



FW 2022-23

AP/EN 4050 6.0A (Y)	<i>The Arts of Memory</i>
Course Director:	Geoffrey MacDonald gmacd@yorku.ca Office Hours by appointment
Time:	Tuesdays 2:30-5:30 PM
Delivery Format:	SEMINAR
Description:	<p>We begin with an examination of cultural memory studies and its application to literature and other artistic media. Students in this course analyze how poetry, fiction, drama, cinema, visual arts, agitprop, and photography respond to, recall, and reimagine culture in the wake of trauma and oppression. Using a selection of texts, we consider creative representations from around the world—Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas—in relation to settler colonialism, intergenerational trauma, war, transatlantic slavery, reparations, violence against women and children, and Indigenous resurgence.</p> <p>We consider the aesthetic mode of cultural memory and its role in healing and social justice. In the process, students reinforce valuable critical skills in literary and other arts criticism and have the opportunity to test their textual analysis through seminar presentations and facilitation.</p> <p>Thematically organized around studies in memory, this course traverses literature, philosophy, psychology, and the visual arts, from Plato to the digital age, in an effort to understand the interrelatedness of all the arts with respect to one of the most complicated domains of human thought and practice.</p>
Category:	A
Historical Requirement:	N/A

Requirements:	Participation 20% Seminar Presentations 30% (2 x 15%) Research Essay 30% Digital Review Assignment 20%
Reading List:	Brand, Dionne. <i>A Map to the Door of No Return: Notes to Belonging</i> . Vintage Canada, 2002. Dash, Julie. <i>Daughters of the Dust</i> . American Playhouse, 1991.* Gordimer, Nadine. <i>The Conservationist</i> . Penguin Books, 1978. Harris, Aleshea. <i>Is God Is</i> . Playwrights Canada Press, 2022. Hulme, Keri. <i>The Bone People</i> . Penguin Books, 1986. Khalidi, Ismail. "Tennis in Nablus." <i>Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora</i> . Edited by Khalidi and Naomi Wallace. Theatre Communications Group, 2015.* Levy, Andrea. <i>The Long Song</i> . Penguin, 2010. Maracle, Lee. <i>Celia's Song</i> . Cormorant Books Inc., 2014. Okri, Ben. <i>An African Elegy</i> . Vintage, 1997. Philip, M. NourbeSe. <i>Looking for Livingstone: An Odyssey of Silence</i> . Mercury Press, 1991.* Shamsie, Kamila. <i>Home Fire</i> . Riverhead Books, 2017. Tota, Anna Lisa and Trevor Hagen. "Cultural Memory Studies: Mediation, Narrative, and the Aesthetic." <i>Routledge International Handbook of Memory Studies</i> , Routledge, 2016, pp. 87–98, https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203762844-15 .*
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