Paper 19: Women, Gender and Paid Work in Britain since c. 1850

Part II Specified Paper, 2021-22

Convenor: Dr Helen McCarthy
Other teachers: Dr Deborah Thom, Dr Lucy Delap, Professor Peter Mandler

This paper enables students to explore change and continuity in women's working lives in Britain since the mid 19th century. This period witnessed a set of wide-reaching transformations in the character of the British economy and state, in the size and shape of the family and household, and in ideologies of feminism and sexual politics, all of which affected women's status in the labour market in profound ways. By the end of the twentieth century, recorded employment rates amongst women were dramatically higher than a hundred years previously, women's presence in senior-level professional and managerial posts was considerable, and combining paid work with motherhood had become increasingly commonplace. Yet this paper does not advance a simplistic story of linear 'progress' towards women's workplace equality. Students will grapple with a rich set of complex and contested narratives, from struggles over pay, occupational sex-typing and childcare, to the impact of two world wars, anti-discrimination legislation and feminist activism in all its varieties. The paper will explore diverse histories of women's wage-earning as shaped by class, marital status, age and ethnicity, as well as the dynamics of regional labour markets and occupational 'traditions'. By adopting gender as a tool of analysis, we will examine how women's paid work has acquired its meaning in relation to normative ideas about the primacy of men's careers and earnings, as well as assumptions about what constitutes 'male' and 'female' work. In addition to lectures and supervisions, four two-hour classes will invite students to reflect on the different lenses which historians have adopted in order to recover and interpret women's paid work, from official statistics and social investigation to representations in popular culture and women's own life writing and oral testimonies.

Provisional programme:

The course will be delivered through sixteen one-hour lectures, four two-hour classes, two one-hour revision classes and six supervisions (32 contact hours in total). The latter will be taught in groups of one, two or three students by Dr McCarthy or Dr Thom, depending on topic choice. Enrolment will be capped at 16, with most supervisions taking place in LT.

Michaelmas Term Lectures: (broadly covering 1850 – 1945)

(All lectures delivered by Helen McCarthy, unless otherwise stated)

Week One: Introduction: Historicising Women's Paid Work
Week Two: Gender, Wage-Earning and 'Skill'
Week Three: Welfare, Protection and 'Sweated' Work
Week Four: Women, Trade Unions and Workplace Activism (DT)
Week Five: Women and Domestic Service (LD)
Week Six: Class, 'Respectability' and White-Collar Work
Week Seven: Women's War Work (DT)
Week Eight: Paid Work, Leisure, and Domestic Labour

Lent Term Lectures: (Broadly covering 1945 to the present)

Week One: Sex Work, Sex at Work (DT and HM)
Week Two: Gender, Work and the Post-War Welfare State
Week Three: Education, Training and Career Choice (PM)
Week Four: Work, Marriage and Motherhood
Week Five: Race, Ethnicity and Migrant Women's Working Lives
Week Six: Feminism, Activism and Workplace Rights (LD)
Week Seven: Inequality and Labour Market Polarisation in 1980s Britain
Week Eight: Women, Family and Work from New Labour to Covid-19

Michaelmas Term Classes:

1. Observing women's work: social investigation and social research (HM & DT)
2. Narrating the self: paid work, identity and subjectivity (HM & DT)

Lent Term Classes:

3. Feminist perspectives on paid work (HM and LD)
4. Representing women's work in popular culture (HM & DT)

Indicative Reading List:

General:

Gregory Anderson, ed., *The White-Blouse Revolution: female office workers since 1870* (Manchester, 1988)

Celia Briar, *Working for Women? Gendered Work and Welfare Policies in Twentieth-Century Britain* (London, 1997)

Sara Connolly and Mary Gregory, 'Women and Work since 1970' in Nicholas Crafts, Ian Gazeley and Andrew Newell, *Work and Pay in Twentieth-Century Britain* (Oxford, 2007), pp. 142-177

Krista Cowman and Louise Jackson, eds, *Women and Work Culture: Britain c.1850-1950* (Aldershot, 2005)

Leonore Davidoff and Belinda Westover, eds., *Our Work, Our Lives, Our Words: Women's History and Women's Work* (Basingstoke, 1986)

Kathleen E Gales and PH Marks, 'Twentieth Century Trends in the Work of Women in England and Wales' *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* 137 (1974)

Emma Griffin, *Bread Winner: An Intimate History of the Victorian Economy* (London, 2020)

Edward Higgs, 'Women, occupations and work in the nineteenth century censuses' *HWJ* 23 (1987)

Edward Higgs and Amanda Wilkinson, 'Women, occupations and work in the Victorian censuses revisited' *HWJ* 87 (2016) pp. 17-38

Marie Hicks, *Programmed Inequality: how Britain discarded women technologists and lost its edge in computing* (Cambridge MA, 2017)

Janet Howarth, *Women in Britain: Voices and Perspectives from Twentieth Century History* (London, 2018)

Gerry Holloway, *Women and Work in Britain since 1840* (London, 2005)

Pat Hudson and WR Lee, eds., *Women's work and the family economy in historical perspective* (1990)

Kristina Huneault, *Difficult Subjects: Working Women and Visual Culture, Britain 1880-1914* (Farnham, 2002).

Jane Humphries, *Childhood and Child Labour in the British Industrial Revolution* (Cambridge, 2010)

Angela V John, *Unequal Opportunities: Women's Employment in England, 1800 – 1918* (Oxford, 1986)
Helen McCarthy, *Double Lives: A History of Working Motherhood* (London, 2020)
Ivy Pinchbeck, *Women Workers and the Industrial Revolution 1750 – 1850* (London, 1981 [1930])
E Richards, 'Women in the British economy since about 1700: an interpretation' *History* 59 (1974), pp. 337-47
Pamela Sharpe, 'Continuity and change: women's history and economic history in Britain' *Economic History Review* 48 (1995), pp. 353-69
Kathleen Sherit, *Women on the Front Line: British Servicewomen's Path to Combat* (Amberley, 2020)
Louise Tilly and Joan Scott, *Women, Work and Family* (London, 1978)
Ina Zweiniger-Bargielowska, ed., *Women in Twentieth-Century Britain* (Harlow, 2001)

Essay Topics (corresponding to weekly lectures)

Gender, Wage-Earning and 'Skill'

The valuing of women's industrial work; the nature and drivers of horizontal and vertical segregation in the workplace; regional, occupational and ethnic dynamics and differences; the gendering of notions of 'skill'; the dynamics of wage-setting; the ideological power of the 'male breadwinner family'; gendered conflict in the workplace.

Sally Alexander, 'Men's Fears and Women's Work: Responses to Unemployment in London between the Wars' *Gender and History* 12 (2000), pp. 401-25
Caroline Bressey, 'Black women and work in England, 1880 – 1920' in Mary Davis, ed., *Class and Gender in British Labour History: Renewing the Debate (or Starting It?)* (Pontypool, 2011), pp. 117-132
Griselda Carr, *Pit Women: coal communities in northern England in the early 20th century* (2001)
Josie Castle, 'Factory work for women: Courtaulds and GEC between the Wars' in Bill Lancaster and Tony Mason, eds., *Life and Labour in a Twentieth Century City: The Experience of Coventry* (Coventry, 1986), pp. 133-171
Colin Creighton 'Richard Oastler, factory legislation and the working-class family' *Journal of Historical Sociology* 5 (1992), pp. 292-320
Miriam Glucksmann, *Women Assemble: women workers and the new industries in inter-war Britain* (London, 1990)
Nigel Goose, ed., *Women's work in industrial England: regional and local perspectives* (Hatfield, 2007)
R Gray, 'Factory legislation and the gendering of jobs in the north of England, 1830-1860' *Gender and History,* 5 (1993), pp. 56-80
TJ Hatton and RE Bailey, 'Female Labour Force Participation in Interwar Britain' *Oxford Economic Papers* 40 (1988), pp. 695 – 718.
Margaret Hewitt, *Wives and Mothers in Victorian Industry* (London, 1958)
Katrina Honeyman, 'Sweat and sweating: women workers and trade unionists in the Leeds clothing trade, 1880 to 1980' in Mary Davis, ed., *Class and Gender in British Labour History: Renewing the Debate (or Starting It?)* (Pontypool, 2011), pp. 55-75
Sara Horrell and Jane Humphries, 'The origins and expansion of the male breadwinner family: the case of nineteenth century Britain' *International Review of Social History,* 5 (1997) pp. 25-64
Angela John, *By the Sweat of their Brow: Women Workers at Victorian Coal Mines* (London, 1984)
Laura Lee Downs, *Manufacturing Inequality: Gender Division in the French and British Metalworking Industries, 1914 – 1939* (London, 1995)
Judy Lown, *Women and Industrialization: Gender at Work in Nineteenth-Century England* (Cambridge, 1990)
Carol Morgan, *Women Workers and Gender Identities, 1835-1913: The Cotton and Metal Industries in England* (London, 2001)

Andrew Phillips, 'Women on the shop-floor: the Colchester Rag, 1918-50' *Oral History* 22 (Spring 1994)
Rex Pope, Unemployed women in inter-war Britain: the case of the Lancashire weaving district' *Women's History Review*, 9 (2000), pp. 743-759
Jennifer Redmond, *Moving Histories: Irish Women's Emigration to Britain from Independence to Republic* (Liverpool, 2018)
Sonya Rose, *Limited Livelihoods: Gender and Class in Nineteenth-Century England* (London, 1992)
Sonya Rose, 'Gender antagonism and class conflict: exclusionary strategies of male trade unionists in nineteenth-century Britain' *Social History* 13 (1988), pp. 191-208
Mike Savage, 'Trade Unionism, Sex Segregation, and the State: Women's Employment in 'New Industries' in Inter-War Britain' *Social History* 13 (1988), pp. 209-23
Jutta Schwarzkopf, *Unpicking Gender: The Social Construction of Gender in the Lancashire Cotton Weaving Industry, 1880 – 1914* (Farnham, 2004)

Welfare, Protection, and 'Sweated' Work

What late-Victorians/Edwardians meant by 'sweating' and how its meanings were gendered; home-working as a flashpoint for anxieties about sweated labour; debates over women's need for 'protection'; factory legislation and the minimum wage; concerns about the link between women's employment and infant mortality; prostitution as a particular type of 'sweated' work.

