

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill,  
Department of History

HIST 890 (Graduate Seminar:  
Topics in History)

# History and Memory: An Introduction into Theory, Methodology and Research

Fall 2014



## SYLLABUS

**Instructor:** Karen Hagemann  
**Time of the Course:** Monday: 5:30 – 8:00 pm  
**Location of the Course:** Hamilton Hall 570  
**Office Hours:** Monday: 1:00 – 3:30 pm or by appointment  
**Office:** Hamilton Hall 566  
**Email:** [hagemann@unc.edu](mailto:hagemann@unc.edu)

### AIMS OF THE COURSE

What is the relationship between history and memory? How are these two practices/ways of knowing different from each other? How does memory make history relevant? How does it disrupt and remake history? What methods should historians use to study memory as part of their own historical investigations? How have memories shaped personal identities, popular understandings of the past, communities, and even a sense of nationalism? In the past two decades, historians have become intensely interested in the power of memory in shaping public interpretation and knowledge about the past, but also how memories and counter-memories shape individual's relationship to that past. This graduate seminar explores the theory, methodology and scholarship on history and memory, and examines some broad questions about the importance of studying collective memory. Although memories can be intensely personal and part of the cognitive processes that make us human, this class will not delve into the new scientific studies on memory (although there are many). This class will also not engage film, literature, poetry, or visual arts, all of which have made their own contributions to a broader field of memory studies. Since this is a history class, we will be concerned, principally, with historical writing on the topic.

March 31, 2014

## FORMAT OF THE COURSE

This course is intended to acquaint students with some of the major theoretical and methodological approaches to history and memory. We will seek both to understand some of the theories that have been particularly useful, and we will explore how they have been and can be put to practical use in historical research and writing. The central question of the relationship between history and memory will tie the course together. In the first part we will read some classical texts from scholars such as Maurice Halbwachs, Pierre Nora, Jan and Aleida Assmann, Patrick H. Hutton, Alon Confino and others on the subject of history and memory that are of international and interdisciplinary importance. In the second part we will analyze case studies that explore with a broad variety of approaches the European memories of the First and Second World War.

The heart of the seminar is the discussion in class. The success of this discussion depends on the preparedness of all students. Everyone should have read the week's assigned readings before class. The seminar will center on their discussion. The course will be a collaborative endeavor in which we investigate theories and methodologies in the field of women's and gender history because we hope to enhance our own work.

## THE READING

We will read book chapters, journal articles and monographs. All students will have to read the **REQUIRED READING** for each week. **I pre-ordered the books at the UNC Text-Book-Store. Articles and book chapters will be available as PDFs on Sakai.**

## DRAFT COURSE PROGRAM

### *I: Introduction: Remembering and Forgetting*

#### **Week 1:**

**Monday, August 25, 2014**

#### ***Introductory Overviews of the Development of Memory Studies***

*Required Reading:*

- Burke, Peter. "History as Social Memory," in *Memory: History, Culture and the Mind*, edited by Thomas Butler (Oxford and New York, 1990), 97-113.
- Confino, Alon, "Collective Memory and Cultural History: Problems of Method," *AHR* 102 (1997): 1386-1403.
- Klein, Kerwin Lee, "On the Emergence of Memory in Historical Discourse," *Representations* 69, Special Issue: Grounds for Remembering (Winter 2000): 127-150.
- Kansteiner, Wulf. "Finding Meaning in Memory: A Methodological Critique of Memory Studies." *History and Theory* 41.2 (2002): 179-197.

**Week 2:****Monday, September 1, 2014: Labor Day***No Class****II: Theory and Methodology: History and Memory*****Week 3:****Monday, September 8, 2014*****Social and Collective Memory: Maurice Halbwachs****Required Reading:*

- Hutton, Patrick H. "Collective memory and collective mentalities: the Halbwachs-Ariès connection," *Historical reflections/Réflexions historiques* 15, no. 2 (1988): 311-22.
- Hutton, Patrick H., *History as an Art of Memory* (Burlington, Vt., 1993), introduction and 1-26.
- Halbwachs, Maurice, *On Collective Memory*, edited, translated, and with an introduction by Lewis A. Coser (Chicago, 1992), 37-83.

***Additional Book Reports on:***

- Hutton, Patrick H., *History as an Art of Memory* (Burlington, Vt., 1993). (Plus three reviews)
- Halbwachs, Maurice, *On Collective Memory*, edited, translated, and with an introduction by Lewis A. Coser (Chicago, 1992).

