SOCI 3220C/ANTH 3225A Collective Memory

Instructor	Cihan Erdal
Term	Fall 2025
Course Delivery	In person
Email Address	cihanerdal@cunet.carleton.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the sociological field of collective memory. It explores the theoretical foundations of collective memory studies and examines critical debates surrounding the dimensions of social memory, temporality, and historiography. How do societies remember? How does memory operate within specific social, historical, and cultural contexts? What analytical tools do diverse sociological perspectives offer in understanding the sites and structures of collective remembrance in today's changing world? What does the fast-growing interdisciplinary enterprise of memory studies tell us about the politics of memory and temporality that shape the practices of social injustice and exclusion? Through a selection of classical and contemporary theorists of collective memory, along with empirical applications addressing these central questions, the course invites students to engage with and comprehend the sociological significance of memory.

EVALUATION

Midterm Essay: 30%

In-class Presentation: 20% Final Research Project: 45%

Attendance: 5%

TEXT

Course readings will be accessible through the Brightspace site.