THE SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIUM PRESENTS:

Black Masculinity in the Long Crisis of Racial Capitalism

Jordanna Matlon
Assistant Professor, School of International Service
at American University

Wednesday, February 16, 2022
12:30-1:50 PM Central Time

In this talk, I explore labor narratives and imaginaries of Black masculinity in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire. In doing so I show how racialized imaginaries of the ideal man shifted in response to changing capitalist regimes, examining colonialism to the period known as la crise (the crisis) as a narrative arc. Complemented by an analysis of Black masculinity vis-à-vis capitalist processes of production, consumption and commodification, I draw on fieldwork I conducted on the livelihoods and lifestyles of underemployed Abidjanais men to illuminate the sustained power of imaginaries even while capitalism affords a deficit of real opportunities.

Please contact Meredith Clason with questions or for assistance at mclason@uchicago.edu.