

2019 International Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies **June 23 – 30, 2019**

Memory and Conflict: Remembering and Forgetting in Divided Societies

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Course Description

This course invites students to explore the study of critical Peace and Conflict Studies through a journey in the field of Memory Studies. The course will focus on the role of social memory studies in peace research. More specifically, it will allow students to delve into the analysis of internal dynamics of societies in or after conflict by focusing on the way(s) in which they negotiate their pasts, presents and futures in the aftermath of war, conflict, repression, dictatorship, genocide and mass atrocities. As such, the course will focus on the role of memory in processes of peacebuilding and reconciliation as well as bottom-up approaches to conflict and its transformation.

The course will introduce students to dynamics and frameworks allowing the social organization of memory, and modes in which entire communities (and not only individuals) preserve and remember the past, commemorate it, deny or obliterate it. Finally, the course will highlight practices related to memory work and memory activism in spaces of conflicts over the narratives and representations of the past.

In order to do so, the course will first offer an introduction to some underpinning concepts and theoretical frameworks in social memory studies and in conflict studies. Students will then apply this theoretical knowledge to a number of case studies, allowing them to further investigate the role of memory and memory activism in conflict analysis, and to think comparatively about mnemonic processes in conflict and post-conflict transformation.

Course Structure:

- Theoretical introduction to the fields of Peace and Conflict Studies & Memory Studies;
- Collective Memory and National Calendars: collective memory, community memory, social organization of national memory, commemorative events, alternative memories, counter memories;
- Memory Work and Memory Activism in and after conflict.

Case studies will include:

- Memory in On-going Conflicts: The Memories of 1948 among Israeli & Palestinian Communities
- Memory, Silence and Denial: The Memories of the Wars of the 1990s in Serbia

Background Readings:

This selected list of readings will help you prepare for the course and can serve as entry points to our discussions during the week of the summer school:

Memory Studies:

- Gillis, John R. "Memory and Identity: The History of a Relationship," in John R. Gillis (ed.) *Commemorations*. Princeton, 1994.
- Dragović-Soso, Jasna. "Conflict, Memory, Accountability: What Does Coming to Terms with the Past Mean?" in Wolfgang Petritsch and Vedran Džihic (eds), *Conflict and Memory: Bridging Past and Future in [South East] Europe*. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2010.
- Bond Lucy, Stef Craps, and Pieter Vermeule, "Introduction: Memory on the Move," in Bond Lucy, Stef Craps, and Pieter Vermeule (eds.) *Memory Unbound: Tracing the Dynamics of Memory Studies*. Berghan Books, 2016, pp. 1-26.
- De Cesari, Chiara and Ann Rigney (Eds.) *Transnational Memory: Circulation, Articulation, Scales*. De Gruyter, 2014. Introduction chapter.
- Olick, Jeffrey, Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi and Daniel Levy (eds). *The Collective Memory Reader*. Oxford University Press, 2011. Introduction chapter.
- Kubik, Jan, and Michael Bernhard. "A Theory of the Politics of Memory," in Michael Bernhard and Jan Kubik (eds.) *Twenty Years After Communism*. The Politics of Memory and Commemoration. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Peace & Conflict Studies:

- Mac Ginty, Roger, and Richmond, Oliver P. 'The Local Turn in Peace Building: A Critical Agenda for Peace', *Third World Quarterly* 34, 5, 2013. pp. 763-783.
- Lederach, John Paul. *Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies* Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Press, 1997. Pp. 3-61, 73-85.
- Ramsbotham, Oliver, Woodhouse, Tom & Miall, Hugh. *Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The prevention, management and transformation of deadly conflicts*. Cambridge, UK: Polity, 2011. Chapter 9 (Peacebuilding); Chapter 10 (Reconciliation).
- Barsalou, Judy and Baxter Victoria. "The Urge to Remember: The Role of Memorials in Social Reconstructions and Transitional Justice." *Stabilization and Reconstruction Series No. 5*, United States Institute for Peace, January 2007.

One of the questions we will raise this week: Does collective remembrance of a troubled past impede reconciliation?

This links may help you in your preparation to discuss this question:

- ICTJ online Debate *Does collective remembrance of a troubled past impede reconciliation?*
<https://www.ictj.org/news/online-debate-remembrance-reconciliation>
- Yehuda Elkana, "The Need to Forget," *Haaretz*, March 2, 1988.
<https://muckrack.com/link/6OI1/the-need-to-forget-by-yehuda-elkana>

- Course Outline by Day -

Monday, June 24 (day 1)

Morning class:

10:00-11:00 Group introduction
Course introduction

11:15-12:30 **Theoretical Frameworks:** social memory studies, and its meeting points with conflict analysis & conflict transformation

Readings:

- Zerubavel, Eviatar. *Collective Memory and the Social Shape of the Past: Time Maps*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2003. Introduction & Chapters 4, 5.

