







Labour Studies (LBST) 415

Sex Work and Sex Workers (Revision 1)

Status:	Replaced with new revision, see the course listing  for the current revision 
Delivery mode:	Individualized study online 
Credits:	3
Areas of study:	Arts or Social Science
Prerequisites:	None. Prior course work in labour studies or women and gender studies is recommended.
Precluded:	None
Challenge:	LBST 415 is not available for challenge.
Faculty:	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 

Overview

LBST 415: Sex Work and Sex Workers is a three-credit, senior-level course that introduces you to sex work in Canada. This course offers an overview of the sex industry in a variety of theoretical and material contexts, as well as an in-depth focus on sex work in the Canadian context.

This course examines conflicting views about sex work and sex workers, and how those views play out in legislative approaches and how those approaches impact sex workers. In addition to reading key texts by scholarly experts on the sex industry, we will hear from sex workers themselves about their jobs, experiences, and policy recommendations.

Outline

- Unit 1: Introduction
- Unit 2: Sex, Work, and Sex Work
- Unit 3: Critical Discourses on Sexuality and Labour
- Unit 4: Sex Work and the Law
- Unit 5: Indigenous Experiences of Sex Work
- Unit 6: International Migration and Sex Tourism
- Unit 7: Other Actors in the Sex Industry

Learning outcomes

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the functioning of the modern sex industry (including its scope, history, and dynamics) from a labour-relations perspective.
- Articulate the main legislative approaches to the regulations of sex work, including the purposes, strengths, and weaknesses of each approach.
- Identify how intersectionality affects sex work and sex-work policy.
- Analyze sex workers' labour conditions in order to recommend policy changes that will improve safety, income, and stability.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for LBST 415, you must achieve a minimum grade of **D (50 percent)** [↗](#) or better on the final examination and an overall grade of at least D (50 percent) on the entire course.

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Telephone Quiz	10%
Assignment 2: Short Essay	20%
Assignment 3: Term Paper Outline	10%
Assignment 4: Term Paper	40%
Final Online Examination	20%
Total	100%

The **final examination** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the **Exams and grades** [↗](#) section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

Materials





Mac, J., & Smith, M. (2018). *Revolting prostitutes: The fight for sex workers' rights*. Brooklyn, NY: Verso. [📖](#) (Print)

Durisin, E., van der Meulen, E., & Bruckert, C. (Eds.). (2018). *Red light labour: Sex work regulations, agency, and resistance*. Vancouver: UBC Press. [📖](#) (Print)

Other Materials

In addition to the textbooks, you will read a variety of reports, articles, and book chapters. Directions for securing these additional online readings are included in the course.

Important links

- › [Academic advising](#) 
- › [Program planning](#) 
- › [Request assistance](#) 
- › [Support services](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 1, November 13, 2019

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