

BLASE A. PROVITOLA
Department of Language and Culture Studies
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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Language and Culture Studies and Women, Gender and Sexuality July 2022–Present
Trinity College, Hartford, CT

Visiting Assistant Professor of Language and Culture Studies | Trinity College, Hartford, CT Sept. 2019–June 2022

EDUCATION

M.A., M. Phil., Ph.D., Columbia University | Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York, NY Oct. 2019
French with a concentration in Comparative Literature, GPA: 4.1
M.A. May 2014 M.Phil. Oct. 2015

Dissertation: “Sex, Race, and the Epistemology of Desire in Contemporary Francophone Literature and Culture”
Analyzes the impact of race and class on sexual identity in lesbian and queer women’s cultural production
Supervisors: Madeleine Dobie, Joseph Massad, Emmanuelle Saada | Readers: Eric Fassin, Camille Robcis

M.A. Thesis: “The Representation of the *Moudjahida* in Francophone Literature”
Examines the portrayal of female resistance fighters in literary representations of the Algerian Revolution

B.A., Haverford College | Haverford, PA May 2011
Comparative Literature with a concentration in Gender Studies
High honors, Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (ORCID 0000-0002-7378-4606)

“Giovanna Rincon and Acceptess-T: Living Archives of Transgender Solidarity in an Age of Homonationalism.” In Siham Bouamer, Denis Provencher, and Ryan Schroth (eds.), *Queer Realms of Memory* (forthcoming, Liverpool University Press).

“Notre solidarité n’est pas une solidarité de salon’: le lesbianisme politique décolonial des Lesbiennes of color (LOCs) face aux nationalismes sexuels” [The *Lesbiennes of color* collective’s decolonial political lesbianism in the face of sexual nationalisms]. *Genre, sexualité & société* (special issue on decolonial queer theory, Spring 2024), web.

“TERF or Transfeminist *avant la lettre*?: Monique Wittig’s Complex Legacy in Trans Studies.” *TSQ: Transgender Studies Quarterly*, vol. 9, issue 3 (August 2022, special issue: “Trans-Exclusionary Feminisms and the Global New Right”), 387–406.

“Laborious Intimacies: Sexual Identity as Work in Mireille Best’s *Il n’y a pas d’hommes au paradis*.” In Siham Bouamer and Sonja Stojanovic (eds.), *‘Taking up Space’: Women at Work in Contemporary France* (2022, University of Wales Press, French and Francophone Studies series), 83–100.

“Teaching French Feminisms from an Intersectional Perspective.” In Siham Bouamer and Loïc Bourdeau (eds.), *Diversity and Decolonization in French Studies* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022), 151–63.

“In Visibilities: The *Groupe du 6 novembre* and the Production of Liberal Lesbian Identity in Contemporary France.” *Modern & Contemporary France*, vol. 27, issue 2 (2019, special issue: “Beyond Gay Liberation: France’s Other Sexual Minorities”), 223–41.

"Feminism in the 'Father Book': Complicating the Emancipation Narrative in Assia Djebar's *Nowhere in my Father's House*." *Romanic Review*, vol. 106, issue 1–4 (Jan.–Nov. 2015), 71–92.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND BOOK REVIEWS (ORCID 0000-0002-7378-4606)

Review of C.L. Quinan's *Hybrid Anxieties: Queering the French-Algerian War and Its Postcolonial Legacies* (University of Nebraska Press, 2020). *H-France*, vol. 22, no. 187 (Nov. 2022).

"Faut-il choisir?: non-binarité et transidentité dans les cours de langue française [Having to choose?: non-binarity and transgender identity in French language courses]." In Louisa Mackenzie and Vinay Swamy (eds.), *Devenir non-binaire en français contemporain* [Becoming non-binary in contemporary French] (Éditions Le Manuscrit, 2022), 73–101.

"Anti-Zionism versus anti-homophobia?" Review of Sa'ed Atshan's *Queer Palestine and the Empire of Critique* (Stanford University Press, 2020). *The Electronic Intifada*. 24 Sept. 2020.

"Transgender Justice and the Administration of Sex/Gender." Review article of Heath Fogg Davis's *Beyond Trans: Does Gender Matter?* (New York University Press, 2017). *Journal of the International Network for Sexual Ethics & Politics*, vol. 8 (special issue on non-binary sexual ethics and politics, Sept. 2020), 109–17.

