



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

**Spring 2021**

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

<b>COURSE TITLE: Advanced Topics in Sociology: Cultural Trauma and Collective Memory</b>			
<b>Course Number</b>	SOCI 401.64		
<b>Pre/Co-Requisites</b>	SOCI 313		
<b>Instructor Name</b>	Hasmik Tovmasyan	<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:hasmik.tovmasyan@ucalgary.ca">hasmik.tovmasyan@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	Feel free to contact me over email at any time. Please include a proper salutation, your full name and a proper closing in the body of your email. I do not answer emails over the weekend and after 6PM. I will do my best to answer your emails as soon as possible (within 24 hours). Please take that into account when emailing me questions pertaining to assignments or exams. If you have a course-related question, please check the course outline first. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with during my office hours.		
<b>Office Location</b>	N/A	<b>Office Hours</b>	Mondays 2:00-3:00pm (or by appointment)
<b>Telephone No.</b>	N/A		
<b>TA Name</b>	Chetna Khandelwal	<b>TA Email</b>	<a href="mailto:chetna.khandelwal@ucalgary.ca">chetna.khandelwal@ucalgary.ca</a>
<b>TA Office Location</b>	N/A	<b>TA Office Hours</b>	
<b>Class Dates</b>	May 6th -June 17th		
<b>Class Times</b>	May 6th 9:00-11:45 and all the subsequent Tuesdays 9:00-11:45		
<b>Class Location</b>	Online		

## Course Description

This course explores the social aspects of memory and trauma. Based on the theories of “cultural trauma”, “collective memory”, and “postmemory”, this course examines the social processes involved in the construction of a number of historical events as traumas of collectivities, whose aftereffects haunt individuals generations later. It looks into the social aspect of the “inheritance” of trauma, and how representation shapes collective identity among different groups. Apart from scholarly literature, the readings will include memoirs, autobiographies, and visual materials. **Warning: The materials for this course deal with sensitive topics (e.g. mass atrocities, violence, torture, killings, rape, possibly disturbing language, graphic descriptions, etc.). While some accommodations will be made (e.g. I will accommodate you with other materials in particular cases), I will not be able to change the content of the course in its entirety, so please consider seriously if this course is well suited for you.**

## Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you will be able to answer following questions

- How do societies remember and forget? What are the main concepts of group memory and cultural trauma?
- How does it happen that some tragedies become collective trauma and become imprinted in people’s memories decades after they happen, while some do not?
- What makes the trauma memorable for a collectivity? What are the aftereffects of it and what does it have to do with identity construction?
- What are the social processes involved in remembering and forgetting, and what is the role of representation and construction in the creation of cultural trauma?

## Course Format

The course is a hybrid of synchronous and asynchronous modes of teaching. It requires synchronous involvement on **May 6th and all the subsequent Tuesdays 9:00-11:45**. The links to the materials for asynchronous lessons will be posted on D2L (check the “Schedule of lectures and readings”). Asynchronous materials will be titled “Asynchronous” with the week number next to them (e.g. Week 1: Asynchronous).

The lectures that are delivered synchronously (as well as the discussions and the talks by the guest lecturers) will not be recorded (and therefore not posted). Your only option to hear the lecture is to

attend the Tuesdays' meetings. The Powerpoint slides for the Tuesday lectures will, however, be posted on D2L.

## Learning Resources

There are no textbooks required for this course. All the materials are available at the University of Calgary library and have online access. Check "Schedule of lectures and readings" (on D2L) for the details on your materials (the links are included for each reading and visual materials) with the dates, and titles.

## Learning Technologies and Requirements

You need technology to access the Zoom meetings and a microphone to be able to participate in class. Cameras are encouraged especially for group work, but they are not mandatory.

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required information on your readings, guidelines for your assignments and other relevant class resources and materials (see [d2l.ucalgary.ca](https://d2l.ucalgary.ca)).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Check "Schedule of lectures and readings" on D2L

## Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

Reflections (four in total): 20% (due on May 17, May 25, May 31, June 14)

Book review: 25% (due on June 8, before the start of the class)

Book review presentations (group work): 5% (due on June 8)

Final paper: 50% (due on June 22)

All the submitted work (including the final paper, reflections, and book review) should be your individual work. The only collaboration between the students is allowed in class (discussions, group work, presentations, etc).

There will be separate guidelines posted on D2L for each assignment. Before each kind of assignment, I will allocate some time during our class to answer your questions. I will be happy to do it also during my office hours.

1. You are welcome to discuss with your peers the course materials both during the sessions when working in groups or outside of it. However, all your submitted work needs to be your individual work; no collaboration on the assignments is allowed. Please do not share your individual notes and ideas on lectures or on course materials if you are going to use them in any of your graded assignments. Please be advised that the use of shared files and collaborative materials can be risky from an academic integrity standpoint due to the potential for intentional or unintentional use of words and ideas from these discussions in the assessments, which can constitute academic misconduct.

### Final Exam Information

*There will be no final examination for this course*

## Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

## Absences and Deferrals

Students who miss class assessments should inform their instructor as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, the instructor may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at:

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferral-of-term-work-2020.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (ascarts@ucalgary.ca) for approval by the Associate Dean.

## Grade Reappraisal

Within two weeks of the date the exam/assignment is returned, students seeking reappraisal of examinations or assignments must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for reconsideration of one's mark. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss his or her work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same.

## Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

## Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

During the Zoom lectures you are encouraged to actively participate and ask questions (raise a hand, verbally or in chat). When you are in small groups working with your friends, please unmute your microphone. The sessions will not be recorded and you **do not have my consent** to record any part of them.

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect. When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#)). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit:

<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/>.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

### Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

### Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright ( <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf> ) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

### Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### Recording of Lectures

The audio or video recording of lectures and taking screengrabs of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of

lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure](#).

### Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Publicly sharing lectures notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC [Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

### Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. Please refer to the [policy on Student Accommodations](#). Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

### Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

### Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

### Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

## Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit [www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/) or email [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).

## Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca); Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

## Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

## Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.