of British India, 1857-1900*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2000. 66-128.

Pieris, Anoma. *Hidden Hands and Divided Landscapes: A Penal History of Singapore's Plural Society*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2009. 62-94.

Session 6 (16.05.24) Mobility and Networks of Deviance: Labour, Trafficking, and Insanity*Mandatory readings:*

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. *Low and Licentious Europeans: Race, Class and 'White Subalternity' in Colonial India*. Hyderabad: Orient BlackSwan, 2009. 186-203.

(pick one):

Atkinson, Justine. "On Their Own Element': Nineteenth-century Seamen's Missions and Merchant Seamen's Mobility." In *Empire and Mobility in the Long Nineteenth Century*, edited by David Lambert and Peter Merriman. 92-111. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2020.

Coleborne, Catharine. "Consorting with 'Others': Vagrancy Laws and Unauthorised Mobility across Colonial Borders in New Zealand from 1877 to 1900." *Empire and Mobility in the Long Nineteenth Century*, edited by David Lambert and Peter Merriman. 136-151. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2020.

Jackson, Will. "Unsettled States: Madness and Migration in Cape Town, c. 1920." In *Migration and Mental Health: Past and Presented*, ed. Marjory Harper. 85-104. London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

Kim, Diana S. *Empires of Vice: The Rise of Opium Prohibition across Southeast Asia*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2020. 28-53.

Warren, James F. *Ah Ku and Karayuki-san: Prostitution in Singapore 1870-1940*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993. 67-99.

Recommended readings:

Camiscioli, Elisa. *Selling French Sex: Prostitution, Trafficking, and Global Migrations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024. 1-19, 86-121.

Coleborne, Catharine. *Insanity, Identity and Empire: Immigrants and Institutional Confinement in Australia and New Zealand, 1873-1910*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2015. 20-50.

Datta, Arunima. "'Pony Up!' Managing Destitution among Grooms from Australia in British India." *Labour History* 122 (2022): 155-79.

Keusch, Nicole. "Migration and Prostitution." In *Selling Sex in the City: A Global History of Prostitution, 1600s-2000s*, edited by Magaly Rodríguez García, Lex Heerma van Voss, and Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk. 707-729. Leiden: Brill, 2017.

Levine, Philippa. "White Women's Sexuality in Colonial Settings." *Prostitution, Race, and Politics: Policing Venereal Disease in the British Empire* (New York: Routledge, 2003), 231-256.

Wright, Ashley. "Maintaining the Bar: Regulating European Barmaids in Colonial Calcutta and Rangoon." *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History* 45, no. 1 (2017): 22-45.

Session 7 (30.05.24) Conclusion: Boundaries of Deviance and Legacies of Colonial Deviance*Mandatory readings:*

Fischer-Tiné, Harald. "Liquid Boundaries: Race, Class and Alcohol in Colonial India." In *A History of Alcohol and Drugs in Modern South Asia: Intoxicating Affairs*, edited by Harald Fischer-Tiné and Jana Tschurennev. 89-115. Oxon: Routledge, 2014.

Kolovos, Benita. "Public Drunkenness is No Longer a Crime in Victoria. Why did This Change on Melbourne Cup Day and How Will It Work?" *Guardian*, November 6, 2023. <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/nov/07/public-drunkenness-is-no-longer-a-in-victoria-why-did-this-change-on-melbourne-cup-day-and-how-will-it-work>

Crawford, Julia. "Is Begging a Human Right?" *Swissinfo*, November 8, 2017. https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/business/up-to-the-courts_is-begging-a-human-right/43626890

(pick one):

Chua, J. Y. "The Strange Career of Gross Indecency: Race, Sex, and Law in Colonial Singapore." *Law and History Review* 38, no. 4 (2020): 699-735.

Edington, Claire. *Beyond the Asylum: Mental Illness in French Colonial Vietnam*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019. 181-219.

Jackson, Will. *Madness and Marginality: The Lives of Kenya's White Insane*. Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2013. 150-179.

Loh, Kah Seng and Ee Heok Kua and Rathi Mahendran. "Mental Health and Psychiatry in Singapore: From Asylum to Community Care." In *Mental Health in Asia and the Pacific: Historical and Cultural Perspectives*, edited by Harry Minas and Milton Lewis. 193-204. New York: Springer, 2017.

Yoo, Theodore Jun, *It's Madness: The Politics of Mental Health in Colonial Korea*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2016. 109-141.

Recommended readings:

Pliley, Jessica R., Robert Kramm, and Harald Fischer-Tiné. "A Plea for a 'Vicious Turn' in Global History." In *Global Anti-Vice Activism: Fighting Drinks, Drugs, and "Immorality"*, edited by Jessica R. Pliley, Robert Kramm, and Harald Fischer-Tiné. 1-29. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.

Kufakurinani, Ushehweu. "Empire and Sexual Deviance: Debating White Women's Prostitution in Early 20th Century Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia." In *Subverting Empire: Deviance and Disorder in the British Colonial World*, edited by Will Jackson and Emily J. Manktelow. 205-255. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.