"Faut-il choisir?: Transgender Access to the French Language Classroom," *H-France Salon*, vol. 11, issue 14 (special issue on non-binary gender and pronouns in French, July 2019).

"Resisting the Ruses of Liberalism." Review of Joseph Massad's *Islam in Liberalism* (University of Chicago Press, 2015). *Journal of Politics, Religion & Ideology* vol. 107, no. 4 (2016), 382–85.

"Why Liberalism Needs Islam." Co-authored with Daniel Steinmetz-Jenkins. *Los Angeles Review of Books* 11 (Sept. 2015).

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Research Associateship Five College Women's Studies Research Center, Hampshire College, MA Residency program to support completion of first book manuscript	Fall 2024
Malcolm Bowie Prize (short-list) Society for French Studies "TERF or Transfeminist <i>avant la lettre</i> ?: Monique Wittig's Complex Legacy in Trans Studies" Short-listed for best article published in 2022 by an early-career researcher in French Studies	2022
Center for Teaching and Learning Fellowship Center for Teaching and Learning, Trinity College Specifications grading in French and gender studies courses (2022–23) Mastery-based teaching approaches to French grammar and composition (2020–21) Development of diverse French-language teaching materials (2019–20)	2019–Present
Mellon Inclusive Teaching and Advising Grant Center for Teaching and Learning, Trinity College Collaborative faculty initiative to improve learning outcomes for LGBTQ+ students	2021
Faculty Research Grant Trinity College Archival research in Paris related to book manuscript	Summer 2020
Summer Research Fellowship French Department, Columbia University Archival dissertation research in Paris and Marseille	Summer 2018
Alliance Doctoral Mobility Grant Alliance Program, Columbia University Dissertation research in Paris under the direction of Marianne Blidon (Paris I)	Spring 2017

Georges Lurcy Fellowship Georges Lurcy Charitable and Educational Trust Dissertation research promoting Franco-American exchange	2016–17
École Normale Supérieure Fellowship Columbia University Graduate study and residency at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris	2016–17
Lead Teaching & Senior Lead Teaching Fellowships Center for Teaching and Learning, Columbia U Mentored Graduate Teaching Fellows and organized workshops on inclusive pedagogy in French	2014–16
Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships Columbia University Intensive Arabic language study in New York (2014–15) and Amman, Jordan (Summer 2013)	2013–15

INVITED TALKS AND EVENTS

Junior Faculty Lunch Series French Department, Yale University, New Haven, CT Part of a faculty lunch series aimed at mentoring doctoral candidates on research and professional life.	April 2023
“What can transgender studies bring to the French classroom?” Columbia University	April 2022
“Savoir situé, savoirs situés: le cas non-binaire” (presenter & roundtable discussant) Reid Hall, Paris [Situating knowledge, situated knowledges: the case of non-binary] Symposium organized upon the release of <i>Devenir non-binaire en français contemporain</i>	Feb. 2022
“Non-Binarity, Gender Inclusivity, and Power in the Language Classroom” Smith College, MA	April 2021
“Lesbian of Color Literature and Activism in Contemporary France” Bennington College, VT	May 2018
“Faut-il choisir?: Trans Access to the French Language Classroom” Vassar College, NY Conference: “Legitimizing ‘iel’: Language and the Trans Community in Francophone and Anglophone Spaces”	April 2018

CONFERENCES AND OTHER TALKS

“Decolonial Political Lesbianism and Queer of Color Critique à <i>la française</i> ” Trinity College, CT Part of a faculty research lecture series for the Dept. of Language and Culture Studies.	Feb. 2024
“Contradiction as Transgression in Fatima Daas’s <i>The Last One</i> ” (presenter and panel organizer) Modern Language Association Convention (Philadelphia, PA) Panel: “Francophone Co-formations of Race, Gender, and Sexuality”	Jan. 2024
“Algerian Immigrant Women’s Resistance to French Heterocoloniality” (presenter and panel organizer) National Women’s Studies Association Conference (Baltimore, MD) Panel: “Transnational Feminist and Queer Resistance to State Violence”	Oct. 2023
“Décoloniser le lesbianisme wittigien: un dialogue entre Monique et Ourida” [Decolonizing Wittigian lesbianism: a dialogue between Monique and Ourida] Monique Wittig: Twenty Years Later (Geneva; U of California, Berkeley & U of Geneva)	June 2023
“Teaching ‘Non-Binary French’ to Encourage Curricular Change” Diversity, Decolonization and the French Curriculum Conference (virtual)	Nov. 2022
“‘Nous, les homosexuels’: Sexual Citizenship in Nina Bouraoui’s Texts and Paratexts” Women in French Conference (virtual, hosted by Iowa State University)	May 2022
“The Racialization of Gender Subversion in Adel Tincelin’s <i>On n’a que deux vies</i> and Nicola Mai’s <i>Samira</i> ” Modern Language Association Conference (Washington, DC; virtual) Women in French Sponsored Panel: “Voices of Empowerment: French and Francophone Perspectives”	Jan. 2022

