

## **Cultures of Memory**

**Winter Term 2010-2011**

**Instructor: Tony Purdy**

Cross-listed: Comparative Literature, French Studies, Visual Arts.

Maximum enrolment: 15

The course, which proposes an interdisciplinary reflection on the central place of memory in the culture of late modernity, will unfold in two stages. The first four weeks will be devoted to theoretical readings organized according to the following modules: 1) theories of memory; 2) collective memory, memory sites, cultural memory, heritage; 3) the Holocaust and traumatic memory: a) memorial culture, and b) postmemory; 4) museum, archive, and repertoire. During the following eight weeks, students will explore, through seminar presentations, case studies related to these modules. The choice and distribution across disciplines of case studies will depend on the composition of the group but will include novels, film and video, installations, memory sites, museums, and new media. For the final research paper, students will be invited to develop a second case study or to extend and modify the first by examining at least two media.