**Week 4:****Monday, September 15, 2014***No Class***Week 5:****Monday, September 22, 2014***No Class***Week 6:****Monday, September 29, 2014*****Sites of Memory / Les Lieux de Mémoire: Pierre Nora****Required Reading:*

- Nora, Pierre, "Between Memory and History: Les Lieux de Mémoire," *Representations*, 26, Special Issue: Memory and Counter-Memory (Spring 1989): 7-25.
- Nora, Pierre, „Introduction,“ in *Rethinking France = Les lieux de mémoire* (Chicago, 2001)
- "Lieux de mémoire—Sites of Memory," in *A Companion to Cultural Memory Studies*, ed. Astrid Erll and Ansgar Nünning (Berlin, 2010), 19-76.
- Steven Englund, "The Ghost of Nation Past: Review of Les Lieux de mémoire, part 1. La République, part 2. La Nation by Pierre Nora," *The Journal of Modern History* Vol. 64, No. 2 (1992): 299-320.

**Additional Book Report on:**

- Nora, Pierre, ed., *Rethinking France = Les lieux de mémoire* (Chicago, 2001), vol. 1. (Plus three reviews)

**Week 7:****Monday, October 6, 2014*****Cultural and Communicative Memory: Jan and Aleida Assmann****Required Reading:*

- Assmann, Aleida, “Canon and Archive,” in *A Companion to Cultural Memory Studies*, ed. Astrid Erll and Ansgar Nünning (Berlin, 2010), 97–107.
- Assmann, Jan and John Czaplicka, “Collective Memory and Cultural Identity,” *New German Critique* 65 (1995): 125–133.
- “Memory and Cultural History,” in *A Companion to Cultural Memory Studies*, ed. Astrid Erll and Ansgar Nünning (Berlin, 2010), 77–141 (includes also the above chapter by Assmann)

**Additional Book Report on:**

- Assmann, Aleida, *Cultural Memory and Western Civilization: Functions, Media, Archives* (New York, 2011). (Plus three reviews, if necessary in the earlier German edition)

**Week 8:****Monday, October 13, 2014*****Gender and Memory***

- Hirsch, Marianne and Valerie Smith, “Feminism and Cultural Memory: An Introduction,” *Signs* 28.1 (2002): 1–19.
- Schraut, Sylvia and Sylvia Paletschek, “Remembrance and Gender: Making Gender Visible and Inscribing Women into Memory Culture,” in *The Gender of Memory: Cultures of Remembrance in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe*, ed. Sylvia Paletschek and Sylvia Schraut (Frankfurt/M., 2008), 267–287.
- Assmann, Aleida, “Geschlecht und kulturelles Gedächtnis,” *Freiburger FrauenStudien* 19 (2006): 29–46. (If you can read German)

**Additional Book Report on:**

- Paletschek, Sylvia and Sylvia Schraut, eds., *The Gender of Memory: Cultures of Remembrance in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe* (Frankfurt/M., 2008). (Plus three reviews)

***III: Case Studies: World War I and II in European Memory*****Week 9:****Monday, October 20, 2014*****Remembering War: The Great War between Memory and History in the Twentieth Century****Required Reading:*

- Winter, Jay M., *Remembering War: The Great War between Memory and History in the Twentieth Century* (New Haven, 2006). (Plus three reviews)

**Additional Book Reports on:**

- Fussell, Paul, *The Great War and Modern Memory* (New York, 2013, first published in 1975)
- Winter, Jay M., *Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning. The Great War in European Cultural History* (Cambridge and New York, 1995).

## Week 10:

**Monday, October 27, 2014**

***Memory, Monuments and Material Culture: The Construction of World War I Memories in France***

**Visiting Guest: Prof. Daniel Sherman**

*Required Reading:*

- Sherman, Daniel J., *The Construction of Memory in Interwar France* (Chicago, 1999). (Plus three reviews)

***Additional Book Report on:***

- Nicholas J. Saunders and Paul Cornish, eds., *Contested Objects: Material Memories of the Great War* (London and New York, 2009).