<p>“Narratives of Medical Transition in Contemporary French Literature” Contemporary Womxn’s Writing and the Medical Humanities Conference (virtual) School of Advanced Study, University of London</p>	<p>July 2021</p>
<p>“Decolonizing Queer Interpretations of Nina Bouraoui’s <i>Tomboy</i>” Queer Epistemicides Conference: Languages, Knowledges, Sexualities (virtual) School of Modern Languages, University of Saint Andrews, UK</p>	<p>April 2021</p>
<p>“Gender Neutrality in French: A Transfeminist Issue” Power of Language Conference (virtual) Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT</p>	<p>April 2021</p>
<p>“Queer of Color Critiques: The Other Transatlantic Queer Theory” (presenter and panel organizer) 20th and 21st-Century French and Francophone Studies Colloquium (virtual) Panel: “The New Normal is the Old Normal: Sexuality and Race in a Postcolonial Frame”</p>	<p>March 2021</p>
<p>“Teaching French Feminism from an Intersectional Perspective” Diversity, Decolonization and the French Curriculum Conference (virtual)</p>	<p>Nov. 2020</p>
<p>“Trans Rights and the Challenges of Resisting Co-optation in the Media” Northeast Modern Language Association Conference (Boston, MA)</p>	<p>March 2020</p>
<p>“Monique Wittig’s Legacy: A Transfeminist Perspective” Drafting Monique Wittig Conference (Yale University, New Haven, CT)</p>	<p>Oct. 2019</p>
<p>“European Perspectives on Queer Comics” (roundtable participant) Queers & Comics Conference (School of Visual Arts, New York, NY)</p>	<p>May 2019</p>
<p>“Anticolonial Desires: What’s Queer about Léonora Miano’s <i>Crépuscule du tourment?</i>” Modern Language Association Conference (Chicago, IL)</p>	<p>Jan. 2019</p>
<p>“Bodies Politic: Utopian World-making between Carnality and Corporeality” (seminar organizer) Northeast Modern Language Association Conference (University of Pittsburgh, PA)</p>	<p>April 2018</p>
<p>“Sexual Repression, Gender Terrorism, and Regulatory Queerness” Lavender Languages & Literatures Conference (University of Nottingham, UK)</p>	<p>April 2017</p>
<p>“Representations of Queer Racialized Women’s Sexualities in the <i>Banlieues</i>” Northeast Modern Language Association Conference (University of Maryland, Baltimore)</p>	<p>March 2017</p>
<p>“Burqas, Bikinis, and the Gendered Policing of Bodies in (Neo)Colonial Contexts” (panel organizer) American Comparative Literature Association Conference (Harvard University, Cambridge, MA)</p>	<p>March 2016</p>
<p>“Towards a Critique of French LGBT Rights Discourse” Northeast Modern Language Association Conference (Toronto, Canada)</p>	<p>May 2015</p>
<p>“Pour une critique épistémologique de l’homonationalisme français” Sexual (Dis)Continuities Conference (CUNY Graduate Center, New York, NY)</p>	<p>Feb. 2015</p>
<p>“Marginality and Queer Community in Sébastien Lifshitz’s <i>Wild Side</i>” American Comparative Literature Association Conference (New York University, New York, NY)</p>	<p>March 2014</p>

SELECTED TRANSLATIONS

Milkovitch-Rioux, Catherine. “Assia Djebar’s Mourners.” *Romanic Review*, vol. 106, issue 1–4 (Jan.–Nov. 2015), 29–45.

Jodorowsky, Alejandro, José Ladronn and Mœbius. *Final Incal*. Los Angeles: Humanoids, Inc., 2014.

