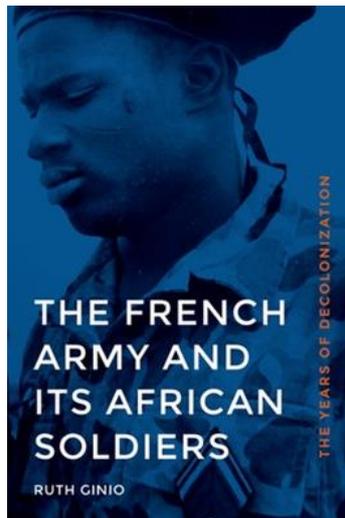


Séminaire avec Ruth Ginio

Présentation d'ouvrage

Jeudi 17 janvier (9h45-11h15)
Sciences Po Bordeaux, Salle B.231

Ruth Ginio, *The French Army and its African Soldiers. The Years of Decolonization* (London, University of Nebraska Press, 2017).



Ruth Ginio est *associate professor* au département d'histoire de l'Université Ben Gourion du Néguev et directrice de l' Inter-University Program for African Studies. Entre 2010 et 2012 elle a été présidente de la Société d'histoire coloniale française. Son projet de recherche actuel porte sur les enquêtes pour meurtre en Afrique Occidentale Française. Elle est l'auteure de deux livres : *The French Army and Its African Soldiers : The Years of Decolonization* (Nebraska University Press, 2017) et *French Colonialism Unmasked : The Vichy Years in French West Africa* (Nebraska University Press, 2006). Elle a coédité avec Efrat Ben –Ze'ev et Jay Winter un volume titré *Shadows of War : A Social History of Silence in the 20th Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2007).

Résumé de l'ouvrage

As part of France's opposition to the independence of its former colonies in the years following World War II, its army remained deeply invested in preventing the decolonization of the territories comprising French West Africa (FWA). Even as late as the 1950s, the French Army clung to the hope that it was possible to retain FWA as a colony, believing that its relations with African soldiers could offer the perfect model for continued ties between France and its West African territories.

In The French Army and Its African Soldiers Ruth Ginio examines the French Army's attempts to win the hearts and souls of the local population at a time of turbulence and uncertainty regarding future relations between the colonizer and colony. Through the prism of the army's relationship with its African soldiers, Ginio considers how the army's activities and political position during FWA's decolonization laid the foundation for France's continued active presence in some of these territories after independence. This project is the first thorough examination of the French Army's involvement in West Africa before independence and provides the essential historical background to understanding France's complex postcolonial military relations with its former territories in Africa.

Introduction : Rozenn Nakanabo Diallo (LAM, Sciences Po Bordeaux), Myriam Aït Aoudia (CED, Sciences Po Bordeaux).

Discussion : Etienne Smith (LAM, Sciences Po Bordeaux)