Afternoon class:

14:00-16:00 Collective Memory and National Calendars: time, memory and the nation

Readings:

- Zerubavel, Eviatar. "Calendars and History: A Comparative Study of the Social Organization of National Memory," in Jeffrey Olick (ed.) *States of Memory: Continuities, Conflicts, and Transformations in National Retrospection*. Durham: Duke University, 2003. Pp. 315-337.

Tuesday, June 25 (day 2)

Morning class:

10:00-11:00 **Theoretical Frameworks continues:** Collective memory (silence/obliteration/denial); community memory; social organization of national memory; commemorative events, alternative and counter memories, memory work & memory activism

Readings:

- Zerubavel, Yael. *Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the making of Israeli National Tradition*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997. Chapter 1 (Pp. 3-12).
- Gutman, Yifat. *Memory Activism: Reimagining the Past for the Future in Israel-Palestine*. Vanderblit, 2016. Introduction Chapter.

Additional readings:

- Jelin, Elizabeth. *State Repression and the Labors of Memory*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2003(chapter 3: Political Struggles for Memory).

11:00-12:30 **Film:** A film by Eyal Sivan: *Yizkor: Slaves to Memory* (1991) [98 minutes] [*watch part I only*]

Afternoon class:

14:00-16:00 Memory, Conflict and asymmetric Power Relations: An Introduction to the protracted issues of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

- The creation of the states of Israel
- The Nakba
- Citizenship & mnemonic communities

Background Readings:

- Beinun, Joel and Lisa Hajjar. *Palestine, Israel and Arab Israeli Conflict Premier*, Middle East Research and Information Project (MERIP). Available on http://www.merip.org/palestine-israel_primer/Palestine-Israel Primer MERIP.pdf

Wednesday, June 26 (day 3)

Morning Class:

- 10:00-12:30 The Hegemonic Memory of 1948 in Jewish Israeli society in Israel
- The Official state calendar & state-sponsored commemoration events and practices
 - Politics of Victimhood and bereavement
 - Alternative commemorative events
 - The Israeli-Palestinian Memorial Ceremony ([The Parents Circle](#) , [Combatants for Peace](#))
 - Alternative Torch Lighting Ceremony ([Yesh Gvul](#))
 - Memory Activism
 - Memory Laws: The law on the Nakba

Readings:

- Zerubavel, Yael. *Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the making of Israeli National Tradition*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1997. Chapter 2 (pp. 13-36).
- Zerthal, Idith. *Israel's Holocaust and the Politics of Nationhood*. Cambridge University Press, 2005. Chapter 1.
- Gutman, Yifat. "Looking Backward to the Future: Counter-memory as Oppositional Knowledge-Production in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," *Current Sociology*, 2015.

Additional Recommended Reading

- Dudai, Ron and Hillel Cohen. "Dealing with the Past when the Conflict is Still Present: Civil Society Truth-Seeking Initiatives in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict", in Rosalind Shaw and Lars Waldorf (eds.), *Localizing Transitional Justice*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2010, pp. 228-252.
- Azoulay, Ariella. *Constituent Violence, 1947-1950: A visual genealogy of a regime and the transformation of the catastrophe into "a catastrophe from their point of view"*. English translation of Hebrew text, Resling, 2009.

Film: A film by Yulie Cohen: *My Land Zion* (2004) [60 minutes]

Afternoon class:

- 14:00-16:00 The memories of 1948 in Palestinian societies (in diaspora, in Israel and Palestine)
- Commemoration as a form of political protest
 - Memory and minority majority relations
 - Memory in asymmetric conflicts

Readings:

- Abu-Lughod, Laila and Ahmad H. Sa'di. "Introduction: the Claim of Memory," in Laila Abu-Lughod and Ahmad H. Sa'di (eds.) *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory*, Columbia University Press, 2007.

- Rochelle, Davis. "Mapping the Past, Re-creating the Homeland," in Laila Abu-Lughod and Ahmad H. Sa'di (eds.) *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory*, Columbia University Press, 2007. Pp. 53-75.
- Sorek, Tamir. *Palestinian Commemoration in Israel: Calendars, Monuments & Martyrs*. Stanford University Press, 2015. Introduction Chapter.

Additional Recommended Reading:

- Abu-Lughod, Laila. "Return to Half-Ruins: Memory, Post memory, and Living History in Palestine," in Laila Abu-Lughod and Ahmad H. Sa'di (eds.) *Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2007. Pp. 77-104.

