



Seminar

JULIE HARDWICK

Professor of History, University of Texas at Austin

*Sex and the Early Modern City:
Historicizing Gender and Sexuality
in Early Modern France*

Thursday, 13 March, 4:15 p.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala
www.swedishcollegium.se

In collaboration with *Department of History, Uppsala University*

S W E D I S H
C O L L E G I U M
for ADVANCED STUDY



ABOUT JULIE HARDWICK

Julie Hardwick is Professor of History at University of Texas at Austin since 2009. She received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1991. Currently, she is a Visiting Researcher at the Department of History, Uppsala University, where she is involved in the ongoing research project on “Gender and Work in Early Modern Sweden (1550-1800)”.

Hardwick’s main areas of interest are early modern social and cultural history, legal history, and women’s history. Among her recent publications is *Family Business: Litigation and the Political Economies of Daily Life in Early Modern France* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

ABSTRACT

The American TV series *Sex and the City* provided an iconic, if highly stylized, framing of the dynamics of the leisure and labor for young urban single women in New York. The female lead actors’ attitudes towards dating, sex and shopping as well as work became immensely popular signifiers of a particular *fin de siècle* culture in western society. More than three hundred years ago, in another major city that likewise was not its nation’s capital but was an economic, cultural and international hotspot, thousands of young people were employed in textile production in France’s second city, Lyon. Lyon was an international center for European publishing and trade as well as luxury textile production. This project explores how class, labor and leisure intersected with young working people’s social lives and especially with the intimate consensual relationships young couples formed in the decade or so between leaving their parents’ homes and getting married. It aims to frame the historically specific contours of the long history of gender and sexuality by exploring early modern contingencies and structures.