

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
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Anthropologie thématique : Material Heritage of Conflict and Mass Violence : Anthropological Approaches (2ET2239)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal M ScS - anthropologie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - géographie humaine	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - migration et citoyenneté	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - migration et citoyenneté (EuMIGS)	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - psychologie et éducation	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M ScS - sociologie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - anthropologie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - géographie humaine	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - migration et citoyenneté	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - psychologie et éducation	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M ScS - sociologie	Cours: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj= demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante

Enseignante : Zaira Aragüete Toribio
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Heures de disponibilité : sur rendez-vous
Adresse électronique pour le courriel : zaira.araguete@unine.ch

Contenu

Episodes of extreme violence carried out during wars, armed conflicts or authoritarian regimes in the 20th century have left a landscape filled with the unsettling traces of the atrocities committed. From the remnants of concentration camps, prisons and detention centres, mass graves, archives, or victims' human remains, to the buildings, monuments and commemorative emblems celebrating past dictatorial orders or the dead bodies of perpetrators, these material legacies have been subject of much critical debate in anthropology and other fields.

In this course, students will explore how the presence or absence of these remains in society has triggered important human rights claims from civil society groups; shaped legal, cultural, and political debates about contested and difficult pasts; and prompted new forms of memory telling and memorialization. They will study the meanings of destruction and concealment, as well as of recovery and resignification in different post-violence contexts, delving into pressing identity claims that have often positioned individuals and social groups against the state.

The course will also examine how some of these remnants have become evidence of mass crimes in and out of court; how scientific expertise and lay knowledge have impacted on the care and preservation of some of these traces; and how, in some cases, such practices have critically shaped these remnants as heritage to be passed on to future generations. Throughout the semester, we will touch upon general anthropological approaches to the material legacies of mass violence and analyse specific case studies that complicate the relationship that (post-) conflict societies develop with their pasts.

Forme de l'évaluation

Students will demonstrate a critical engagement with the theory and case studies explored in the course through: (1) Their participation in class and the delivery of short oral presentations of pre-assigned weekly readings that spark discussion around a given topic (10%); (2) A short mid-term essay in which students will write the social biography of an object, a monument, or remnant of violence of their choice (20%) (Max 1500 words/Deadline 6 April 2023); And a final analytical essay in response to one of the six questions that will be provided in the syllabus of the course (70%) (Max. 5000 words/Deadline 9 June 2023).

Documentation

A syllabus containing essential and recommended readings for each week will be provided before the start of the term. Students do not need to

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have specific skills or knowledge of the subject in order to follow the course. The course will suit any student with an interest in memory, the effects of violence on society, human rights and the politics of recognition and memorialization strategies in relation to recent conflicts. Those interested in the subjects covered and unfamiliar with general heritage debates can have look to the following sources in preparation for the class:

- Gaismar Haidy. 2015. "Anthropology and Heritage Regimes", *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 44(1): 71-85.
- Harrison, Rodney. 2010. *Understanding the Politics of Heritage*. Manchester: Manchester University Press.
- Smith, Laurajne. 2006. *The Uses of Heritage*. London: Routledge.

Forme de l'enseignement

The course will be taught weekly, in 2h sessions that will contain an hour lecture and an hour for discussion of relevant topics.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Identify key political, cultural, and legal issues in the management and treatment of heritage sites emerging from episodes of conflict and mass violence. • Critically analyse state-led and counter heritage practices, learning from a variety of case studies worldwide that exemplify the diverse character of post-violence heritage worlds.
- Explore key methodological and ethical challenges when working with heritage sites connected to remembering or forgetting human rights violations. • Reflect on the relation between memory, identity and heritage and its impact on societal processes of reconstruction and post-conflict transformation.

Compétences transférables

- Develop the intellectual rigor and curiosity in relation to a social pressing issue; apply knowledge to new situations in creative and confident ways; and acquire valuable communication skills through the writing and presentation of complex ideas in a second language (English).