Sally Alexander, 'Women's work in nineteenth century London' in Juliet Mitchell and Ann Oakley, eds. *Rights and Wrongs of Women* (London, 1976)
Andrew August, 'How separate a sphere? Poor women and paid work in late-Victorian London' *Journal of Family History*, 19 (1994), pp. 285-309
Andrew August, *Poor Women's Lives: gender, work and poverty in late Victorian London* (1999)
Sheila Blackburn, *A Fair Day's Wage for a Fair Day's Work? Sweated Labour and the Origins of Minimum Wage Legislation in Britain* (Aldershot, 2007)
Duncan Bythell, *Sweated Trades: Outwork in Nineteenth-Century Britain* (London, 1978)
Carl Chinn, *They Worked All Their Lives: Women of the Urban Poor in England, 1880-1939* (Manchester, 1988)
L Davidoff, 'The separation of home and work? Landladies and lodgers in nineteenth and twentieth-century England' in S Burman, ed., *Fit work for women* (Oxford, 1978), pp. 64-97
Carol Dyhouse, 'Working-class mothers and infant mortality in England, 1895-1914' *Journal of Social History,* 12 (1978), pp248-267
B Harrison and H Mockett, 'Women in the factory: the state and factory legislation in nineteenth-century Britain' in L Jamieson and H Corr, eds, *State, Private Life and Political Change* (London, 1990)
B Harrison, *Not Only the 'Dangerous Trades': women's work and health in Britain, 1880-1914* (London, 1996)
Katrina Honeyman, 'Sweat and sweating: women workers and trade unionists in the Leeds clothing trade, 1880 to 1980' in Mary Davis, ed., *Class and Gender in British Labour History: Renewing the Debate (or Starting It?)* (Pontypool, 2011), pp. 55-75
Carolyn Malone, 'The Gendering of Dangerous Trades: Government Regulation of Women's Work in the White Lead Trade in England, 1891-1898' *Journal of Women's History* 8(1996), pp. 1- 35
Carolyn Malone, 'Gendered Discourse and the Making of Protective Labor Legislation in England, 1830-1914' *Journal of British Studies* 73(1998), pp. 166-191.
Ellen Mappen, 'Strategies for Change: Social Feminist Approaches to Problems of Women's Work' in Angela V John, *Unequal Opportunities: Women's Employment in England, 1800 – 1918* (Oxford, 1986), pp. 235-59

Hilary Marland and Vicky Long, 'From Danger and Motherhood to Health and Beauty: Health Advice for the Factory Girl in Early Twentieth-Century Britain' *TCBH* 20 (2009)
Jenny Morris, *Women Workers and the Sweated Trades: The Origins of Minimum Wage Legislation* (Aldershot, 1986)
Shelley Pennington and Belinda Westover, *A Hidden Workforce: Homeworkers in England, 1850 1985* (Basingstoke, 1989)
Helen Rogers, 'The Good are not always powerful, nor the powerful always good: The politics of women's needlework in mid-Victorian London' *Victorian Studies* 40 (1997), pp. 589-623.
James Schmiechen, *Sweated Industries and Sweated Labour: The London Clothing Trades* (Urbana, 1984)

Women, Trade Unionism and Workplace Activism

The extent and nature of women's participation in trade unions; why the late 19th-century women's trade union movement was led by middle-class women; the ideological character of the movement; whether its leaders were 'social feminists'; the attitudes and behaviours of male trade unionists; non-union action and 'everyday' forms of workplace resistance.

Sarah Boston, *Women Workers and the Trade Unions* (London, 3rd ed., 2015)
Sue Bruley, 'A woman's right to work? The role of women in the unemployment movement between the wars' in Sybil Oldfield, ed., *This Working-Day World: Women's Lives and Cultures in Britain, 1914-1945* (London, 1994), pp. 40-53
Rosemary Feurer, 'The Meaning of "Sisterhood": the British Women's Movement and Protective Labour Legislation' *Victorian Studies* 31 (1988), pp. 233-260
Miriam Glucksmann, *Women Assemble: women workers and the new industries in inter-war Britain* (London, 1990)
Pamela Graves, *Labour Women: Women in British Working-Class Politics, 1918-1939* (Cambridge, 1994)
Gerry Holloway, "Let the women be alive!': the construction of the married working woman in the Industrial Women Movement, 1890-1914' in Eileen Yeo, ed., *Radical Femininity: women's self-representation in the public sphere* (Manchester, 1998)
Kristina Huneault, *Difficult Subjects: Working Women and Visual Culture, Britain 1880-1914* (Farnham, 2002), chapter 6
Andrew Phillips, 'Women on the shop-floor: the Colchester Rag-Trade, 1918-50' *Oral History* 22 (1994)
Louise Raw, *Striking a Light: the Bryant and May Matchwomen and their place in history* (London, 2009)
Alastair Reid, *United We Stand: A History of Britain's Trade Uinions* (London, 2004)
Laura Schwartz, 'A Job Like Any Other? Feminist Responses and Challenges to Domestic Worker Organising in Edwardian Britain' *International Labour and Working Class History* 88 (2015) pp. 30-48.
Laura Schwartz, "'What We Feel is Needed is a Union for Domestics Such as the Miners Have": The Domestic Workers' Union of Great Britain and Ireland 1908-1914' *Twentieth-Century British History* 25 (2014), pp. 173-192.
Mike Savage, 'Trade Unionism, Sex Segregation, and the State: Women's Employment in 'New Industries' in Inter-War Britain' *Social History* 13 (1988), pp. 209-23
Deborah Thom, 'Free from chains? The image of women's labour in London, 1900-1920' in David Feldman and Gareth Stedman Jones, eds., *Metropolis London: Histories and representations since 1800* (London, 1989), pp. 85-99
Deborah Thom, 'The Bundle of Sticks: Women, Trade Unionists, and Collective Organisation before 1918' in Angela John, ed., *Unequal Opportunities: Women's Employment in England, 1800-1918* (Oxford, 1986)

Women and Domestic Service

The extent and variety of women's paid domestic work; why domestic service was considered 'suitable' work for women; how domestic service shaped women's 'class' identities; why residential domestic service declined after the First World War and what forms of paid domestic work replaced it (See also later topic for the revival of the domestic service economy in the 1980s and 1990s).

Leonore Davidoff, *Worlds Between: Historical Perspectives on Class and Gender* (London, 1995)
Lucy Delap, *Knowing their Place: domestic service in twentieth-century Britain* (Oxford, 2011)
Lucy Delap, 'Kitchen Sink Laughter: Domestic Service Humour in Twentieth Century Britain', *Journal of British Studies*, 49 (2010), pp. 623-54
Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, *The Rise and Fall of the British Nanny* (London, 1972)
Judy Giles, 'Authority, Dependence and Power in Accounts of Twentieth-Century Domestic Service' in Lucy Delap, Ben Griffin and Abigail Wills, eds, *The Politics of Domestic Authority in Britain since 1800* (Basingstoke, 2009), pp. 204 – 220
Judy Giles, 'Help for Housewives: Domestic Service and the Reconstruction of Domesticity in Britain, 1940-1950' *Women's History Review* 10 (2001), pp. 299-323
Katherine Holden, *Nanny Knows Best: the history of the British nanny* (Stroud, 2013)
P Horn, *The Rise and Fall of the Victorian Servant* (London, 1975) and *Life Below Stairs in the Twentieth Century* (Stroud, 2001)
Kristina Huneault, *Difficult Subjects: Working Women and Visual Culture, Britain 1880-1914* (Farnham, 2002), chapter 2
Lucy Lethbridge, *Servants: A downstairs view of twentieth-century Britain* (London, 2013)
Alison Light, *Mrs Woolf and the Servants* (London, 2007)
Theresa McBride, *The Domestic Revolution* (London, 1976)
Jane McDermid, 'The Making of a 'Domestic' Life: Memories of a Working Woman' *Labour History Review* 73 (2008), pp. 253-268
Samuel Mullins and Gareth Griffiths, *Cap and Apron: An Oral History of Domestic Service in the Shires, 1880–1950* (Leicester, 1986)
Laura Schwartz, 'A Job Like Any Other? Feminist Responses and Challenges to Domestic Worker Organising in Edwardian Britain' *International Labour and Working Class History* 88 (2015) pp. 30-48.
Selina Todd. 'Domestic Service and Class Relations in Britain, 1900 – 1950' *Past & Present* 203 (2009), pp. 181-204
Leonard Schwarz, 'English Servants and their employers during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries' *Economic History Review* 52 (1999), pp. 236-56
Bronwen Walter, 'Strangers on the Inside: Irish Women Servants in England, 1881' *Immigrants and Minorities* 27 (2009), pp. 279-99

Class, 'Respectability' and White-Collar Work

The extent and variety of paid work amongst middle-class women; female business-ownership and enterprise; the growth of white-collar and professional work for women and the gendered practices of employers; how and why some occupations acquired the status of 'respectable' work for women; white-collar work as a route to social mobility or source of identity and community; feminist struggles over access to higher education and professional training; the marriage bar.

