Gendered Memories of War and Political Violence
4 credits at CEU, 3 at Sabanci
2011-2012 Winter Term
Department of Gender Studies, CEU
CEU-Sabanci Joint Academic Initiative
Lecturer: Andrea Peto (CEU, Department of Gender Studies) petoa@ceu.hu
Guest Lecturer: Ayse Gul Altinay (Sabanci University) altinay@sabanciuniv.edu

Course Description:
20th century has been “a century of wars, global and local, hot and cold” (Catherine Lutz). The course explores the different ways in which war and political violence are remembered through a gender lens especially focusing on Holocaust and genocide against Armenians. Central questions include: what are the gendered effects of war, political violence, and militarization? How have wars, genocide and other forms of political violence been narrated and represented? How do women remember and narrate gendered violence in war? How are post-conflict processes and transitional justice gendered? What is the relationship between testimony, storytelling, and healing? How is the relationship between the “personal” and the “public/national” reconstructed in popular culture, film, literature, and (auto)biographical texts dealing with war, genocide, and other forms of political violence? How are wars memorialized and gendered through monuments, museums, and other memory sites? Besides others, case studies on Hungary, Turkey, Germany, Rwanda, former Yugoslavia, and Argentina will be used to elaborate the key concepts and debates in the emerging literature on gender, memory, and war. For selected participants the course also consists of a field trip to Istanbul, for all: four mandatory field trips visiting sites, monuments and collections in Budapest related to the Holocaust. The course also offers training how to use the Visual History Archive for researching violence from a gender perspective.

E learning course see http://e-learning.ceu.hu if you enrolled you will get a password

Public lecture: Professor Ayse Gul Altinay is giving a public lecture at CEU which is also a part of the course. Time and topic TBA

Course requirements:
Preparation for the class includes the readings (mandatory and suggested) and the viewing of the assigned videos on the course website. For the second class write a reaction paper about the films (5%). There will be four field trips (Holocaust Documentation Centre, House of Terror, Open Society Archives, VHA) connected to the class. The three reaction-papers (20% of each) min. 3000 words to be uploaded to the e-learning site before the class. The papers will be evaluated based on engagement with the literature, demonstrated the ability to select, digest and organize material to produce, to a deadline, a coherent and critically informed arguments. An active participation in class, discussion and the participation in the field trips will give 10%. On-line component: (25%) blog your e-journal: for each week one entry (min. 200 words) is needed how you read one key concept of the readings for that particular week, how do you connect it to the previous readings and to your own work. It is not a summary but a critical response to the readings.
Description of the tasks:

Reaction papers (3)

Photo exercise (20%) (mandatory)

Bring a one photo print out of to the class with references that you think has got the most meaning for you about Holocaust and connect it with key concept(s) from the readings! Be prepared to share your thoughts with the class! Problematize the concept of historical truth!

Testimony related (20%) (mandatory)

Use one testimony from the VHA to analyse theoretical problems of gendered remembering and violence!

Field trip related (20%) (choose one from the following options)

During the visit of the Holocaust Memorial Centre analyse the representation of different experiences of the Holocaust! and-or Comment on politics of memory at the House of Terror!

What are the sources for researching genocide? How do they influence our way of knowing?

Film review (5%)

Write a min. 2400 words long paper about ONE of the theoretical issues in the film

Learning outcomes

- constructing coherent and independent historical arguments based on critical, comparative evaluation of the sources of different genre
- understanding the power relations how memories were constructed, especially gendering the memories of war and political violence
- understanding of Holocaust and other examples of genocide in a broad historical context and its impact on history writing
- making critical and thoughtful use of a range of sources of information about political violence including ICT
- selecting, organizing and using relevant information in structured explanations
- understanding the importance of the mass media in confronting the historical experience of the Holocaust and other wars, and to place debates around representational conventions and proprieties in historical, cultural and theoretical context
- evaluating validity of an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach to war and political violence
- increasing awareness of local, regional and national heritage and its commemoration process; fostering personal responsibility as democratic citizens and promoting respect for human rights, especially for minority groups;
- understanding of some of the major changes in the way Holocaust has been mediated, narrated and studied in the past decades
- developing a critical understanding of how wars and genocides are gendered experiences
- understanding feminist critiques of and contributions to memory studies and war/genocide studies

Reading schedule: suggested and recommended readings

1. Introduction; Gender, War and Memory
   Film:
   Full Metal Jacket by Stanley Kubrick and Regret to Inform by Barbara Sonneborn
   or
   Full Metal Jacket & G.I. Jane

2. Gendering Political Violence
Film reflection paper is due


3. Sexual violence, rape


Read About the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 http://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/3616742.html


Film:


4.
Dead and missing bodies


**Film:**
The Official Story (1985) Dir. Puenzo
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7LF5Ii0wIY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7LF5Ii0wIY)

5.
**Politics of Motherhood**


**Gendering memories of political violence**


6. 
**Gendering Holocaust? The Memory Problem**

**Film:**
A Grandmother’s Story Dir.:Kathy Leichter

7. Gendering Genocide (class given by Ayse Gul Altinay)

8. Testimony and (Auto)biography
In Budapest two field trips:
Visit at Visual History Archive, CEU Library
http://www.library.ceu.hu/vha.html

**Readings:**


Assman, Aleida, “History, Memory and the Genre of Testimony” in Poetics Today, 27, 2, 2006: 261-273. the whole special issue is warmly recommended


Visit at OSA
www.ceu.osa.hu
Introduction to documents and sources of war, genocide and political violence

Readings:


9.
Perpetrators and witnesses


Film

2 or 3 Things I know about him (2005) Dir: Malte Ludin
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1_OX4kWfOc&feature=related

10.
Justice after state violence: testimonies and truth


Film:
Worse than War (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7cZuhqSzze filmy by Goldhagen)

11. Atrocity Photography


Zelizer, Barbie, Remembering to Forget: Holocaust Memory through the Camera Eye, Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1998, 141-175, chapters 5-6.


Film:
The Photographer Dir.: Dariusz Jablonski
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvUdffAhFH4
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzMPBrNOx4I&feature=related

The War Photographer (2001) Dir.: Frei
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3YovjUP8hg
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDM4ybnCqYY&feature=relmfu

12. Memorializing War and Political Violence: Monuments and Museums
In Budapest two field trips:
House of Terror
www.terrorhaza.hu

Readings:
Holocaust Documentation Centre
www.hdke.hu

Readings:

13. Attendance at the conference: Gendered Memories of War and Political Violence
22-23 May, 2012 in Istanbul see more info on [http://myweb.sabanciuniv.edu/genderconf/](http://myweb.sabanciuniv.edu/genderconf/)

Selected CEU students will be invited to present their papers or projects at the joint seminar