Thursday, June 27 (day 4)

Morning class:

10:00-11:15 Introduction the Break-Up of Yugoslavia and the Wars of the 1990s;
The Fragmented/contested Memories of the 1990s in Serbia

Background Readings YU breakup:

- Dejan, Jović. "The Disintegration of Yugoslavia: A Critical Review of Explanatory Approaches," *European Journal of Social Theory*, vol. 4 (1), 2001.

11:30-12:30 Memories of the 1990s in Post- Milošević Serbia: Beyond Transitional Justice

- Mnemonic communities & and mnemonic battles in Serbia [WW2 and the 1990s];
- The new post-Yugoslav Calendar in Serbia
- State sponsored vs. Alternative commemorative events
 - The Memories of the 1999 NATO Bombing
 - Remembering the war in Kosovo in Serbia
 - Remembering Srebrenica in Belgrade

Readings:

- Gordy, Eric. "Tracing Dialogue on the Legacy of War Crimes in Serbia." In Dubravka Žarkov & Marlies Glasius (Eds.), *Narratives of Justice in and Out of the Courtroom*. New York: Springer, 2013.
- Fridman, Orli. (2016). "Memories of the 1999 NATO Bombings in Belgrade, Serbia." *Südosteuropa. Journal for Policy and Society*. Thematic Section: The 1999 NATO Bombing. Memories, Narratives and Histories (Guest Editors: Orli Fridman and Krisztina Rácz). Vol. 64 No. 4. Pp. 438-443.
- Dragović-Soso, Jasna. "The Parting Ways: Public Reckoning with the Recent Past in Post-Milošević Serbia." In Timothy William Waters (Ed.), *The Milošević Trial*. Oxford University Press, 2013. Pp. 389-408.

Additional Recommended Readings:

- Cohen, Stanley. *States of Denial: Knowing about Atrocities and Suffering*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001. Preface and chapter 1 (pp. xi-xiv, 1-20).
- Kuljić, Todor. "Remembering crimes—proposal and reactions," In: Vujadinović D and Goati V (eds) *Between Authoritarianism and Democracy, volume III Serbia at the Political Crossroads*. Belgrade: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and Centar za demokratsku tranziciju, 2009. (pp. 197–212).

- Đureinović, Jelena. "The Turns in the Memory Politics and Diplomatic Relations Intertwined: The Commemorations of the Day of the Liberation of Belgrade in Contemporary Serbia." A paper presented at the ASN World Convention Columbia University, 14-16 April 2016.

Afternoon class:

14:00-16:00 The city as our book: Group Observations of Belgrade's monuments [as related to politics of memory of the 1990s]

Assigned texts:

- Lavrence, Christine. "Between Monumental History and Experience: Remembering and Forgetting War in Belgrade." *Ethnologie française* XXVII, 2007.
- Badescu, Gruia. "'Achieved without Ambiguity?'" Memorializing Victimhood in Belgrade after the 1999 NATO Bombing." *Sudosteuropa* Vol 64 no. 4, 2016.
- Davenport, Ben. "'A Heritage of Resistance' - the Changing Meanings of Belgrade's Generalštab." In Marie Louise Stig Sorenson & Dacia Viejo Rosa (eds.) *War and Cultural Heritage. Biography of a Place*. Cambridge, 2015.
- David, Lea. "Mediating international and domestic demands: mnemonic battles surrounding the monument to the fallen of the wars of the 1990s in Belgrade." *Nationalities Papers* 42(4), 2014.

Friday June 28 (day 5):

Morning Class:

Group Presentations and discussions

Afternoon Class:

14:00 – 16:00 Memory Activism in Serbia, Hashtag Memory Activism

Inter-generational shifts in Memory Activism: from *Not in My Name*, to *Too Young to Remember Determined not to Forget*

- [Batajnica Memorial Initiative](#)

Readings

- Fridman, Orli. "Alternative Calendars and Memory Work in Serbia: Anti-war activism after Milošević." *Memory Studies* 8(2), 2015.
- Fridman, Orli. "Too Young to Remember Determined Not to Forget": Memory Activists Engaging with Returning ICTY Convicts." *International Criminal Justice Review*, 28(4), 2018.

Additional Recommended Readings:

- Petrović, Vladimir. "The ICTY Library: War Criminals as Authors, Their Works as Sources." *International Criminal Justice Review*, 28(4), 2018.

16:30 Optional: Film Screening & discussion: [The Trial of Ratko Mladić](#)

Saturday June 29 (day 6)

Morning Class:

10:00-12:30 Comparative discussions

Afternoon class:

14:00-15:00 Course closure

15:15-16:00 Closing ceremony of the Summer School