Wendy Alexander, 'Early Glasgow women medical graduates' in Eleanor Gordon and Esther Breitenbach, eds., *The World is Ill-Divided: women's work in Scotland in the 19th and early twentieth centuries* (Edinburgh, 1990)

Gregory Anderson, ed., *The White-Blouse Revolution: Female Office Workers since 1870* (Manchester, 1988)

Anne Bridger and Ellen Jordan, *Timely Assistance: The Work of the Society for Promoting the Training of Women, 1859 – 2009* (Ashford, 2009).

Dina Copelman, *Londons Women Teachers: Gender, class and feminism 1870-1930* (London, 1996).

Pamela Cox, 'Shop Girls, Social Theory and Social History' *Revista Breasiliea de Historia* 37 (2017) pp. 243-271 (online open access here: http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?pid=S0102-01882017005005102&script=sci_arttext&tlng=en)

Elizabeth Crawford, *Enterprising Women: The Garretts and their Circle* (London, 2002)

Tracy C Davis, *Actresses as Working Women: Their social identity in Victorian culture* (London, 1991)

Carol Dyhouse, *No Distinction of Sex? Women in British Universities, 1870 – 1939* (London, 1995).

Carol Dyhouse, 'Women Students and the London Medical Schools, 1914–39: The Anatomy of a Masculine Culture' *Gender & History* 10 (1998), pp. 110–132.

Carol Dyhouse, 'Driving ambitions: women in pursuit of a medical education, 1890-1939' *Women's History Review,* 7 (1998), pp. 321-41

Helen Glew, *Gender, Rhetoric and Regulation: Women's Work in the Civil Service and the London County Council, 1900 – 55* (Manchester, 2016).

Eleanor Gordon and Gwyneth Nair 'The economic role of middle-class women in Victorian Glasgow' *Women's History Review* 9 (2000), pp. 791-814

Jenifer Glynn, *The Pioneering Garretts: Breaking the Barriers for Women* (London, 2008)

Julie Hipperson, 'Professional Entrepreneurs: Women Veterinary Surgeons as Small Business Owners in Interwar Britain' *Social History of Medicine* (2017)

Lee Holcombe, *Victorian Ladies at Work: middle-class working women in England and Wales, 1850 – 1914* (London, 1973)

Ellen Jordan, *The Women's Movement and Women's Employment in Nineteenth-Century Britain* (London, 1999)

Alison C. Kay, 'Retailing, Respectability and the Independent Woman in Nineteenth-century London', in Robert Beachy et al, eds, *Women, Business and Finance in Nineteenth-Century Europe: Rethinking Separate Spheres* (Oxford, 2006)

Alison Kay, *The Foundations of Female Entrepreneurship. Enterprise, Home and Household in London, c.1800-1870* (London, 2009).

Helen McCarthy, 'Petticoat Diplomacy: The Admission of Women to the British Foreign Service, c.1919-1946' *Twentieth Century British History* 20 (2009)

Kate Murphy, 'A Marriage Bar of Convenience? The BBC and Married Women's Work, 1923 – 1939' *Twentieth Century British History* 25 (2014), pp. 533–561

Barbara Onslow, *Women of the Press in Nineteenth-Century Britain* (Basingstoke, 2000).

Alison Oram, *Women Teachers and Feminist Politics 1900-1939* (Manchester, 1996)

Linda H Peterson, *Becoming a Woman of Letters: Myths of Authorship and Facts of the Victorian Market* (Princeton, 2009)

Penny Summerfield, ed., *Women, Education and the Professions* (Leicester, 1987)

Gillian Sutherland, *In Search of The New Woman: Middle-Class Women and Work in Britain, 1870 – 1914* (Cambridge, 2015)

Pat Thane, 'Girton Graduates: earning and learning, 1920s – 1980s' *Women's History Review,* 13 (2004), pp. 347-361

Martha Vicinus, *Independent Women: Work and Community for Single Women, 1850 – 1920* (London, 1985)

Meta Zimmeck, 'Jobs for the girls: the expansion of clerical work for women, 1850-1914' in

Angela John, ed., *Unequal Opportunities: Women's Employment in England, 1800-1918* (Oxford, 1986)

Women's War Work

How far the wartime mobilisations altered patterns of women's employment; attitudes towards and experiences of industrial conscription; industrial welfare policies and anxieties about the maternal body; how far war work destabilised or entrenched existing gender inequalities in the labour market; similarities and differences across the two conflicts.

Stephen Bourne, *The Motherland Calls: Britain's black servicemen and women, 1939-45* (Stroud, 2012)
Gail Braybon *Women Workers in the First World War* (London, 1981).
Gail Braybon and Penny Summerfield, *Out of the Cage: Women's Experiences in Two World Wars* (London, 1987).
Susan Carruthers, 'Manning the factories: propaganda and policy on the employment of women, 1939-47' *History,* 75 (1990), pp. 232-56
Richard Croucher, *Engineers at War* (London, 1982)
Julie Fountain "'The Most Interesting Work a Woman can Perform in Wartime": The Exceptional Status of British Women Pilots during the Second World War' *Cultural and Social History* 13 (2016), pp. 213-229.
Susan Grayzel, 'Nostalgia, Gender, and the Countryside: Placing the 'Land Girl' in First World War Britain' *Rural History* 10 (1999), pp. 155-170.
James Hinton, *Nine Wartime Lives: Mass Observation and the Making of the Modern Self* (Oxford, 2010)
Lucy Noakes, *Women in the British Army: War and the gentle sex, 1907-1948* (London, 2006)
Susan Pedersen, *Family, Dependence, and the Origins of the Welfare State: Britain and France, 1914 – 1945* (Cambridge, 1993)
Denise Riley, 'The Free Mothers: pronatalism and working women in industry at the end of the last war in Britain' *HWJ* 11 (1981)
Harold Smith, 'The effect of the war on the status of women' in Smith, ed., *War and Social Change: British Society in the Second World War* (Manchester, 1986)
Harold Smith, 'The Womanpower problem in Britain in the Second World War' *Historical Journal*, 27 (1984) pp. 925-945
Penny Summerfield, 'They didn't want women back in that job': The Second World War and the construction of gendered work histories *Labour History Review* 63 (1998), pp. 83-103
Penny Summerfield, *Reconstructing Women's Wartime Lives*: *Discourse and Subjectivity in Oral Histories of the Second World War* (Manchester, 1998), pp1-42
Penny Summerfield, *Women Workers in the Second World War: Production and Patriarchy in Conflict* (Abingdon, 1984)
Deborah Thom, *Nice Girls and Rude Girls: Women Workers in World War I* (London, 2000)
Deborah Thom, 'Women and work in wartime Britain' in JM Winter and Richard Wall, eds., *The Upheaval of War: family, work and welfare in Europe 1914-1918* (Cambridge, 1988)
Nicola Verdon, 'Left out in the cold: Village women and agricultural labour in England and Wales during the First World War' *Twentieth Century British History* 27 (2016), pp. 1-25.
Chloe Ward, "Something of the Spirit of Stalingrad': British women, their Soviet sisters, propaganda and politics in the Second World War' *Twentieth Century British History* 25 (2014) pp. 435-60.
Wendy Webster, *Mixing It: Diversity in World War Two Britain* (Oxford, 2018)
Bonnie White, *The Women's Land Army in First World War Britain* (Basingstoke, 2014)

Angela Woollacott, *On Her Their Lives Depend: Munitions Workers in the Great War* (London, 1994)
Angela Woollacott, 'Maternalism, professionalism and industrial welfare supervisors in World War I Britain' *Women's History Review* 3 (1994), pp. 29-56.

Paid Work, Leisure, and Domestic Labour

How paid work interlocked with unpaid domestic and reproductive labour; how age and marital and maternal status shaped women's patterns of wage-earning in the household; how women's wage-earning affected fertility patterns and the allocation of household resources, including the entitlement to 'leisure'; how far employment practices (eg marriage bars) and social welfare regimes reinforced the gendered division of domestic labour; the rise of 'housewifery' as a domestic ideology between the wars.

Caitriona Beaumont, *Housewives and Citizens: Domesticity and the Women's Movement in England, 1928 1964* (Manchester, 2013)
Adrian Bingham, 'An Era of Domesticity'? Histories of Women and Gender in Interwar Britain' *Cultural and Social History*, 1 (2004) pp. 225-233
Joanna Bourke, 'Housewifery in working-class England, 1860 – 1914' *Past & Present* 143 (1994), pp. 167-197
Rosemary Crook, '"Tidy Women": women in the Rhondda between the wars' *Oral History*, 10 (1982), pp. 40-46
A Davies, *Leisure, gender and poverty: Manchester and Salford, 1900-1939* (Buckingham, 1992)
Marguerite Dupree, *Family Structure in the Staffordshire Potteries, 1840 – 1880* (Oxford, 1995)
Helen Glew, *Gender, Rhetoric and Regulation: Women's Work in the Civil Service and the London County Council, 1900 – 55* (Manchester, 2016).
Judy Giles, 'Professionalising the Housewife, 1920-50' in Krista Cowman and Louise A Jackson (eds.), *Women and Work Culture: Britain c.1850-1950* (Aldershot, 2005), pp. 70-86
Judy Giles, *Women, Identity and Private Life in Britain, 1900-1950* (Basingstoke, 1995)
Judy Giles, *The Parlour and the Suburb: Domestic Identities, Class, Femininity and Modernity* (Oxford, 2004)
Diana Gittins, *Fair Sex: Family Size and Structure, 1900 – 1939* (London, 1982)
Catherine Hall, 'Married women at home in Birmingham in the 1920s and 1930s' *Oral History* 5 (1977), pp. 62-83.
S Horrell and D Oxlet, 'Breadwinning, family employment and household resource allocation' in CE Nunez, ed., *The microeconomic analysis of the household and the labour market, 1880-1939* (Seville, 1998)
S Horrell and D Oxley, 'Crust or crumb? Intrahousehold resource allocation and male breadwinning in late Victorian Britain' *Economic History Review,* 52 (1999), pp. 494-522
Claire Langhamer, *Women's Leisure in England, 1920-60* (Manchester, 2000)
Susan Pedersen, *Family, Dependence, and the Origins of the Welfare State: Britain and France, 1914 – 1945* (Cambridge, 1993)
N Penlington, 'Masculinity and Domesticity in 1930s South Wales: Did Unemployment change the domestic division of labour?' *Twentieth Century British History* 21 (2010), pp. 281-299.
Melanie Reynolds, *Infant Mortality and Working-Class Child Care* (Basingstoke, 2016)
Elizabeth Roberts, *A Woman's Place: An Oral History of Working-Class Women, 1900 – 1940* (Oxford, 1984)
Ellen Ross, *Love and Toil: Motherhood in Outcast London, 1870 – 1918* (London, 1993)
J Sarsby, *Missuses and mouldrunners: an oral history of women pottery workers at work and at home* (Milton Keynes, 1988)
L Tilly, J Scott and M Cohen, 'Women's work and European fertility patterns' *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* VI (1976)

