

# Curriculum Vitae - Maja Mechant

---

Maja Mechant

° Oudenaarde (Belgium), 12/08/1983

## Contact

Ghent University – History Department

Sint Pietersnieuwstraat 35 - UFO

9000 Ghent, Belgium

Tel. +32 (0)9 331 02 89

maja.mechant@ugent.be

## Degrees

- **Master in history – Ghent University (2006)**

Dissertation title (translated): ‘Living conditions and survival strategies of the poor in the Land of Nevele (1690-1795)’

- **Specific teacher training – Ghent University (2006)**

- **Master in Journalism – Erasmus University College Brussels (2008)**

Dissertation title (translated): ‘The representation of the fourth world in popular press’

## Academic employment

- **Assistant – Ghent University, History Department (May 2008 – September 2010)**

Title doctoral dissertation: ‘Women with a deviant survival strategy? The life courses of prostitutes in Bruges, 1750-1790’

Supervision by Prof. Dr. I. Devos (Ghent University – History Department)

Teaching assistant Historical Practice II Early Modern History

Tutor BA en MA theses

- **Doctoral researcher – FWO Vlaanderen/ Ghent University, History Department (October 2010 – September 2014)**

Continuation of doctoral research with funding by the Research Foundation Flandres (FWO)

Teaching assistant Historical Practice II Early Modern History

## Academic training

- Program of the international N.W. Posthumus Institute - Leiden University (2008-2011)

- Doctoral School of Arts, Humanities and Law - Ghent University (2008-2012)

- Introductory Course in Statistics - Department of Sociology, Ghent University (2010)

- Applied Linear Regression - Institute for Continuing Education in Science, Ghent University (2011)

- Advanced Academic English Writing Skills - University Language Centre UCT, Ghent University (2011)

- Databases for Historians I and II - Institute of Historical Research, London (2011)

- Research course in historical demography, Centre for Economic Demography, Lund University

## Associations and memberships

- History Department - Ghent University  
Institute of Early Modern History (Research group Ghent University and VUB)  
Economy – Ecology – Demography (Research group Ghent University)
- Member of N.W. Posthumus Institute, WOG Historical Demography, Forum Gendergeschiedenis, Oudstudenten geschiedenis.

## Publications

- Sofie De Langhe, Maja Mechant and Isabelle Devos, ‘Regionale verschillen in het leven van ongehuwde moeders op het platteland in de Zuidelijke Nederlanden, 1730-1846’, *Tijdschrift voor sociale en economische geschiedenis*, 2011, 1, 2-28.
- Maja Mechant, Sofie De Langhe, Sofie De Veirman, Isabelle Devos en Christa Matthys, ‘Mogelijkheden en beperkingen van de levenslopanalyse voor het vroegmoderne demografisch onderzoek in Vlaanderen’, in: Koen Matthijs, Jan Kok en Hilde Bras, *Leren van historische levenslopen*, Jaarboek 2012, Leuven/Den Haag, Acco, 2012, pp. 75-95.
- Maja Mechant, “*Waerom sij met haeren man niet en woont ende waermede sij haer van haeren kant alleen geneirt.*” Getrouwde alleenstaande prostituees in Brugge tijdens de achttiende eeuw’, *Historica*, 2012, 3, pp. 7-13.
- Maja Mechant, ‘Dishonest and unruly daughters. The combined efforts of families and courts in handling prostitution in eighteenth century Bruges’, *Popolazione e Storia*, 2013, 14 (1), pp. 129-150.
- Maja Mechant, ‘“Betycht van hoererijs.” Het gebruik van de Brugse processen voor onderzoek naar prostitutie (1750-1790)’, H. Deceulaer en L. Puccio (red.), *Het pleit is in den zak!*, Brussel, Rijksarchief, 2014, pp. 221-235.
- Maja Mechant, ‘Geboren en getogen in kwetsbaarheid? De familiale achtergronden van prostituees werkzaam in Brugge tijdens de achttiende eeuw’, in: Isabelle Devos en Bart Van de Putte, *Kwetsbare groepen en historische demografie*, Jaarboek 2014, Leuven/Den Haag, Acco, 2014, pp. 47-69.
- Maja Mechant, ‘“Why did she not live with her husband and how was she able to support herself?” Grass widow prostitutes in eighteenth century Bruges’, in: Ariadne Schmidt, Isabelle Devos en Julie De Groot, *Singles in the cities of North-West Europe, ca. 1000-2000*, Basingstoke, Palgrave, 2015, pp. 158-176.
- Maja Mechant, ‘Selling Sex in a provincial town: Prostitution in Bruges (1600 - present)’, in: Magaly Rodriguez Garcia, Lex Heerma van Voss and Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk (eds.), *Selling sex in the city. Prostitution in world cities, 1600 to present*, Amsterdam: Brill, 2016, forthcoming.
- Maja Mechant, ‘Prostitutes social profiles’, in : Magaly Rodriguez Garcia, Lex Heerma van Voss and Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk (eds.), *Selling sex in the city. Prostitution in world cities, 1600 to present*, Amsterdam: Brill, 2016, forthcoming.

