HIS 201Q Youth and Gender in the Modern World
Seminar in Cross-Cultural Women and gender History, Fall 2012
Mondays 2-5 p.m., SSH 2202

Professor Corrie Decker
Office: SSH 3227
Email: crdecker@ucdavis.edu
Office Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. or by appointment

Course Description:
This year’s Cross-Cultural Women and gender History (CCWgH) course examines the history of youth and gender in the modern world. The global discourse on adolescence begins in earnest in the twentieth century. From G. Stanley Hall’s groundbreaking psychological study of adolescence in the late nineteenth century to the role of the younger generations in the Arab Spring, teenagers and youth have often been the barometer of national cultures and crises. The fact that young people are often the first to embrace global trends adds to their problematization. We will discuss shifting theories of adolescence as a gendered social category, as well as the role of sexuality, politics, economics, and culture in the history of youth in the Americas, Europe, Africa, and Asia.

This year’s Guest of Seminar will be Lynn Thomas, Professor and Chair of the Department of History at the University of Washington. During her visit on October 15th she will speak about her participation in the “Modern Girl Around the World” project resulting in the publication of The Modern Girl Around the World: Modernity, Consumption, and Globalization (Duke, 2008). She will also give a talk on her current research on Monday, October 15th at 12:00 p.m. in 2203 SSH.

For more information about the CCWgH please go to http://old.history.ucdavis.edu/ccwh/.

Required Books:
Betty Anderson, The American University of Beirut: Arab Nationalism and Liberal Education (University of Texas, 2011)
James Farrer, Opening Up: Youth Sex Culture and Market Reform in Shangai (University of Chicago, 2002)
Mark Fenemore, Sex, Thugs and Rock 'N' Roll: Teenage Rebels in Cold-War East Germany (Berghahn Books, 2009)
Andrew Ivaska, Cultured States: Youth, Gender, and Modern Style in 1960s Dar es Salaam (Duke, 2011)
Richard Jobs, Riding the New Wave: Youth and the Rejuvenation of France After the Second World War (Stanford University Press, 2007)
Margaret Mead, *Coming of Age in Samoa: A Psychological Study of Primitive Youth for Western Civilisation* (William Morrow Paperbacks, 2001)

**Course Requirements:**
- 50% Class participation including:
  - Informed, regular engagement in seminar discussion.
  - Presentation on one week’s readings. On the day of your presentation, you will work with the professor to facilitate discussion.
  - Written 2-page response on the readings posted to SmartSite Forums by 5 p.m. every Sunday before class.
- 50% 15-20-page paper due at the end of the quarter consisting of either:
  - Historiographical discussion of readings in your field on a theme related to the course, or
  - Research paper that builds on literature from the course and contributes to our understanding of the history of adolescence or youth.

**Schedule of Readings**

**October 1: Discovering and Defining Adolescence**
Margaret Mead, *Coming of Age in Samoa: A Psychological Study of Primitive Youth for Western Civilisation* (William Morrow Paperbacks, 2001 [1928])

**October 8: “Deviant” Boys**
Don Romesburg, “‘Wouldn’t a Boy Do?’”: Placing Early-Twentieth-Century Male Youth Sex Work into Histories of Sexuality,” *Journal of the History of Sexuality* 18:3 (September 2009), 367-392

**October 15: Modern Girls**
*Guest of Seminar: Lynn Thomas*
October 22: Postwar Politics of Youth

October 29: Fathers and Daughters
Corrie Decker, “Fathers, Daughters, and Institutions: Coming of Age in Mombasa’s Colonial Schools,” in *Girlhood: A Global History*, ed by Helgren and Vasconcellos (Rutgers, 2010), 268-288

November 5: Sexual Revolutions

November 12 – Veteran’s Day, No Class

November 19: Counter-Culture
Mark Fenemore, *Sex, Thugs and Rock 'N' Roll: Teenage Rebels in Cold-War East Germany* (Berghahn Books, 2009)
Optional: Film, “This is England” (2007) on reserve in Shields Library

November 26: Youth and Politics in the Middle East
Betty Anderson *The American University of Beirut: Arab Nationalism and Liberal Education* (University of Texas, 2011)

December 3: Global Markets and Youth Culture
Recommended Readings:


Emma Latham, “The Liverpool Boys’ Association and the Liverpool Union of Youth Clubs: Youth Organizations and Gender, 1940-70,” *Journal of Contemporary History* 35:3 (July 2000), 423-437


Generations in East African History


*Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* (Johns Hopkins University Press)