Selina Todd, *Young women, work and family in England, 1918 – 1950* (Oxford, 2005)

Sex Work, Sex at Work

The feminised character of the sex work industry and the factors drawing women into it; efforts by government and non-governmental actors to suppress or regulate sex work, and to persecute or 'rescue' sex workers; the broader ways in which women's paid labour has been associated with sexual danger; the helpfulness of concepts such as 'parasexuality' 'body work' and 'erotic capital' for analysing gender relations in the workplace. (See also reading for domestic service.)

Lisa Adkins, *Gendered Work: Sexuality, family and the labour market* (1994)
Peter Bailey, 'Parasexuality and Glamour: the Victorian Barmaid as Cultural Prototype' *Gender & History* 2 (1990), pp. 148-172
Catherine Hakim, *Honey Money: The Power of Erotic Capital* (London, 2011).
Leonore Davidoff, *Worlds Between: Historical Perspectives on Class and Gender* (1995), chapter 4 on Hannah Cullwick and Arthur Munby
Tracy C Davis, *Actresses as Working Women: Their social identity in Victorian culture* (London, 1991)
Lucy Delap, *Knowing their Place: domestic service in twentieth-century Britain* (Oxford, 2011), chapter 5
David Gutzke, *Women drinking out in Britain since the early twentieth century* (Manchester, 2013)
Pat Kirkham, 'Fashioning the feminine: dress, appearance and femininity in wartime Britain' in Gledhill, Christine and Swanson, Gillian, eds., *Nationalising femininity: culture, sexuality and British cinema in the Second World War* (Manchester, 1996), pp. 152-174.
Julia Laite, 'Immoral traffic: mobility, health, labor, and the "lorry girl" in Mid-Twentieth Century Britain' *Journal of British Studies* 52 (2012), pp. 693-721.
Julia Laite, *Common Prostitutes and Ordinary Citizens: Commercial Sex in London, 1885-1960* (2012)
Julia Laite. 'Traffickers and pimps in the era of white slavery' *Past & Present* 237 (2017), pp. 237 269
J Lambertz, 'Sexual harassment in the nineteenth-century English cotton industry' *History Workshop Journal* 19 (1985), pp. 29-61.
Emma Liggins, *George Gissing, the Working Woman, and Urban Culture* (Aldershot, 2006).
Katherine Mullin, *Working Girls: Fiction, Sexuality and Modernity* (2016)
Gillian Murphy, 'Taking Work Home: the private secretary and domestic identities in the long 1950s' *Women's History Review* 26 (2017), pp. 62-76
Lynda Nead, *Myths of Sexuality: Representations of Women in Victorian Britain* (Oxford, 1988)
Sandra Richards, *The Rise of the English Actress* (Basingstoke, 1993)
Judith R Walkowitz, 'Feminism and the Politics of Prostitution in King's Cross in the 1980s' *Twentieth Century British History* 30 (2019), pp. 231–263
Judith Walkowitz, *Prostitution and Victorian Society: Women, Class, and the State* (Cambridge, 1980)
Judith Walkowitz, *City of Dreadful Delight: Narratives of Danger in Late-Victorian London* (Chicago, 1992), chapter 3
Carole Wolkowitz, *Bodies at Work* (London, 2006)

Gender, Work and the Post-War Welfare State

How demobilisation and post-war labour shortages affected the size and shape of the female workforce; how far the Beveridgean welfare state institutionalized women's subordinate status in the labour-force; whether anxieties over 'population' and 'Bowlbyism' constrained employment opportunities for mothers of young children.

Caitriona Beaumont, *Housewives and Citizens: Domesticity and the Women's Movement in England, 1928 1964* (Manchester, 2013), chapter 6
Sheila Blackburn, 'How useful are feminist theories of the welfare state?' *Women's History Review* 4 (1995) pp. 369-394
Women's employment in post-war Britain' in Jim Fyrth, ed., *Labour's High Noon: The Government and the Economy, 1945-51* (1993)
Gisela Bock and Pat Thane, eds., *Maternity and Gender Policies: Women and the Rise of the European Welfare States 1880s – 1950s* (London, 1991)
Celia Briar, *Working for Women? Gendered Work and Welfare Policies in Twentieth-Century Britain* (London, 1997)
Susan Carruthers, 'Manning the factories: propaganda and policy on the employment of women, 1939-47' *History,* 75 (1990), pp. 232-56
David Coleman, Coleman, 'Population and Family' in AH Halsey with Josephine Webb, eds., *Twentieth-Century British Social Trends* (Basingstoke, 2000), pp. 27-93
William Crofts, *Coercion or Persuasion? Propaganda in Britain after 1945* (London, 1989)
Angela Davis, *Pre-School childcare in England, 1939-2010: Theory, practice and experience* (Manchester, 2015), chapters 2-3
Jane Lewis, *Women in Britain Since 1945* (Oxford, 1992), chapter 4
Susan Pedersen, *Family, Dependence, and the Origins of the Welfare State: Britain and France, 1914 – 1945* (Cambridge, 1993)
Vicky Randall, *The Politics of Child Daycare in Britain* (Oxford, 2000)
Denise Riley, 'The Free Mothers': pronatalism and working women in industry at the end of the last war in Britain' *History Workshop Journal*, 11 (1981), pp. 59-118
Denise Riley, *War in the Nursery: Theories of the Child and Mother* (London, 1983)
Pat Thane, 'Population Politics in Post-War British Culture' in Becky Conekin, Frank Mort and Chris Waters, eds., *Moments of Modernity: Reconstructing Britain, 1945-1964* (London, 1999), pp. 114-133.
Elizabeth Wilson, *Women and the Welfare State* (London, 1977)

Women, Education and Career Choice

Gender differences in educational achievement and progression to higher education; whether the post-war education system prescribed marriage and motherhood for girls; continuity and change in the jobs and careers deemed suitable for women; why so many middle-class women went into teaching in the post-war decades; whether education was a route to occupational mobility for working-class women.

Lynn Abrams, 'Liberating the self: epiphanies, conflict and coherence in the life stories of post-war British women' *Social History* 39 (2014), pp. 14-35.
Sarah Aiston, 'A Good Job for a Girl? The Career Biographies of Woman Graduates of the University of Liverpool post-1945' *Twentieth Century British History,* 15 (2004), pp. 361-387.
Madeleine Arnot, Miriam David and Gaby Weiner, eds., *Closing the Gender Gap: Postwar Education and Social Change* (Cambridge, 1999)
Laura Carter, 'Briefing Paper: Gender' (ESRC Project: Secondary Education and Social Change in the United Kingdom since 1945, University of Cambridge, 2018), available for download here: https://sesc.hist.cam.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Briefing-paper-Gender.pdf
Carol Dyhouse, 'Graduates, mothers and graduate mothers: family investment in higher education in twentieth-century England' *Gender and Education*, 14 (2002)
Sian Edwards, 'Nothing gets her goat!' The Farmer's Wife and the Duality of Rural Femininity in

the Young Farmers' Club Movement in 1950s Britain' *Women's History Review* 26 (2017) pp. 26-45
Liz Heron, ed., *Truth, Dare or Promise? Girls Growing Up in the Fifties* (London, 1985)
Mary Ingham, *Now We Are Thirty: Women of the Breakthrough Generation* (London, 1981)
Henrietta O'Connor and John Goodwin, J. (2004) 'She Wants To Be Like Her Mum': Girls' Experience Of The School-To-Work Transitions in the 1960s,' *Journal of Education and Work* 17 (2004) pp. 95-118.
Henrietta O'Connor and John Goodwin, 'Ordinary Lives: 'Typical Stories' of Girls' Transitions in the 1960s and the 1980s' *Sociological Research Online* 18 (2013)
Anna Pollert, *Girls, Wives, Factory Lives* (1981)
Sue Sharpe, *Just Like a Girl: How Girls Learn to be Women* (London, 1976).
Dale Spender and Elizabeth Sarah, eds, *Learning to Lose: Sexism and Education* (London, 1980)
Stephanie Spencer, *Gender, Work and Education in Britain in the 1950s* (Basingstoke, 2005)
Pat Thane, 'Girton Graduates: earning and learning, 1920s-1980s' *Women's History Review,* 13 (2004), pp. 347-361
Eve Worth, 'A Tale of Female Liberation? The Long Shadow of De-Professionalisation on the Lives of Post-War Women' *Revue Français Britannique* XXIII (2018)

Work, Marriage and Motherhood

Changing patterns of employment over the female life-course and the rise of the 'dual role' model; the extent to which the dual role was a cross-class phenomenon; the growing significance of part-time work for wives and mothers; the extent to which growth in married women's employment altered divisions of labour in the home; the extent to which working motherhood became socially acceptable or even aspirational in this period.

