

International Blended Learning Seminar

Europe and its Colonial Past. Practices, Narratives, Spaces of Memory

The international MA seminar with participants from Lucerne, Paris, Cologne, Berlin, Nijmegen and Warsaw focuses on the analysis of practices and narratives of memory with regard to Europe's colonial past. The construction, public usage, contestation and transformation of memory regarding European imperialism, colonialism and decolonisation by different agents in the public sphere, especially museums, monuments, art, the media and political agents will be approached systematically. Against the background of postcolonial theories and theories on memory, the seminar aims at deconstructing blind spots in past and present constructions of European and national memories, on their mechanisms of exclusion that foster(ed) and perpetuat(ed) images of the 'other', of racism, discrimination and violence. Comparative perspectives on different national contexts and their entanglements are specifically analysed.

The international seminar presents a unique opportunity to collaborate with students from other European countries. Apart from a digital classroom and live seminars, the exchange of ideas, reflection about texts and analysis of primary sources in focused small international groups is central to the seminar, leading to specific scientific output in various formats (e.g. short collaboratively elaborated papers, blog posts, online live presentations, videos, podcasts etc.). If the situation permits, from November 22 (noon) to November 24 (noon), a Workshop will be organised in Brussels with the House of European History and the Royal Museum for Central Africa.

- English is the main language of communication.
- Participants are in principle MA students in the study programmes of the six partner Universities.
- Modes of teaching and communication:
 - collaborative work in groups with outputs in various possible formats (papers, videos, podcasts)
 - group discussions in live online seminars
 - if the situation permits: two-day workshop in Brussels, 22-24 November (trip and accommodation financed)
- Students will acquire 3 ECTS for participation and activities during the semester. Additional ECTS are possible in relation to additional work done according to the requirements of the respective University.
- Semester dates: October 11 to December 19, 2021.

The number of participants is limited. Please contact the respective Professor of your University.



Prof. Dr. Franziska Metzger is a professor of history at the University of Teacher Education, Lucerne, in charge of the department "Memory Cultures" at the Institute for History Education and Memory Cultures and director of the MA Public History.



Prof. Dr. Christine Gundermann is a professor of public history at the University of Cologne; she is in charge and head of the MA study profile of public history.



Dr. László Munteán is assistant professor at the Department of Cultural Studies at Radboud University Nijmegen where he leads the research group Memory, Materiality and Affect.



Prof. Dr. Armin Owzar is a professor of Modern and contemporary history at the University Sorbonne Nouvelle / Paris III and head of the master programme at the department of German Studies.



Dr. Irmgard Zündorf is responsible for Public History at the Centre for Contemporary History in Potsdam and one of the coordinators of the MA study programme Public History of Freie Universität Berlin.



Dr. Katarzyna Bojarska is assistant professor at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the SWPS University in Warsaw and President of View. Foundation for Visual Culture.