

CDNS 3901, Winter 2020: The Memory of Talking to Another

This special topics course will focus on the nature of dialog. It will use the conjoined languages of memory studies and architectural design to imagine forms of productive and socially equalizing discourse in Canada. Students can expect to read articles about collective memory, memory and counter-memory, commemoration, dialogue and conversation in public space, the impact of design on behaviour, etc.. As a close partnership with an upper year architecture design studio, it will begin with a simple project: to collaboratively design and build *our* seminar table. What form will this table take? Will it stand or hang? Will it move or travel? Will it be whole or fragmented? The table will eventually serve as an exhibition device for student journals – a radical counter-monument to dialogue in a world of deeply adversarial memory politics. **Please note that no previous design experience is required, only a curiosity about different forms of knowledge production.** Grading will be program-appropriate. Students without design experience will not be graded on the quality of their design contributions but rather only on their willingness to participate and collaborate. The rest of the grade will be based on traditional written submissions. Please contact Prof. Jerzy (Jurek) Elzanowski (jerzy.elzanowski@carleton.ca) for additional information.