Lynn Abrams, Barry Hazley, Valerie Wright and Ade Kearns, 'Aspiration, Agency, and the Production of New Selves in a Scottish New Town, c.1947–c.2016' *Twentieth Century British History* 29 (2018), pp. 576-604.
Stephen Brooke, 'Gender and working class identity in Britain in the 1950s' *Journal of Social History* 34 (2001), pp. 773-95
Angela Davis and Laura King, 'Gendered Perspectives on Men's Changing Familial Roles in Postwar England, c.1950–1990' *Gender & History,* published online March 2018, https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0424.12333
Angela Davis, 'Women's experiences of combining childcare and careers in post-war Oxfordshire c.1940-1990' *The Local Historian*, 43 (2013), pp. 14-25
Janet Finch and Penny Summerfield, 'Social Reconstruction and the Emergence of Companionate Marriage' in David Clark, ed., *Marriage, Domestic Life and Social Change* (London, 1991), pp. 6-27
Anna Danzier Halperin, "Cinderella of the Education System': Margaret Thatcher's Plan for Nursery Expansion in 1970s Britain' *Twentieth Century British History* 29 (2018), pp. 284-308.
Laura King, *Family Men: Fatherhood and Masculinity in Britain, 1914-60* (Oxford, 2015)
Clare Langhamer, 'Feelings, Women and Work in the Long 1950s' *Women's History Review* 26 (2017), pp. 77-92.
Jane Lewis, 'Myrdal, Klein, *Women's Two Roles* and postwar feminism' in Harold Smith, ed., *British Feminism in the Twentieth Century* (Aldershot, 1990), pp167-188
Jane Lewis, 'The Failure to Expand Childcare Provision and to Develop a Comprehensive Childcare Policy in Britain during the 1960s and 1970s' *Twentieth Century British History* 24 (2013) pp. 249-274
Helen McCarthy, 'Women, marriage and paid work in post-war Britain' *Women's History Review* 26

(2017), pp. 46-61
Helen McCarthy, 'Social Science and Married Women's Employment in Post-War Britain' *Past & Present* 233 (2016), pp. 269-305
Dolly Smith Wilson, 'A New Look at the Affluent Worker: The Good Working Mother in Post-War Britain' *Twentieth-Century British History,* 17(2), 2006, pp. 206-229
Selina Todd, *The People: The Rise and Fall of the Working Class 1910 – 2010* (London, 2014), chapters 9-10
Margaret Williamson, '"I'm going to get a job at the factory": attitudes to women's employment in a mining community, 1945-65' *Women's History Review* 12 (2003), pp. 407-421.
Jim Tomlinson and Carlo Morelli, 'Women and Work after the Second World War: A Case Study of the Jute Industry, 1945-1954 *Twentieth Century British History* 19 (2008), pp.61-82
Elizabeth Roberts, *Women and Families: An Oral History, 1940 – 1970* (Oxford, 1995)
Penny Summerfield, 'Women in Britain since 1945: Companionate Marriage and the Double Burden' in J Obelkevich and P Catterall, eds., *Understanding Post-war British Society* (London, 1994)
Paul Gregg, 'The Employment of Married Mothers in Great Britain, 1974–2000' *Economica* 74 (2007)
Paul Gregg, M Gutierrez-Domenech and J Waldfogel, *The Employment of Married Mothers in Great Britain: 1974-2000* (LSE, 2003)
Maire Ni Bhrolchain, 'Women's paid work and the timing of births: longitudinal evidence' *European Journal of Population* 2 (1986), pp. 43-7
Maire Ni Bhrolchain, 'The interpretation and role of work-associated accelerated child-bearing in post-war Britain' *European Journal of Population* 2 (1986), pp. 135-54

Race, Ethnicity and Migrant Women's Working Lives

How migrant women's employment patterns differed from those of white, British-born women, and the factors behind those differences; experiences of racism in the workplace; the identification of migrant groups with particular occupations; the significance of empire and its racialized legacies for women of colour in Britain; the existence of the 'ethnic economy' and women's place within it; black and minority ethnic women's growing involvement with trade union politics in 1970s.

Jordanna Bailkin, *The Afterlife of Empire* (Berkeley, 2012), chapter 5
Enda Delaney, *Demography, State and Society: Irish Migration to Britain, 1921-1971* (Liverpool, 2000)
Elyse Dodgson, *Motherland: West Indian Women to Britain in the 1950s* (London, 1984),
Joanna Herbert and Richard Rodger, 'Narratives of South Asian Muslim women in Leicester, 1964-2004' *Oral History,* 36(2), 2008, pp54-63
Haifaa Jawad and Tansin Benn, eds., *Muslim women in the United Kingdom and beyond: Experiences and images* (Brill, 2003)
Gail Lewis, 'Black women's employment and the British economy' in Winston James, Clive Harris ed, *Inside Babylon: the Caribbean diaspora in Britain* (1993)
Linda McDowell, *Working Lives: Gender, Migration and Employment in Britain, 1945 – 2007* (Chichester, 2013)
Linda McDowell, *Migrant Women's Voices: talking about life and work in the UK since 1945* (London, 2016)
Louise Ryan and Wendy Webster, eds., *Gendering Migration: Masculinity, Femininity and Ethnicity in Post-War Britain* (London, 2008)
Diana Kay and Robert Miles, *Refugees or migrant workers? European Volunteer Workers in Britain, 1946-51* (London, 1992)

Kennetta Hammond Perry, *London Is the Place for Me: Black Britons, Citizenship, and the Politics of Race* (Oxford, 2016)
Annie Phizacklea, ed., *One Way Ticket: Migration and Female Labour* (London, 1983)
Jennifer Redmond, *Moving Histories: Irish Women's Emigration to Britain from Independence to Republic* (Liverpool, 2018)
Z Nia Reynolds, *When I Came to England: An oral history of life in 1950s and 1960s Britain* (London, 2001)
Stephanie Snow and Emma Jones, 'Immigration and the National Health Service: putting history to the forefront' (History & Policy, 2011), available at: http://www.historyandpolicy.org/policy-papers/papers/immigration-and-the-national-health-service-putting-history-to-the-forefron
Anitha Sundari and Ruth Pearson, *Striking women: struggles and strategies of South Asian women workers from Grunwick to Gate Gourmet* (London, 2018)
Wendy Webster, *Imagining Home: Gender, 'Race' and National Identity, 1945–1964* (London, 1998)
Clair Wills, *Lovers and Strangers: An Immigrant history of Postwar Britain* (London, 2017)
Amrit Wilson, *Finding a Voice: Asian Women in Britain* (1978)

Feminism, Industrial Action and Workplace Rights

New feminist critiques and activism around workplace rights in the 1970s; women's growing visibility in trade union activism; the origins and impact of sex discrimination legislation; the growth in maternal employment rates; mounting demands for public investment in daycare provision; how far women's changing aspirations around paid work help to explain demographic change in the 1970s. (See also reading list for class one)

Jacqueline Burgoyne, 'Rethinking the Family Life Cycle: Sexual Divisions, Work and Domestic Life in the Post-war Period' in Alan Bryman, Bill Bytheway, Patricia Allatt and Teresa Keil, eds., *Rethinking the Life Cycle* (Basingstoke, 1987) pp. 72-87
P Byrne and J Lovenduski, 'Sex equality and the law in Britain' *British Journal of Law and Society* 5 (1978), pp. 148-65
Sheila Cohen, 'Equal pay – or what? Economics, Politics and the 1968 sewing machinists' strike' *Labour History* 53(1), 2012, pp51-68
Anna Coote and Beatrice Campbell, *Sweet Freedom: the Struggle for Women's Liberation* (London, 2nd ed, 1987)
Lucy Delap 'Feminist Bookshops, Reading Cultures and the Women's Liberation Movement in Great Britain, c. 1974–2000' *History Workshop Journal*, 81 (2016), pp. 171–196
Laura Levine Frader, 'International Institutions and Domestic Reform: Equal Pay and British Membership in the European Economic Community, *Twentieth Century British History* 29 (2018), pp. 104–128
Elizabeth Meehan, *Women's Rights at Work: Campaigns and Policy in Britain and the United States* (London, 1985)
Jonathan Moss, 'We didn't realise how brave we were at the time': the 1968 Ford sewing machinists' strike in public and personal memory', *Oral History*, 43 (2015)
Jonathan Moss, *Women, workplace protest and political identity in England, 1968–85* (Manchester, 2019)
Sheila Cohen, 'Equal pay – or what? Economics, Politics and the 1968 sewing machinists' strike' *Labour History* 53 (2012), pp. 51-68
Anna Pollert, *Girls, Wives, Factory Lives* (Basingstoke, 1981)
Ruth Cavendish, *Women on the Line* (London, 1982)
Sally Westwood, *All Day, Every Day: Factory and Family in the Making of Women's Lives* (London, 1984)
Sue Sharpe, *Double Identity: The Lives of Working Mothers* (London, 1984)
George Stevenson, 'The Women's Movement and 'Class Struggle': gender, class formation

and political identity in women's strikes, 1968–78' *Women's History Review* 25 (2016), pp. 741-55
George Stevenson, 'The Forgotten Strike: Equality, Gender, and Class in the Trico Equal Pay Strike' *Labour History Review* 81 (2016)
Anitha Sundari and Ruth Pearson, *Striking women: struggles and strategies of South Asian women workers from Grunwick to Gate Gourmet* (London, 2018)
Pat Thane, 'Women and the 1970s: towards liberation?' in Lawrence Black, Hugh Pemberton and Pat Thane, eds., *Reassessing 1970s Britain* (Manchester, 2013), pp. 167-186
Chris Wrigley, 'Women in the labour market and in the unions', in John McIlroy, Alan Campbell, and Nina Fishman, eds, *British Trade Unions and Industrial Politics, vol. II, The High Tide of Trade Unionism, 1964–79* (Aldershot, 1999)
A Zabalza and Z Tzannatos, *Women and Equal Pay: The Effects of Legislation on Female Employment and Wages in Britain* (Cambridge, 1985)

Inequality and Labour Market Polarisation in 1980s Britain

How growing social inequality shaped women's employment opportunities and career mobility in the 1980s; the 'feminisation of poverty' and the reappearance of 'sweated' labour; how mass male unemployment affected women's working lives; women's advances in management and the professions; whether 'neoliberalism' helps us to understand the dynamics of women's paid employment under Thatcherism.