## Week 11:

**Monday, November 3, 2014**

***Gender, Culture and Memory: The First and Second World War in British Memory***

**Visiting Guest: Prof. Susan Pennybacker ?**

*Required Reading:*

- Noakes, Lucy, *War and the British: Gender, Memory and National Identity* (London and New York, 1998). (Plus three reviews)

***Additional Book Report on:***

- Koureas, Gabriel, *Memory, Masculinity and National Identity in British Visual Culture, 1914-1930: A Study of 'Unconquerable Manhood'* (Aldershot, 2007).

## Week 12:

**Monday, November 10, 2014**

***Conflicting Memories: World War I and II in Eastern European Memory***

**Visiting Guest: Prof. Don Raleigh ?**

*Required Reading:*

- Petrone, Karen, *The Great War in Russian Memory* (Bloomington, IN, 2011). (Plus three reviews)

***Additional Book Report on:***

- Maria Bucur, *Heroes and Victims: Remembering war in Twentieth-century Romania* (Bloomington, IN, 2009).

## Week 13:

**Monday, November 17, 2014**

***The Second World War, Vichy and the Resistance in French Memory***

**Visiting Guest: Prof. Don Reid**

*Required Reading:*

- Rousso, Henry, *The Vichy Syndrome: History and Memory in France since 1944* (Cambridge, 1991). (Plus three reviews)

***Additional Book Report on:***

- Reid, Donald, *Germaine Tillion, Lucie Aubrac, and the Politics of Memories of the French Resistance* (Newcastle, UK, 2007).

## **Week 14:**

**Monday, November 24, 2014**

### ***The Second World War, the Nazi Past and the Holocaust in German Memories***

*Required Reading:*

- Moeller, Robert G., *War Stories: The Search for a Usable Past in the Federal Republic of Germany* (Berkeley, CA, 2001). (Plus three reviews)

***Additional Book Reports on:***

- Herf, Jeffrey, *Divided Memory: The Nazi Past in the Two Germanys* (Cambridge and New York, 1998).
- Zehfuss, Maja, *Wounds of Memory: The Politics of War in Germany* (Cambridge and New York, 2007).

## **Week 15:**

***Monday, December 1, 2014: Final Class***

**Friday, December 5, 2014: The final review essay is due.**

Please bring one copy to my office and send it in addition to me by email.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **a) Class participation (20 % of the final grade)**

It is essential that *everyone participate fully and regularly in class discussions*. Careful, full, and timely reading of all material assigned for each week is required. Everyone should come to class fully prepared to discuss all the *required reading*.

### **b) Preparation of two Class Discussions (15 % of the final grade)**

Because we will train how to lead an academic discussion and stimulate an interesting exchange of ideas, each student will be asked to prepare one or two class discussions (this depends on the number of students), together with the other student(s) who are responsible to write a book review for the week.

The **introductory presentation of the required reading** should not be longer than **15-20 minutes**. Students should discuss briefly the main theme of the class, i.e. present the main problems related to this theme, and then summarize first the required reading by focusing on:

- the bio of the author(s) and his/her research interest(s) and main publications (it is encouraged to contact the author and ask him/her about the book and its importance in his/her own research)
- the main interest and questions of the articles/book

- the theoretical and methodological approach of the reading
- the major concepts of the study/studies and their definitions by the author(s)
- the groups of primary documents the author used, their possibilities and limits in respect of the formulated interest and questions
- the structure of the articles/book and their/its argumentation
- the authors' main thesis and arguments used in support of it
- the perception of the book in reviews by other authors (please select 3-4 reviews, see below) (of course only when a book is assigned).

We will start the **discussion** of the required reading with a round of first responses to the reading by all students in class.

**For the presentation of the required reading in class the responsible student should prepare a handout** with a short bio of the author(s) of up to 20 lines (including their current position, the main fields of research, and their 4-5 most important publications, and their website), a brief abstract of each of the assigned articles / the book of up to 20 lines, and a selection of five keyword under which he/she would advertise each of the articles / book.

**Please email this handout and up to 3 professional reviews of the required reading latest until Sunday 5 pm before class to all seminar participants.**

***Please send me your ranked selection of responsibilities for the classes by Sunday, September 7, 2014, noon.***

### **c) Two Book Reviews (15 % of the final grade for each)**

The book review has the function to present important monographs and anthologies, which use theories and methodologies in historical practice, to the class. The proposed books thereby add an important dimension to class discussion. The book review should be approx. 1000 words long and be typed, double-spaced on standard size paper. *Please define in the headline the journal for which you intend to write.* Writing book reviews is part of the obligations of every professional historian, therefore graduate students should learn this. Please identify for which journal you would write the review.