## Conference contributions

- ‘De levensloop van ongehuwde moeders in de vroegmoderne Zuidelijke Nederlanden’, *Eerste Dag van de Historische Demografie*, Gent, 4 december 2008. (with S. De Langhe)

- ‘Vulnerable women? Unmarried mothers in the Southern Netherlands during the eighteenth and First half of the nineteenth century’, *Economy and Society in the Low Countries before 1850: 4<sup>th</sup> Flemish-Dutch Conference*, Leiden, 20-30 Januari 2009. (with S. De Langhe)
- ‘“Betycht van hoererijs”. Prostituees in Brugge aan het eind van de achttiende eeuw’, *Forumdag Gender- en seksualiteitsgeschiedenis: Gender en arbeid, 16<sup>de</sup>-20<sup>ste</sup> eeuw*, Brussel, 8 December 2009.
- ‘Accused of whoring. Prostitutes and the courts in Ghent and Bruges in the eighteenth century’, *European Social Science History Conference*, Gent, 13-16 April 2010.
- ‘Sex, morality and the city. The repression of prostitution in eighteenth century Bruges’, *10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban History*, Gent, 1-4 September 2010.
- ‘Dishonest daughters and whores. A profile of Bruges prostitutes in the eighteenth century’, *Posthumus Conference*, Antwerpen, 12-13 Mei 2011.
- ‘Dishonest and unruly daughters. The combined efforts of families and courts in handling prostitution in eighteenth century Bruges’, *Colloque de la Société de Démographie Historique ‘Histoire de la parentalité à l’époque moderne et contemporaine’*, Parijs, 15-16 September 2011.
- ‘Mogelijkheden en beperkingen van de levenslopanalyse voor het vroegmoderne demografisch onderzoek in Vlaanderen.’ *Dag van de Historische Demografie*, Nijmegen, 8 December 2011. (with S. De Langhe, S. De Veirman, I. Devos and C. Matthys)
- ‘“One of the few ways a woman could make it on her own”. Prostitution as a survival strategy for singles in eighteenth century Bruges.’ *European Social Science History Conference*, Glasgow, 11-14 April 2012.
- ‘Over bordeelmadammen en pooiers: seksesegregatie in de organisatie van prostitutie in Brugge tijdens de 18de eeuw’, *Fifth Day of Historical Demography*, Louvain, 14 December 2012.
- ‘“Why she did not live with her husband and how she was able to support herself?” Grass widow prostitutes in eighteenth century Bruges’, *Singles in the City conference*, Antwerp, 6 March 2013.
- ‘“Betycht van hoererijs.” Het gebruik van de Brugse processen voor onderzoek naar prostitutie (1750-1790), *Conference State Archives: Het pleit is in den zak! Procesdossiers uit het Ancien Régime en hun perspectieven voor historisch onderzoek*, Brussels, 11 March 2013.
- ‘Selling sex in the city: Prostitution in Bruges, 1600 to the present’, *Sex in the City Conference IISG*, Amsterdam, 25-27 April 2013.
- ‘Prostitutes social profiles’, *Sex in the City Conference IISG*, Amsterdam, 25-27 April 2013.
- ‘Geboren en getogen in kwetsbaarheid? De familiale achtergronden van prostituees werkzaam in Brugge tijdens de achttiende eeuw’, *Sixth Day of Historical Demography*, Ghent, 12 December 2013.
- ‘The social profiles of prostitutes, 1600 – present’, *European Social Science History Conference*, Vienna, 23-26 April 2014.