

Prof. Georgiy Kasianov

PhD Seminar Syllabus

Course:

Introduction to the Politics of Memory: European and Global Perspective (15hrs)

This course aimed to introduce students to the basics of historical memory studies and the politics of history. It is expected that upon finishing this course, students will be able to distinguish between history and memory, memory politics, and politics of history. They will obtain expertise in the most significant concepts of memory studies and critical trends of the politics of history in Europe and beyond and will be able to deconstruct dominating discourses in the use and misuse of history/memory.

The course is based on the most recent scholarship.

Requirements:

Working knowledge of English, interest in the politics of history and memory studies, and interest in international relations.

Ability to process contemporary literature on the topic, critical thinking, and interest in controversial issues.

Classwork

Reading compulsory literature PRIOR to the sessions is a must. In sessions organized as interactive communication, students' active participation is highly desirable and welcomed.

Grading

Participation in the sessions – 50%

Final paper or review of the monograph – 50%

Session 1. Concepts, Notions, Definitions (3hrs)

Memory studies as a discipline. Why does memory mean? Historical memory. Difference between history and memory. Affirmative, didactical, analytical history. Collective memory. Collected memory. Memory culture. Politics of history (Geschichtspolitik, polityka historyczna). Communicative and cultural memory. Social memory. Memory actors. Memory regimes. Antagonistic and agonistic memory.

Readings:

Kasianov, Memory Crash, Part I, Chapter 1, Chapter II

https://www.academia.edu/69812780/Memory_Crash_Politics_of_History_in_and_around_Ukraine_1980s_2010s

Bernhard, Kubik J., Chapter 1, p.7 – 19.

Session 2. National memory (3hrs)

National myth: essential components. Memory as a civic cult. Lieux de mémoires (sites of memory) as a concept. Memory narrative. *Historikerstreit* in Germany. USA: 1776 versus 1616.

Readings:

Kasianov, Memory Crash, Part I, Chapter 1

Kasianov, Nationalized history, in Kasianov, Ther, pp. 7 – 24,
https://www.academia.edu/44741780/A_Laboratory_of_Transnational_History_Ukraine_and_Recent_Ukrainian_Historiography_Georgiy_Kasianov_Philipp_Ther_eds

The 1619 Project and the Long Battle Over American History,
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/09/magazine/1619-project-us-history.html>

Session 3. Supranational/transnational memory (3hrs)

Common European memory, common European history: projects and outcomes. Holocaust as a transnational memory. East European challenge: Communism and Nazism. Common textbooks projects.

Readings:

Kasianov, Memory Crash, Part I, Chapter 2

Calligaro O., Legitimation Through Remembrance? The Changing Regimes of Historicity of European Integration, *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, 2015
Vol. 23, No. 3, 330–343, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14782804.2015.1054794> (available at Google doc by request)

Session 4. Memory laws, Memory Wars (3hrs)

Types of memory laws. National legislation and international resonance: France, Russia, Poland, Ukraine. International legislation. “Freedom to History!” The “Holocaust denial.”

Antagonistic memory: national and international levels. India versus Pakistan. Japan versus China. Ukraine versus Poland. Russia versus Ukraine.

Readings:

Kasianov, Memory Crash, Part I, Chapter 2

Koposov, Ch.1. Available in pdf format by request and in a hard copy at the project library

Session 5. Memory as history, history as a weapon: the Russian war against Ukraine (3hrs)

The instrumentalization of memory in Russia and Ukraine. Nation-building, memory, and history. Points of discord. The Russian – Ukrainian commission of historians. The “common textbook” case. Memory war 2007 – 2010. Crimea, “New Russia,” and use of the past for the war in the present. Justification of war by historical arguments.

Readings:

Kasianov, Memory Crash, Part III, Ch. 8

Literature:

Assmann E., Conrad S. (eds) *Memory in a Global Age. Discourses, Practices, and Trajectories*. Palgrave, Macmillan, 2010

Bernhard M., Kubik J. (eds) *Twenty Years After Communism: The Politics of Memory and Commemoration*, Oxford University Press, 2014

Halbwachs M. *On Collective Memory* / Ed. And trans. Lewis A. Coser. Chicago, 1992

Hutton P. *History as an Art of Memory* Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 1993

Kasianov G., Ther P. (eds) *A Laboratory of Transnational History. Ukraine and Recent Ukrainian Historiography*, Budapest – New York: CEU Press, 2009

Kasianov G. *Memory Crash. Politics of History in and around Ukraine*, Vienna – New York, 2022

Koposov N. *Memory Laws, Memory Wars: The Politics of the Past in Europe and Russia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018

Le Goff J. *History and Memory*, Translated by Stephen Rendall and Elizabeth Claman, Columbia University Press, 1992

Megill A. *Historical Knowledge, Historical Error. A Contemporary Guide to Practice* (With contributions by Steven Shepard and Phillip Honegger), University of Chicago Press, 2007.

Miller A., Lipman M. *Convolutions of Historical Politics*, CEU Press: New York – Budapest, 2012

Pakier M., Str ath B. *A European Memory? Contested Histories and Politics of Remembrance*, Berghahn Books, 2010

Pakier J., Wawrzyniak J. (eds) *Memory and Change in Europe. Eastern Perspectives*, Berghahn Books, 2016

Sierp A. History, Memory, and Trans-European Identity: Unifying Divisions, Routledge, 2014

Stan L. Transitional Justice in Post-Communist Romania: The Politics of Memory
Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013

Tismaneanu V. and Iacob Bogdan C. Remembrance, History, and Justice. Coming to Terms
with Traumatic Pasts in Democratic Societies, CEU
Press, 2015