**Please email the book review latest until Sunday 5 pm before class to all seminar participants.**

In addition the students who prepare a book review are asked to present this book in class. In their **oral book report, which should not be longer than 10 minutes, they should follow the model of the presentation of the required reading.**

***Please send me your ranked selection by Sunday, September 7, 2014, noon.***

### **c) Review Essay (35 % of the final grade)**

*The review essay should discuss five monographs on one theme related to the subject of the class.* You should try to think about a topic for the essay, which is useful for the conceptual framework of your own research interests. To fulfill the requirements of this assignment:

- 1) Students must turn in a brief one-paragraph *statement of their plans for the Review Essay together with a draft title and a*
- 2) *bibliography four weeks after the start of the course* via email.
- 3) ***The final version of the Review Essay must be turned in by email by Friday, December 5, 2014.***

*Please bring one copy to my office and send it in addition to me by email. The Review Essay should be about 10-15 pages long and be typed, double-spaced on standard size paper.*

## SELECTED LITERATURE

- Assmann, Aleida, "Canon and Archive," in *A Companion to Cultural Memory Studies*, ed. Astrid Erll and Ansgar Nünning (Berlin, 2010), 97–107.
- Assmann, Aleida, "Geschlecht und kulturelles Gedächtnis," *Freiburger FrauenStudien* 19 (2006): 29–46.
- Assmann, Aleida, *Cultural Memory and Western Civilization: Functions, Media, Archives* (New York, 2011).
- Assmann, Jan and John Czaplicka, "Collective Memory and Cultural Identity," *New German Critique* 65 (1995): 125–133.
- Brundage, W. Fitzhugh, *The Southern Past: A Clash of Race and Memory* (Cambridge, Mass., 2005)
- Bucur, Maria, *Heroes and Victims: Remembering war in Twentieth-century Romania* (Bloomington, IN, 2009).
- Burke, Peter. "History as Social Memory," in *Memory: History, Culture and the Mind*, edited by Thomas Butler (Oxford and New York, 1990), 97-113.
- Chabal, Emile and Robert Tombs, eds., *Britain and France in Two World Wars: Truth, Myth and Memory* (London, 2013).
- Confino, Alon and Peter Fritzsche, eds., *The Work of Memory: New Directions in the Study of German Society and Culture* (Urbana, IL, 2002)
- Confino, Alon, "Collective Memory and Cultural History: Problems of Method," *AHR* 102 (1997): 1386–1403.
- Crane, Susan A., *Collecting and Historical Consciousness in Early Nineteenth-century Germany* (Ithaca, N.Y., 2000).
- Darman, Peter, *Heroic Voices of the Spanish Civil War: Memories from the International Brigades* (London, 2009).
- Erll, Astrid and Ansgar Nünning, eds., *A Companion to Cultural Memory Studies* (Berlin, 2010).
- Erll, Astrid and Ansgar Nünning, eds., *Cultural Memory Studies: An International and Interdisciplinary Handbook* (Berlin, 2008).
- Erll, Astrid and Ansgar Nünning, eds., *Gedächtniskonzepte der Literaturwissenschaft: Theoretische Grundlegung und Anwendungsperspektiven* (Berlin, 2005).
- Erll, Astrid and Ansgar Nünning, eds., *Medien des kollektiven Gedächtnisses: Konstruktivität, Historizität, Kulturspezifität* (Berlin, 2004).