Veronica Beechey and Tessa Perkins, *A Matter of Hours: women, part-time work and the labour market.* (Cambridge, 1987)
Laura Beers, 'Thatcher and the women's vote' in Ben Jackson and Robert Saunders, eds, *Making Thatcher's Britain* (Cambridge, 2012), pp. 113-131
H Bradley, *Men's Work, Women's Work* (Cambridge, 1989)
Celia Briar, *Working for Women? Gendered Work and Welfare Policies in Twentieth-Century Britain* (London, 1997)
S Dex, H Joshi and S Macran, 'A widening gulf among Britain's mothers' *Oxford Review of Economic Policy* 12 (1996), pp. 65-75
Jane Elliott and Jon Lawrence, 'The Emotional Economy of Unemployment: A Re-Analysis of Testimony from a Sheppey Family, 1978 – 1983' *SAGE Open* October-December 2016, pp. 1-11
Jane Lewis, *The End of Marriage? Individualism and Intimate Relations* (Cheltenham, 2001)
Feminist Review, *Waged Work: A Reader* (London, 1986)
Carole Glendinning and Jane Millar, *Women and Poverty in Britain* (1992)
Nicky Gregson and Michelle Lowe, *Servicing the Middle Classes: Class, gender and waged domestic labour in contemporary Britain* (London, 1994)
Valerie Grove, *The Compleat Woman: Marriage, Motherhood, Career: Can she have it all?* (London, 1987)
C Hakim, *Home-Based Work in Britain* (Department of Employment: London, 1987)
J Hills, ed., *New Inequalities: the changing distribution of income and wealth in the UK* (Cambridge 1996)
J Humphries and J Rubery, 'The legacy for women's employment: integration, differentiation and polarisation' in J Michie ed., *The Economic Legacy of Thatcherism* (London, 1992)
Ursula Huws, Jenny Hurstfield and Riki Holmaat, *What Price Flexibility? The Casualisation of Women's Employment* (Low Pay Unit, 1989)
Ursula Huws, *The New Homeworkers: New Technology and the changing location of white-collar work* (London, 1984)
Rosemary Pringle, *Secretaries Talk: sexuality, power and work* (London, 1988)
Jan Pahl, *Money and Marriage* (Basingstoke, 1989)

Annie Phizacklea and Carol Wolkowitz, *Homeworking Women: Gender, Racism and Class at Work* (London, 1995)
Ben Jackson, 'Free markets and feminism: the neoliberal defence of the male breadwinner model in Britain, c. 1980 – 1997' *Women's History Review,* 28 (2019), pp. 297-316
Linda McDowell, *Capital Culture: Gender at Work in the City* (London, 1997)
Susan McRae, *Maternity Rights in Britain* (London, 1991)
G Pascall, 'Women and the Family in the British Welfare State: The Thatcher/Major Legacy' *Social Policy & Administration* 31 (1997), pp. 290-305
Swasti Mitter, 'Industrial restructuring and manufacturing homework: immigrant women in the UK clothing industry' *Capital and Class* 27 (1986) pp. 37-80
Bev Skeggs, *Formations of Class & Gender: Becoming Respectable* (1997)
Martin Watts and Judith Rich, 'Occupational sex aggregation in Britain, 1979-1989: the persistence of sexual stereotyping' *Cambridge Journal of Economics* 17 (1993), pp. 159-77

Women, Family and Work from New Labour to Covid-19

Whether the later 1990s and 2000s were decades of advance for women in the workplace; the character and impact of New Labour's gender equality and labour market policies; the debate over whether women can 'have it all'; the extent to which men's roles in the family were changing; the emergence of 'post-feminist' identities and the rise of 'neoliberal' feminism in the new millennium; the impact of Covid-19.

Sylvia Bashevkin, 'From tough times to better times: feminism, public policy, and New Labour politics in Britain' *International Political Science Review*, 21(2000), pp. 407-24
J Brannen 'Money, marriage and motherhood: dual earner households after maternity leave' in S Arber and N Gilbert, eds., *Women and Working Lives: Divisions and Change* (Basingstoke, 1992)
S Connolly, and M Gregory, 'Moving down: Women's part-time work and occupational change in Britain 1991-2001' *Economic Journal* 118 (2008) pp. 52-76
Anna Coote, ed., *The new gender agenda: why women still want more* (London, 2000)
R Crompton, D Gallie and K Purcell, eds., *Changing Forms of Employment: Organisations, Skills and Gender* (London, 1996)
Catherine Hakim, *Work-Lifestyle Choices in the 21st Century: Preference Theory* (Oxford, 2000)
Catherine Hakim, 'Five feminist myths about women's employment', *British Journal of Sociology*, 46 (1995) pp. 429-455
Heather Joshi, Hugh Davies and Hilary Land, *The Tale of Mrs Typical* (Family Policy Studies Centre, 1996)
Jane Lewis, 'Developing Early Years Childcare in England, 1997–2002: The Choices for (Working) Mothers' *Social Policy and Administration* 37 (2003), pp. 219–38
Jane Lewis, 'Continuity and change in English childcare policy 1960-2000' *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State and Society*, 20 (2013), pp. 358-386
Patricia Lewis, '"Mumpreneurs": Revealing the Post-feminist Entrepreneur' in Patricia Lewis and Ruth Simpson, eds, *Revealing and Concealing Gender: Issues of Visibility in Organisations* (Basingstoke, 2010), pp. 124 – 138.
Angela McRobbie, *The aftermath of feminism: gender, culture and social change* (London, 2009)
Catherine Rottenberg, 'The Rise of Neoliberal Feminism' *Cultural Studies* 28 (2014), pp. 418-437
J Rubery, S Horrell and B Burchell, 'Part-time work and gender inequality in the labour market' in AM Scott, ed., *Gender Segregation and Social Change: Men and Women in Changing Labour Markets* (Oxford, 1994)
Alison Wolf, *The XX Factor: how working women are creating a new society* (London, 2013)
Zoe Young, *Women's Work: How Mothers Manage Flexible Working in Careers and Family Life* (Bristol,

2018)

Classes

Class 1: Observing women's work: social investigation and social research

In this class we shall ask how women's paid work has been made visible by different kinds of social research and investigation. We shall first explore how late-Victorian and Edwardian observers 'read' the meanings of women's paid work and the extent to which those readings were shaped by the wider dynamics of class, race and ethnicity. We will consider the claims to authority and objectivity made by social researchers. Moving on to the period of expansion in married women's employment in the 1950s, we will ask whether the 'social problem' paradigm associated with women's paid work shifted. We will consider the role played in this by new sociological accounts of women's lives, and we will explore how 'expert' or 'official' knowledge about women's paid work intersected with 'private' or 'vernacular' knowledge. Finally, we shall consider how this knowledge might have shaped the parameters of policy and employment practices.

Primary source texts:

Extracts from Royal Commission on Labour, *The Employment of Women: Reports by Miss Eliza Orme, Miss Clara Collet, Miss May Abraham and Miss Margaret Irwin* (HMSO, C.6894, 1893), data collected by Collet in London, 'Laundresses' pp. 17-23

Beatrice Potter (later Webb), 'Pages from a Work-Girl's Diary' *The Nineteenth Century* (September 1888), pp. 301-314

Pearl Jephcott with Nancy Seear and John H Smith, *Married Women Working* (London, 1962), pp. 19-29 and pp. 91-114.

Secondary readings:

Gabrielle Mearns, "Long Trudges Through Whitechapel': The East End of Beatrice Webb's and Clara Collet's Social Investigations' *19: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century* 13 (2011)

Helen McCarthy 'Social Science and Married Women's Employment in Post-War Britain' *Past & Present* 233 (2016), pp. 269-305

Questions for essay-writing: *How has women's paid work been made visible by different kinds of social research and investigation? How did late-Victorian and Edwardian observers 'read' the meanings of women's paid work and to what extent were these readings shaped by the wider dynamics of class, race and ethnicity? How 'objective' or 'scientific' were their accounts of women's paid work? Did the 'social problem' paradigm shift in the mid-twentieth century and how did this affect new sociological accounts of women in the 1950/60s? How has expert or official knowledge about women's paid work intersected with private or vernacular knowledge? And how has this knowledge shaped the parameters of policy and employment practices?*

Further Reading:

*Ellen Ross, *Love and Toil: Motherhood in Outcast London, 1870 – 1918* (Oxford, 1993)

