



Detailed Course Syllabus

Academic Year	2026./2027.	Semester	Summer
Study Program	Graduate	Specialization / Major in	Communication Studies, Sociology, History
		Year of Study	1-2

I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

Name	Media, Memory and the Politics of the Past		
Abbreviation	IZBD293	Code	294363
Status	Elective	ECTS	5
Prerequisites	None		
Total Course Workload			
Teaching Mode	Total Hours	Teaching Mode	Total Hours
Lectures	30	Seminars	15
Class Time and Place	hybrid classroom – COIL programme		

II. TEACHING STAFF

Course Holder

Name and Surname	Jasna Ćurković Nimac		
Academic Degree	PhD	Professional Title	Full professor
Contact E-mail	jasna.nimac@unicath.hr	Telephone	
Office Hours	According to published timetable	Office	205

Course Collaborator

Name and Surname	Nelson Costa Ribeiro		
Academic Degree	PhD	Professional Title	Full professor
Contact E-mail		Telephone	
Office Hours	According to published timetable	Office	online

Course Collaborator

Name and Surname			
Academic Degree		Professional Title	
Contact E-mail		Telephone	
Office Hours	According to published timetable	Office	

III. DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

Teaching Language	English				
Course Description	This course explores how the past is shaped through media, institutions, and technology, and how personal and collective memories participate in the construction of identity, nationhood, and political narratives. Special emphasis is placed on visual media, digital culture, artificial intelligence, traumatic memory and nationalism,. The structure of the course is following; Block 1 – Theoretical Foundations (1-4); What is memory and how is it mediated by media?; Block 2 – Media, Nation, and Politics (5-8); How is memory produced and instrumentalized?; Block 3 – Trauma and Representation (9-11); Limits of representation, ethics, and reconciliation.; Block 4 – The Digital Future of Memory (12-13); Algorithms, AI, and digital immortality				
Expected Educational Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze how media, institutions, and technologies shape the construction of personal and collective memory, including their role in producing national identities and political narratives. 2. Apply key theoretical concepts of memory studies (e.g., mediation, trauma, revisionism, algorithmic memory) to the interpretation of concrete case studies, including visual media, commemorative practices, and digital platforms. 3. Critically evaluate the ethical, political, and technological implications of contemporary memory cultures, including nationalism, populism, digital archives, AI-driven memory practices, and the right to be forgotten. 				
Textbooks and Materials					
	Hoskins, A. (Ed.). (2017). <i>Digital Memory Studies: Media Pasts in Transition</i> . New York: Routledge.				
Required	Neiger, M., Meyers, O., & Zandberg, E. (2011). <i>On Media Memory: Collective Memory in a New Media Age</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.				
	Birkner, T., & Donk, A. (2020). Collective memory and social media: Fostering a new historical consciousness in the digital age? <i>Memory Studies</i> , 13(4), 367-383.				
	Kligler-Vilenchik, N., Tsfati, Y., & Meyers, O. (2014). Setting the collective memory agenda: Examining mainstream media influence on individuals' perceptions of the past. <i>Memory Studies</i> , 7(4), 484-499.				
Supplementary	Pickering, M., & Keightley, E. (2015). <i>Photography, Music and Memory: Pieces of the Past in Everyday Life</i> . Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.				
	Sturken, M. (2008). Memory, consumerism and media: Reflections on the emergence of the field. <i>Memory Studies</i> , 1, 73-78.				
	Talarico, J., Kraha, A., Self, H., & Boals, A. (2017). How did you hear the news? The role of traditional media, social media and personal communication in flashbulb memory. <i>Memory Studies</i> , 12(4), 359-376.				
Examination and Grading					
To Be Passed	Yes	Exclusively Continuous Assessment	No	Included in Average Grade	Yes
Prerequisites to Obtain	Students are expected to attend lectures, complete the required readings in advance, and participate in hybrid class activities,				

Signature and Take Final Exam	particularly discussions. Students are also required to participate in mixed groups consisting of Croatian and Portuguese students.
Examination Manner	Course activities: Midterm Exam 1 (oral presentation), Midterm Exam 2 (oral presentation), Seminar (group project), Final Exam (oral)
Grading Manner	

Numerical gradation:
Fail (1) – 0 up to 49,9 %
Pass (2) – 50 up to 64,9 %
Lower second (3) – 65 up to 79,9 %
Upper second (4) – 80 up to 89,9 %
First (5) – 90 up to 100 %

- Evaluation:
- a) **Class activities** – 70 % of the grade
- mid-term exam – 50 %
 - seminar presentation – 20 %
- b) **Final exam** – 30 %
- final oral exam – 30 %

Detailed Overview of Grading within ECTS

ACTIVITY TYPE	ECTS Student Workload Coefficient	GRADE PERCENTAGE (%)
Class Attendance	1.2	0
Seminar Presentation	0.6	20
Midterm Exam	0.7	25
Midterm Exam	0.7	25
Total in Class	3.2	70
Final Exam	0.8	30
TOTAL ECTS (Classes + Final Exam)	4	100

Midterm Exam Dates	Midterm Exam 1: ; Midterm Exam 2:
Final Exam Dates	According to published timetable

IV. WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

Lectures

Week	Topic
1.	Why Does Memory Matter Today? The “memory boom” and memory culture

2.	How Does Memory Work? Narrativity and the construction of memory. False memories.
3.	From Oral Tradition to Digital Amnesia. History of memory. Digital forgetting and information overload
4.	Who legitimizes the past? Institutions of memory and media as the “first draft of history”
5.	Media and the Production of Collective Memory. Agenda-setting and selective remembrance
6.	Personal and Collective Memory. Trauma, screen trauma, and the transmission of memory.
7.	Mid-term exam
8.	Media, Collective Memory, and the Construction of the Nation. The visual canon of the nation: iconic images, monuments, heroes, and sites of memory.
9.	Media, Nationalism, and the Politics of Memory in the Age of Populism. “Weaponizing memory” and emotional politics of memory: fear, pride, victimhood; Memes, viral content, and the simplification of historical narratives
10.	Visual Media and the Construction of Memory. Photography, film, and television. Iconic images and emotional memory. The society of spectacle and the image archive
11.	Case Studies: Trauma and Representation. The Holocaust. Colonial wars. Apartheid.
12.	Memory, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation. Can a society “forget”? Politics of apology and transitional justice. The ethics of memory.
13.	Digital Memory Culture and the Right to Be Forgotten. Prosthetic and algorithmic memory. Digital traces and the legal aspects of forgetting
14.	AI, Memory Modulation, and Digital Immortality. Digital avatars, holograms, and the “reanimation” of voices. The future of death and forgetting
15.	Mid-term exam

Seminars

Week	Topic
1.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
2.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
3.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
4.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
5.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
6.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
7.	Mid-term exam
8.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
9.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
10.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
11.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
12.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
13.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
14.	Discussion on the topic of the lecture
15.	Mid-term exam

Exercises

Week	Topic
1.	
2.	

3.	
4.	
5.	
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