- Fritzsche, Peter, "Specters of History: On Nostalgia, Exile, and Modernity," *AHR* 106.5 (2001): 1587–1618.
- Fritzsche, Peter, "The Case of Memory," *JMH* 73.1 (2001): 87–117.
- Fritzsche, Peter, *Stranded in the Present: Modern Time and the Melancholy of History* (Cambridge, MA, 2004).
- Fussell, Paul, *The Great War and Modern Memory* (New York, 2013)
- Gillis, John, *Commemorations: The Politics of National Identity* (Princeton, 1996).
- Halbwachs, Maurice, *On Collective Memory*, edited, translated, and with an introduction by Lewis A. Coser (Chicago, 1992).
- Herf, Jeffrey, *Divided Memory: The Nazi Past in the Two Germanys* (Cambridge and New York, 1998).
- Hirsch, Marianne and Valerie Smith, "Feminism and Cultural Memory: An Introduction," *Signs* 28.1 (2002): 1–19.
- Hirsch, Marianne and Valerie Smith, eds., *Gender and Cultural Memory*, special issue, *Signs* 82:1 (2002).
- Hutton, Patrick H. "Collective memory and collective mentalities: the Halbwachs-Ariès connection," *Historical reflections/Réflexions historiques* 15, no. 2 (1988): 311-22.
- Hutton, Patrick H., *History as an Art of Memory* (Burlington, Vt., 1993).
- Kansteiner, Wulf. "Finding Meaning in Memory: A Methodological Critique of Memory Studies." *History and Theory* 41.2 (2002): 179-197.
- Keren, Michael and Holger H. Herwig, eds., *War Memory and Popular Culture: Essays on Modes of Remembrance and Commemoration* (Jefferson, NC, 2009).
- Klein, Kerwin Lee, "On the Emergence of Memory in Historical Discourse," *Representations* 69, Special Issue: Grounds for Remembering (Winter 2000): 127-150.
- Koureas, Gabriel, *Memory, Masculinity and National Identity in British Visual Culture, 1914-1930: A Study of 'Unconquerable Manhood'* (Aldershot, 2007).
- Margalit, Gilad, *Suffering, and Memory: Germany Remembers its Dead of World War II* (Bloomington, IN, 2010).
- Moeller, Robert G., *War Stories: The Search for a Usable Past in the Federal Republic of Germany* (Berkeley, CA, 2001).
- Nicholas J. Saunders and Paul Cornish, eds., *Contested Objects: Material Memories of the Great War* (London and New York, 2009).
- Noakes, Lucy and Juliette Pattinson, eds., *British Cultural Memory and the Second World War* (London, 2014).
- Noakes, Lucy, *War and the British: Gender, Memory and National Identity* (London and New York, 1998).
- Nora, Pierre, "Between Memory and History: Les Lieux de Mémoire," *Representations*, 26, Special Issue: Memory and Counter-Memory (Spring 1989): 7-25.

- Nora, Pierre, „Introduction,“ in *Rethinking France = Les lieux de mémoire* (Chicago, 2001).
- Paletschek, Sylvia and Sylvia Schraut, “Introduction: Gender and Memory Culture in Europe—Female Representations in Historical Perspective,” in *The Gender of Memory: Cultures of Remembrance in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe*, ed. Sylvia Paletschek and Sylvia Schraut (Frankfurt/M., 2008), 7–28.
- Paletschek, Sylvia and Sylvia Schraut, eds., *The Gender of Memory: Cultures of Remembrance in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe* (Frankfurt/M., 2008).
- Petrone, Karen, *The Great War in Russian Memory* (Bloomington, IN, 2011)
- Reid, Donald, *Germaine Tillion, Lucie Aubrac, and the Politics of Memories of the French Resistance* (Newcastle, UK, 2007).
- Ricoeur, Paul, *Memory, History, Forgetting* (Chicago, 2004), pp. 56-86 and 412-500.
- Rossington, Michael and Anne Whitehead, eds. *Theories of Memory: A Reader* (Baltimore, 2007).
- Rousso, Henry, *The Vichy Syndrome: History and Memory in France since 1944* (Cambridge, 1991).
- Schraut, Sylvia and Sylvia Paletschek, “Remembrance and Gender: Making Gender Visible and Inscripting Women into Memory Culture,” in *The Gender of Memory: Cultures of Remembrance in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Europe*, ed. Sylvia Paletschek and Sylvia Schraut (Frankfurt/M., 2008), 267–287.
- Sherman, Daniel J., *The Construction of Memory in Interwar France* (Chicago, 1999).
- Uttl, Bob et al., eds., *Memory and Emotion: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (Oxford, 2006).
- Winter, Jay and Emmanuel Sivan, eds., *War and Remembrance in the Twentieth Century* (Cambridge, 1999)
- Winter, Jay M., *Remembering War: The Great War between Memory and History in the Twentieth Century* (New Haven, 2006).
- Winter, Jay M., *Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning: The Great War in European Cultural History* (Cambridge and New York, 1995).
- Zehfuss, Maja, *Wounds of Memory: The Politics of War in Germany* (Cambridge and New York, 2007).
- Ziemann, Benjamin, *Contested Commemorations: Republican War Veterans and Weimar Political Culture* (Cambridge and New York, 2013).