



**Tübingen International & European Studies (T-IES) Winter School on
Culture and Diversity**

STUDY TRACK B

Representing the European Past in Cross-Cultural Communities

January 7 – February 4, 2025

Course title:	Europe as a Memoryland: Selective memory and place-making practices
Date / Room:	January 20–23, 2025 / Room: Tba.
Language of instruction:	English
Lecturer:	Lana Balorda
Contact hours:	16 + study trip

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This second Track B course introduces memory as something that cannot be understood without the notion of forgetting. What is it that we are compelled to remember and which facets of our lives and historical events do we suppress or struggle to recollect? Moreover, how does what we remember and what we forget structure the reality that we live in, symbolically, physically, and politically?

The notion of memory is broad, straddling across various disciplines as well as everyday understandings of our bodily abilities. The term can equally be used to describe the act of remembering, the capacity to do so, and the material that is actually remembered. This, in part, explains the wide application of the term, both in scientific endeavours and popular culture, from the digital storage of electronic devices, the cult films such as the *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, to the toppling of colonial-era statues

This seminar is an attempt to delve into the political processes entailed in remembering and forgetting. To consider how the past is remembered or commemorated, which pasts are considered as worthy or necessary to transmit to younger generations, how the past is used or abused to serve the present needs of individuals and collectives, and the difficulty of retrieving “lost” or “forgotten” memories even from “recent” history.

COURSE SCHEDULE

	Date	Topic	Reading (required)
1 (= 90 minutes)	Monday, January 20 (I): 11:00 – 12:30	Introduction to the course What is memory?	<i>Maurice Halbwachs: 1980</i> Ch 1
2	Monday, January 20 (II): 14:00 – 15:30	Biological and psychological perspectives on memory (I)	<i>Baddeley, Alan, et al.: 2020</i> Ch.1 <i>Eric Kandel, Yadin Dudai and Mark Mayford: 2014</i>
3	Monday, January 20 (III): 16:00 – 17:30	Biological and psychological perspectives on memory (II)	See above
4	Tuesday, January 21 (I): 11:00 – 12:30	Landscapes full of memories	<i>Sharon Macdonald: 2013</i> Ch. 1
5	Tuesday, January 21 (II): 14:00 – 15:30	How can we explore memorylands?	<i>Julia Aoki and Ayaka Yoshimizu: 2015</i>
6	Wednesday, January 22 (I): 11:00 – 12:30	Walking Tours Around Tübingen	-
7	Wednesday, January 22 (II): 14:00 – 15:30	(Re)naming Clara Zetkin Street in Tübingen (Talk from AKTIONSBÜNDNIS „KEIN KNOTEN FÜR ZETKIN“)	<i>Jani Vuolteenaho and Guy Puzey: 2018</i>
8	Wednesday, January 22 (III): 16:00 – 17:30	Summary and Discussion	-
9	Thursday, January 23: All Day	Study Trip	

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this course, students will become acquainted with biological, psychological, and anthropological perspectives on memory, as well as being introduced to the interdisciplinary discipline of memory studies. Students will be given the opportunity to put into practice research methods used by social and cultural anthropologists. The overarching aim of the course is to develop critical thinking about heritage and identity. Through discussion, talks, and activities, students will gain an understanding of the general features of commemorative practices in the EU, and the particularities of Tübingen's memoryscape. This course will

encourage students to become democratically involved in the physical environment of urban landscapes.

PREREQUISITES

The course is designed for undergraduate students from different countries and with different academic backgrounds who are generally interested in Germany, Europe and the European Union. A very good command of English and the willingness to actively participate in the course are required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

The courses conclude with a final examination. The overall grade will be calculated by the result of the exam and the participants' performance during class sessions / debates.

READING

Aoki, Julia, and Ayaka Yoshimizu. 2015. 'Walking Histories, Un/Making Places: Walking Tours as Ethnography of Place'. *Space and Culture* 18 (3): 273–84.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1206331215579719>.

Baddeley, Alan, Michael W. Eysenck, and Michael C. Anderson. 2020. *Memory*. Milton, UNITED KINGDOM: Taylor & Francis Group.
<http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/unitueb/detail.action?docID=6132278>.

Halbwachs, Maurice. 1980. *The Collective Memory*. 1st ed. Harper Colophon Books ; CN/800. New York: Harper & Row.

Kandel, Eric R., Yadin Dudai, and Mark R. Mayford. "The molecular and systems biology of memory." *Cell* 157, no. 1 (2014): 163-186.

Macdonald, Sharon. 2013. *Memorylands: Heritage and Identity in Europe Today*. London ; New York: Routledge.

Vuolteenaho, Jani, and Guy Puzey. "'Armed with an encyclopedia and an axe": The socialist and post-socialist street toponymy of East Berlin revisited through Gramsci." In *The political life of urban streetscapes*, pp. 74-97. Routledge, 2017.

INFORMATION ON THE LECTURER

Lana Balorda obtained a BSc in Biology from University College London, followed by a Post Graduate Certificate in Education at the University of Reading. After teaching for over a decade, she studied for a MA in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Tübingen. She graduated in 2022 having conducted research in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The focus of her research are commemorative practices, which she studies with attention to place-making processes. Lana Balorda currently receives funding for her doctoral studies from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) through her employment with the Collaborative Research Centre SFB 1070 ResourceCultures at the University of Tübingen as a Research Associate.