Ellen Ross, ed., *Slum Travellers: Ladies and London Poverty, 1860 – 1920* (London, 2007)
Deborah Epstein Nord, *The Apprenticeship of Beatrice Webb* (Basingstoke, 1985)
Ross McKibbin, 'Social Class and Social Observation in Edwardian England' *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* 28 (1978), pp. 175-199
Ruth Livesey, 'The politics of work: feminism, professionalisation and women inspectors of factories and workshops' *Women's History Review* 13 (2004), pp. 233-262
Ruth Livesey, 'Reading for Character: Women Social Reformers and Narratives of the Urban Poor in Late Victorian and Edwardian London' *Journal of Victorian Culture*, 9 (2004), pp. 43-67.
Helen Jones, 'Women Health Workers: The Case of the First Women Factory Inspectors in Britain' *Social History of Medicine* 1 (1988)
Jane Lewis, *Women and Social Action in Victorian and Edwardian England* (Edward Aldershot, 1991)
Peter Groenewegen, ed., *Feminism and Political Economy in Victorian England* (Aldershot, 1994)
Ann Oakley, 'Fact, fiction and method in the early history of social research: Clementina Black and Margaret Harkness as case-studies' *Women's History Review* 28 (2019), pp. 360-379
Susan Pedersen, *Eleanor Rathbone and the Politics of Conscience* (London, 2004)
John Goodwin and Henrietta O'Connor, 'Pearl Jephcott: the legacy of a forgotten sociological research pioneer' *Sociology* 49 (2015)
Helen McCarthy, 'Pearl Jephcott and the politics of gender, class and race in post-war Britain' *Women's History Review* 28 (2019), pp. 779-793. See other essays in this special issue of WHR edited by Goodwin and O'Connor, *Pearl Jephcott: reflections, resurgence and replications.*
Jane Lewis, 'Myrdal, Klein, *Women's Two Roles* and postwar feminism' in Harold Smith, ed., *British Feminism in the Twentieth Century* (Aldershot, 1990), pp. 167-188
E Stina Lyon, 'Viola Klein: Forgotten Émigré Intellectual, Public Sociologist and Advocate of Women' *Sociology* 41 (2007), pp. 829-42
Mica Nava, 'Sometimes antagonistic, sometimes ardently sympathetic: contradictory responses to migrants in post-war Britain' *Ethnicities* 14 (2014), pp. 458-80
*Jordanna Bailkin, *The Afterlife of Empire* (Berkeley, 2012), ch. 5
Shirley Dex, *Women's Attitudes towards Work* (Basingstoke, 1988)

Class 2: Representing Women's Work in Visual Culture

In this class, we will explore how women's paid work was represented in visual form in the 19th and early 20th centuries, with a particular emphasis on the new technology of photography. Comparing and contrasting photography with other genres, we will ask how historians should interpret these visual representations of women's work and evaluate their ideological effects in the wider culture. In seeking answers to these questions, we will look at the very different uses of photography evident in the archives of mid-Victorian flâneur Arthur Munby and the activities of Edwardian campaigners seeking to regulate 'sweated' work.

Primary sources:

Arthur Munby's extensive collection of photographs of working women form part of his large and unusual archive, held at Trinity College, Cambridge, details here:
https://janus.lib.cam.ac.uk/db/node.xsp?id=EAD%2FGBR%2F0016%2FMUNB
Images from the collection:

https://trinitycollegelibrarycambridge.wordpress.com/2016/12/01/photograph-of-the-month-11/

Handbook of the Daily News Sweated Industries Exhibition (compiled by Richard Mudie-Smith, May 1906), 'Artificial Flower-Making' (pp. 30-32), 'The Box-Makers' (pp. 33-36), 'Birmingham Hook and Eye Carders' (pp. 37-39) 'Sack-Sewing' (pp. 47-50), 'Chain-Making' (pp. 58-63) and 'The Home Life of the Sweated' (pp. 115-116)
https://archive.org/details/handbookofdailyn00mudi/page/n6

Secondary sources:

Kristina Huneault, *Difficult Subjects: Working Women and Visual Culture, Britain 1880-1914* (Farnham, 2002), chapter 5

Sara Edge, 'The power to fix the gaze: gender and class in Victorian photographs of pit-brow women' *Visual Sociology* 13 (1998), pp. 37-56

Michael Hiley, *Victorian Working Women: Portraits from Life* (London, 1979), pp. 10-20, pp. 75-80

Questions for essay-writing: *How has women's paid work been represented in visual form over the 19th and 20th centuries? How should we read these representations and how should we understand their ideological effects in the wider culture? How did representations of working women in popular culture change over time? Were they reconfigured by conditions of war, and if so, how and why? Has women's paid work been the object of commemoration or a subject for public history? Can we identify any enduring patterns in depictions of women's work or is it impossible to impose any kind of order on this chaotic symbolic field?*

Further Reading:

Peter Bailey, 'Parasexuality and Glamour: the Victorian Barmaid as Cultural Prototype' *Gender and History* 2 (1990), pp. 148-172

Lynda Nead, *Myths of Sexuality: Representations of Women in Victorian Britain* (London, 1988)

Carolyn Malone, 'Sensational Stories, Endangered Bodies: Women's Work and the New Journalism in England in the 1890s' *Albion* 31 (1999), pp. 49-71.

TJ Edelstein, "'They Sang the Song of the Shirt": The Visual Iconology of the Seamstress' *Victorian Studies* 23 (1980), pp. 183-210

Alyson Mercer, 'The Changing Face of Exhibiting Women's Wartime Work at the Imperial War Museum' *Women's History Review* 22 (2013), pp. 330-344

Judith Walkowitz, 'The Indian woman, the flower girl, and the Jew: photojournalism in Edwardian London' *Victorian Studies* 42 (1998), pp. 3-46

Karen Sayer, *Women of the Fields: Representations of Rural Women in the Nineteenth Century* (Manchester, 1995)

Lise Shapiro, *Consuming Fantasies: Labor, Leisure and the London Shopgirl, 1880-1920* (Ohio, 2006)

Stephanie Spencer, *Gender, Work and Education in Britain in the 1950s* (Basingstoke, 2005)

Gillian Murphy, 'Taking Work Home: the private secretary and domestic identities in the long 1950s' *Women's History Review* 26 (2017), pp. 62-76

Rachel Ritchie, Sue Hawkins, Nicola Phillips and S Jay Kleinberg, eds., *Women in Magazines: Research, Representation, Production and Consumption* (London, 2016)

David Saunders, 'Wired up in white organdie: framing women's scientific labour at the Burden Neurological Institute' *Science Museum Group Journal* 10 (Autumn 2018) – open access online: http://journal.sciencemuseum.ac.uk/browse/issue-10/wired-up-in-white-organdie/

Rosaline Gill and Shani Orgad, 'Confidence Culture and the Remaking of Feminism' *New Formations* (2017)
Deborah Thom, *Nice Girls and Rude Girls: Women Workers in World War I* (London, 2000)
Deborah Thom, 'Free from chains? The image of women's labour in London, 1900-1920' in David Feldman and Gareth Stedman Jones, eds., *Metropolis London: Histories and representations since 1800* (London, 1989), pp. 85-99
Deborah Thom, 'Making war spectacular' in Gail Braybon, ed., *Evidence, History and the Great War: Historians and the Impact of 1914-18* (Oxford, 2003)
Chloe Ward, "Something of the Spirit of Stalingrad': British women, their Soviet sisters, propaganda and politics in the Second World War' *Twentieth Century British History* 25 (2014) pp. 435-60

Further Reading on Arthur Munby:

Munby (1828-1910) was a civil servant, minor poet, diarist and collector of photographic imagery of working women. He has been a subject of great interest to historians because of the richness of his personal archive, his class-crossing relationship with Hannah Cullwick, a maidservant, and his lifelong fascination with women who performed heavy manual labour. Some of the key scholarship is listed below:

Sara Edge, *The Extraordinary Archive of Arthur J Munby: Photographing Class and Gender in the Nineteenth Century* (London, 2018)
Leonore Davidoff, 'Class and Gender in Victorian England' *Feminist Studies* 1 (1979), pp. 87 141
Liz Stanley, ed. *The Diaries of Hannah Cullwick: Victorian Maidservant* (London, 1984)
Derek Hudson, *Man of Two Worlds: The Life and Diaries of Arthur Munby* (London, 1972)
Angela V John, *By the Sweat of their Brow: Women Workers at Victorian Coal Mines* (London, 1984)
Carole Wolkowitz, *Bodies at Work* (London, 2006), chapter 2

Other Resources:

Sylvia Pankhurst Exhibition at Tate Britain 2013-4, exhibition guide:
http://shura.shu.ac.uk/6836/6/ReeveSylviaPankhurstTateBritainDisplay%20documentation.pdf

Some of the paintings of Dame Laura Knight, a commissioned war artist during WWII:
http://www.damelauraknight.com/tag/wartime/

Berwick St Collective, *Nightcleaners* (1974) – an excerpt from this film can be viewed here:
http://www.bl.uk/learning/histcitizen/sisterhood/clips/activism/campaigns-and-protests/143934.html

A self-published book by Gina Glover, reflecting on her work as a feminist photographer in London in the 1980s:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57876e45414fb50d7405f10c/t/5a0079e1e2c4839469463744/1509980703346/Gina_Glover_Social_Action.pdf

Class 3: Feminist Perspectives on Women's Paid Work

In this class, we will consider how feminists have framed paid work as a site for gender-based struggle by focusing on two key moments: first, controversies over equal pay and women's economic dependence in the early twentieth century; and second, the development in the 1970s of new analytical frameworks for understanding women's oppression in the labour market and family under the influence of the Women's Liberation Movement. We will contrast and compare these debates, asking how feminists identified the causes of workplace inequality over time, how they theorised the relationship between paid work and domestic and reproductive labour, and what solutions they advocated.