Gabus, Pierre and Romuald Reutimann. *District 14, Season 2*. Los Angeles: Humanoids, Inc., 2014.
Awarded “Best New Series” at the 2012 Angoulême International Comics Festival.

Ricard, Bruno and Sylvain. *Beirut 1990: Snapshots of a Civil War*. Los Angeles: Humanoids, Inc., 2013.

Jodorowsky, Alejandro. *The Shadow’s Treasure*. Los Angeles: Humanoids, Inc., 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (PORTFOLIO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

Trinity College | Hartford, CT 2019–Present

WMGS324: Transgender Migrations

WMGS221: Afro-European Feminisms

LACS299: Language, Culture and Meaning

FREN401: Francophone Studies Senior Seminar

FREN307: Gender-Neutral, Feminist, and Non-Binary French

FREN355: Intersectional French Feminisms

FREN355: Sex and Gender in Contemporary Franco-Maghrebi Cultures

FREN247: Introduction to Francophone Studies

FREN241: Advanced Composition and Style

FREN202: Intermediate French II

FREN101–102: Elementary French I & II

Bennington College | Bennington, VT Spring 2019

FRE4806: Race and Gender in Franco-Maghrebi Literature and Film

Columbia University | Reid Hall, Paris Summer 2019

FREN OC3829: Subversive Paris: Protest in Francophone Literature and Culture

Columbia University | New York, NY 2013–18

COCI CC1101 Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West

FREN UN3600: France Past and Present: Introduction to French Civilization

FREN UN1201: Intermediate French I

FREN UN1101–1102: Elementary French I & II

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director | Francophone Studies Program, Trinity College Sept. 2022–Present

Responsible for advising majors and all administrative tasks; oversaw program name change from “French Studies” to “Francophone Studies”

Member | Faculty Research Committee, Trinity College 2023–24

Allotted faculty research funds and organized annual faculty research lecture series

Member | Task Force on the Status of Women, Trinity College March 2021–Aug. 2023

Researched and formulated recommendations to promote the success and well-being of women and gender minorities at Trinity; chair of sub-committee on campus climate and safety

Member | Diversity, Decolonization, and the French Curriculum Collective March 2021–Present

Participated in the Collective’s first Action Group on “mentoring for people minoritized in and by our field(s).”

Co-Facilitator LGBTQ+ Faculty and Staff Affinity Group, Trinity College Organized events to build community amongst LGBTQ+ faculty, staff, and students	Sept. 2020–Present
Moderator French Language and Inclusive Pedagogies Group, Vassar College Managed an online sharing platform devoted to gender inclusivity in language pedagogy; moderated discussion forums; organized virtual discussion groups on gender neutrality in French	May 2018–Present
Translator and Editorial Assistant Humanoids, Inc., Los Angeles & Paris Translated French graphic novels (remotely); full-time editorial assistant in Paris (2011–2012)	2011–19
Peer Counselor and Advocate Gay Health Advocacy Project, Columbia University Counseled students on sexual health; edited and developed materials related to transgender health	2017–19
Research and Archiving Fellow Office of Academic Affairs, Columbia University Conducted archival research to aid in development of academic curriculum and policies, as part of a competitive professional development program in academic administration	Sept.–Dec. 2018
Subscriptions Manager <i>The Romanic Review</i> , Columbia University Managed web page, communications, and subscriber database for quarterly romance language journal	2013–2015
Modern Salon Co-Organizer French Department, Columbia University Organized quarterly speakers for a forum on 19 th –21 st century French and Francophone literature	2012–13
Research Assistant Hurford Humanities Center, Haverford College Assisted in planning exhibitions and compiling accompanying materials for the college’s art gallery	2010–11
Member Gender & Sexuality Studies Steering Committee, Haverford College Conducted research to develop new major; advised peers; organized speakers and expositions	2010–11
Peer Adviser Center for Peace and Global Citizenship, Haverford College, Haverford, PA Advised students applying for summer internship funding	2010–11
Research and Translation Intern SOS Racisme, Paris Translated legal documents and researched antiracist organizations in the U.S. and Europe	Feb.–May 2010

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)

French (near-native fluency)

Modern Standard Arabic (reading proficiency)

Spanish (reading proficiency)

Algerian & Jordanian Arabic (beginner)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Comparative Literature Association

Diversity, Decolonization, and the French Curriculum Collective

Modern Language Association

National Women’s Studies Association

Women in French