Primary source readings:

Eleanor Rathbone, 'The Remuneration of Women's Services' *Economic Journal* 27 (1917), pp. 55-68
Millicent Fawcett, 'Equal Pay for Equal Work' *Economic Journal* 28 (1918), pp. 1-6
Ellen Malos, ed., *The Politics of Housework* (1980), pp. 7-43

Secondary readings:

Susan Pedersen, 'The failure of feminism in the making of the British welfare state' *Radical History Review* 43 (1989), pp. 86-110
Sarah Stoller, 'Forging a politics of care: theorizing household work in the British Women's Liberation Movement' *History Workshop Journal* 85 (2018), pp. 95-119

Questions for essay-writing: *How have feminists theorised paid work in relation to the wider problem of women's economic dependence and inequality? How have feminists explained women's unequal access to the labour market and what remedies have they identified? How have feminists understood the relationship between paid work and domestic and reproductive labour? How have they characterised the effects of the Industrial Revolution on women's lives and the value of their labour? What have feminists meant by the term 'patriarchy' and to what extent have they regarded it at the root cause of women's inequality in the workplace? How has feminist thinking been shaped by differences of class or race? How have feminist debates regarding the emancipatory potential of paid work changed over the period studied?*

Further Reading:

Sally Alexander, Anna Davin and Eve Hostettler, 'Labouring Women: A Reply to Eric Hobsbawm' *History Workshop Journal* 8 (1979), pp. 174-82
Sally Alexander, ed., *Fabian Women's Tracts* (London, 1988)
Irene Bruegel, 'Women as a reserve army of labour: a note on recent British experience' *Feminist Review,* 3 (1979), pp. 12-23
Lucy Delap, *The Feminist Avant-Garde: Transatlantic Encounters of the Early Twentieth Century* (Cambridge, 2007)
Lucy Delap, *Feminisms: A Global History* (2020)
Ann Taylor Allen, *Feminism and Motherhood in Western Europe, 1890-1970: The Maternal Dilemma* (Basingstoke, 2005)
Carol Dyhouse, *Feminism and the Family in England, 1880 – 1939* (Oxford, 1989)
Ellen Jordan, *The Women's Movement and Women's Employment in Nineteenth Century Britain* (London, 1999)
Rosemary Feurer, "'The Meaning of Sisterhood": the British Women's Movement and Protective Labour Legislation' *Victorian Studies* 31 (1988), pp. 233-260
Ellen Mappen, 'Strategies for Change: Social feminist approaches to problems of women's

work' in Angela V John, *Unequal Opportunities: Women's Employment in England, 1800 – 1918* (Oxford, 1986)

Barbara Caine, 'Beatrice Webb and the 'Woman Question" *History Workshop Journal* 14 (1982), pp. 23-43

Pamela Graves, *Labour Women: Women in British Working-Class Politics, 1918-1939* (Cambridge, 1994), chapter 4

Susan Pedersen, *Eleanor Rathbone and the Politics of Conscience* (London, 2004), chapters 6 and 10

Birmingham Feminist History Group, 'Feminism as Femininity in the nineteen-fifties?' *Feminist Review* January 1979, pp. 48-65

A Phillips and B Taylor, 'Sex and Skill: some notes towards a feminist economics' *Feminist Review* 6 (1980)

George Stevenson, *The Women's Liberation Movement and the Politics of Class in Britain* (London, 2019)

Sylvia Walby, *Patriarchy at Work* (1986)

Veronica Beechey, *Unequal Work* (1987)

Shirley Dex, 'Issues of gender and employment' *Social History* 13 (1988), pp. 141-150

Sheila Blackburn, 'How useful are feminist theories of the Welfare State?' *Women's History Review*, 4 (1995), pp. 369-94

Class 4: Narrating the self: paid work, identity and subjectivity

In this final class, we will ask how women have articulated the meanings which paid work have held in their lives. Looking at a range of 'ego-documents', we will consider who gets to speak for working women, and whether paid work been central to personal identity and narratives of selfhood for women (and which women and when). Analysing these texts from across the period, we will ask how personal narratives of working lives were shaped by class, race or other factors, and whether writing or speaking about paid work as a component of identity become easier for women in the later twentieth century.

Primary source readings:

Margaret Bateson, *Professional Women upon their Professions: conversations recorded by Margaret Bateson* (1897), Preface, and choose at least three profiles to read.
https://archive.org/details/professionalwom00bategoog

Extracts from Jean McCrindle and Sheila Rowbotham, eds, *Dutiful Daughters: Women Talk about their Lives* (1977), Janet Daly (pp. 10-19), Annie Davison (pp. 68-73), Jean Mormont (pp. 139-144, pp. 151-56)

Amrit Wilson, *Finding a Voice: Asian Women in Britain* (1978), pp. 123-137

Valerie Grove, *The Compleat Woman* (1987), Interview with Barbara Mills QC, pp. 129-139

Secondary Readings:

Carol Dyhouse, 'Driving ambitions: women in pursuit of a medical education, 1890-1939' *Women's History Review* 7 (1998), pp. 321-343

Jane McDermid, 'The Making of a 'Domestic' Life: Memories of a Working Woman' *Labour History Review* 73 (2008), pp. 253-268

Questions for essay-writing: *How have women articulated the meanings which paid work have held in their lives? Who gets to speak for working women? Has paid work been central to personal identity and narratives of selfhood for women, and if so, which women and when? Are personal narratives of working lives shaped by class, race or other factors? Did it become easier for women to write or speak about what paid work meant to them in the later twentieth century, and if so, why? To what extent have women adopted the narrative trope of 'career' when writing or speaking about their working lives?*

Further Reading:

Christine Etherington-Wright, *Gender, Professions and Discourse: Early Twentieth-Century Women's Autobiography* (Basingstoke, 2009)

*Krista Cowman, 'The Political Autobiographies of Early Women MPs c.1918-1964' in Julie Gottlieb and Richard Toye, eds, *The Aftermath of Suffrage: women, gender and politics in Britain* (Basingstoke, 2013), pp. 203-223

Penny Summerfield, *Reconstructing Women's Wartime Lives: Discourse and Subjectivity in Oral Histories of the Second World War* (Manchester, 1998), pp. 9-12, 15-6, 21-23

Laura Paterson, 'I didn't feel like my own person': paid work in women's narratives of self and working motherhood, 1950–1980, *Contemporary British History* 33 (2019), pp. 405-426, DOI: 10.1080/13619462.2019.1581611

Lynn Abrams, 'Liberating the self: epiphanies, conflict and coherence in the life stories of post-war British women' *Social History* 39 (2014), pp. 14-35.

April Gallwey, 'The rewards of using archived oral histories in research: the case of the Millennium Memory Bank' *Oral History*, 41(2013), pp. 37-50.

*Linda McDowell, *Migrant Women's Voices: Talking about Life and Work in UK since 1945* (London, 2016), pp1-17

Jonathan Moss, 'We didn't realise how brave we were at the time': the 1968 Ford sewing machinists' strike in public and personal memory', *Oral History*, 43 (2015)

Angela Davis, 'Uncovering the Lives of Women in Post-War Oxfordshire: An Oral History Approach', *Rural History,* 19 (2008), pp. 105-21

Liz Stanley, ed., *The Diaries of Hannah Cullwick, Victorian Maidservant* (London, 1984)

Liz Stanley, *The Auto/Biographical I: the theory and practice of feminist auto/biography* (Manchester, 1992)

Mary Jean Corbett, *Representing Femininity: middle-class subjectivity in Victorian and Edwardian women's autobiographies* (Oxford, 1992)

Pauline Polkey, 'Reading history through autobiography: politically active women of late nineteenth-century Britain and their personal narratives' *Women's History Review* 9 (2000), pp. 483-500

Personal Narratives Group, eds, *Interpreting Women's Lives: feminist theory and personal narratives* (Bloomington, 1989)

Julia Swindells, *Victorian Writing and Working Women: The Other Side of Silence* (Cambridge, 1985)

Gilda O'Neill, *Pull no more bines: an oral history of East London women hop pickers* (London, 1990)

Elizabeth Roberts, *A Woman's Place: An Oral History of Working-Class Women, 1900 – 1940* (Oxford, 1984)

Elizabeth Roberts, *Women and Families: An Oral History, 1940 – 1970* (Oxford, 1995)

Penny Summerfield, 'Culture and Composure: Creating Narratives of the Gendered Self in Oral History Interviews' *Cultural and Social History* 1 (2004), pp. 345-52.

Sample Exam Questions

Part A: students answer ONE question focused on the class themes:

1. 'British feminists were always ambivalent about paid work as the solution to the problem of women's economic dependence.' Discuss
2. What do social surveys reveal about the working lives of EITHER working-class women OR middle-class women? Answer with reference to a period of at least forty years.
3. Did paid work become increasingly central to feminine selfhood after the mid-twentieth century?
4. How have working wives and mothers been depicted in popular culture since the late nineteenth century? Answer with reference to at least two of the following genres: art; film; fiction.

Part B: students answer TWO questions from the following, based on supervision topics:

5. Why did so few women perform the same work as men in late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century industry?

6. 'The essential element of evil' (SIDNEY WEBB) Why was home-work described in these terms in late-Victorian Britain?

7. To what extent were middle-class women's professional achievements reliant on the paid domestic labour of other women? Answer with reference to any period of at least forty years.

   OR

   What counted as 'respectable' work for middle-class women between the 1870s and 1930s?

8. How widespread was married women's wage-earning before the 1940s?

9. 'War work did little to improve women's position in the labour market.' Discuss with reference to EITHER the First World War OR the Second World War.

10. To what extent were women's employment patterns determined by the availability of affordable childcare? Answer with reference to any period of at least forty years.

11. To what extent did the work histories of female migrants differ from those of British-born women in the post-war period?

12. 'Women's career opportunities were revolutionized by the sex equality legislation of the 1970s.' Discuss.

13. Did the growing availability of part-time work from the 1950s improve or retard women's status in the labour market?

14. How did increasing income inequality transform the composition of the female workforce in the 1980s and 1990s?
15. 'British women's working lives changed largely in step with those of other advanced industrial societies after 1945' Discuss.

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