Gendered Memories of the Holocaust
2015-2016 Autumn term
4 credits

Department of Gender Studies, CEU
Cross-listed at CEU with Department of History, Department of Political Science, Jewish Studies Program

Lecturer: Andrea Pető (CEU, Department of Gender Studies) petoa@ceu.edu
Guest Lecturer: Peter Berczi (CEU Library), Robert Parnica (OSA), Ivett Molnar (CEU Library)

Class meets on Tuesday and Wednesday 9.00-10.40.
Office hours: in Zrinyi 14, Room 505., Monday 13.30-15.00, Wednesday 11.30-14.00 and by appointment request via email
Place: Nador 11. Room 203.

About previous courses on this topic see:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_7JJSfHpzc&feature=youtu.be

Course Description:

The course aims to interrogate the emerging field created by the intersection of Jewish Studies, Memory Studies and Gender Studies to study the literary and artistic representation of the Holocaust. The course covers the topics of how Memory of Holocaust is inscribed, framed, mediated and performed. It consists of two parts: an overview and theoretical introduction is followed by the analyses of the different forms, and sites of representation: literature, ego documents, films, internet, textbooks, statues, monuments, photos, oral histories, you-tube videos. The course also offers training how to use the Shoah Visual History Archive for research from a gender perspective and a chance for creative experimentation with film making. The course will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday. Generally on the first day the required readings will be discussed on Wednesday film screenings and exercises will deepen the students’ critical engagement with the material.

The CEU institutional e-learning site will host the course at http://e-learning.ceu.hu. All the readings are available in .pdf format in this course and you are expected to submit your course work to that website. For additional help for using the platform see http://e-learning.ceu.hu/course/view.php?id=541

If you have any technical problems with the moodle, if, for example, the login does not work, or, you have uploaded the wrong file etc. contact Gabor Acs, acsg@ceu.hu directly.

Course requirements:
Preparation for the class includes critical reading assigned for that week and viewing the slides uploaded by other students before the class.
The required papers will be evaluated based on engagement with the literature, demonstrated ability to select, digest and organize material, to produce coherent and critically informed arguments.
You are expected to submit the following work listed here. All requirements need to be fulfilled for a passing grade.
PowerPoint reflection slides about key points/issues/challenges of the readings (6) (30%)

The slide (1) should make connections between the readings, discussing strengths and weaknesses, asking questions, raising criticisms, and making suggestions for further discussion. It is your choice which class you contribute with the six slides (no posting for weeks 1, 9, 11, 12). Last chance for posting is for the first class of week 11, no extension is given to improve your grade. It should be uploaded to the moodle by 12 CET on Saturday. The other students are also expected to look at the slides of the others before the class. During the class the slides will be projected and students are requested to comment and to respond to questions/comments from the others students as well as from the instructor.

Abstract (10%) By the end of week 5 students will have a broad overview of research done in the field. The abstract of the final paper is a 500 words description consisting of a research question, description of the empirical material and min. 3 titles in the references. Students will get an individual written feedback and encouraged to ask for an appointment to discuss their paper individually.

Paper presentation: (20%) The presentation is a max. 20 minute long presentation (not reading) of your planned final paper. It should have a clear structure: introduction, research question, empirical material (if any), discussion and conclusions. Students will receive useful feedback during the class they can use in the final version of their paper.

Final paper (30%) The finalized version of your presentation should be max. 3500-4000 words with proper references submitted to the moodle by 12 December 12.00CET

Class participation (10%): class activity, active participation in the class during discussing the reflection slides and the presentation.

Learning outcomes:
- constructing coherent and independent historical arguments based on critical, comparative evaluation of the sources of different genre
- understanding the power relations how memories were constructed, especially gendering the memories of war and political violence
- understanding of Holocaust and other examples of genocide in a broad historical context and its impact on history writing
- making critical and thoughtful use of a range of sources of information about political violence including ICT
- selecting, organizing and using relevant information in structured explanations
- understanding the importance of the mass media in confronting the historical experience of the Holocaust and other wars, and to place debates around representational conventions and proprieties in historical, cultural and theoretical context
- evaluating validity of an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach to war and political violence
- increasing awareness of local, regional and national heritage and its commemoralisation process; fostering personal responsibility as democratic citizens and promoting respect for human rights, especially for minority groups;
- understanding of some of the major changes in the way Holocaust has been mediated, narrated and studies in the past decades
- developing a critical understanding of how wars and genocides are gendered experiences
- understanding feminist critiques of and contributions to memory studies and war/genocide studies
Class schedule:
Week 1 Sept. 22 first session, introduction to the course, requirements, Sept. 23, basic concepts, library sources. Bring your laptop to the class.
Week 2 Sept. 29, 30 Introduction
Week 3 Oct. 6, 7 Defining the Problems
Week 4 Oct. 13, 14 Memory and Gendering the Holocaust
Week 5 Oct. 20, 21 Memorialisation and Gender
Oct 22 1200 CET deadline for the abstract to the moodle
Week 6 Oct. 27, 28 Gendering Perpetrator Research
Week 7 Nov. 3, 4 Photography and Post-Memory
Week 8 Nov. 10, 11 Sexual Violence Remembered
Week 9 Nov. 17, 18 no posting of reflection slides for this week. Visiting OSA on 17th. Meeting at 9.00 at the reception of OSA in Arany J. utca / on 18th at 9.00 Visiting VHA. the class will be held in one of the computerlabs TBA
Week 10 Nov. 24, 25 Feedback from the OSA/VHA visit, discussion of the related readings, upload your PowerPoint reflection slide related to readings about OSA/VHA by 21 November 12CET if relevant
Week 11 Dec. 1, 2 Memorialising the Holocaust (last chance for posting is 1st December), paper presentation starts
Week 12 Dec. 8, 9 No postings, summary, paper presentations.
12 Dec. 1200 CET Submission of the final papers to the moodle

Reading schedule:

Week 2 Introduction
Readings

Week 3 Defining the Problems
Readings:

Week 4 Memory and Gendering of Holocaust
Readings:
Horowitz, Sara R., "Gender, Genocide, and Jewish Memory," in Prooftexts 20, 1-2, 2000, 158-190.

Week 5 Memorialization and Gender
Readings:

Week 6 Gendering Perpetrator Research
Pető, Andrea, „Who is afraid of the “ugly women”? Problems of writing biographies of Nazi and Fascist women in countries of the former Soviet Block?” In Journal of Women’s History, 4, 2009, 147-151.

Week 7 Photography and Post-Memory
Readings

Week 8 Sexual Violence Remembered
Readings:
Katz, Steven T. "Thoughts on the Intersection of Rape and Rassen[s]chande during the Holocaust" in Modern Judaism, 32. 3. 2012, 293-322.

**Week 10 Visit at OSA (class held in OSA)**

[www.ceu.osa.hu](http://www.ceu.osa.hu)

Introduction to documents and sources of the Holocaust

Background readings:


**Week 10 CEU as Access-point to VHA (class held in a computer lab TBA)**

Readings:


**Week 11 Memorializing Holocaust**

Readings:


**Possible topics for the final paper:**

1. How has Holocaust been narrated and represented by men and women?
2. How do women remember and narrate sexual violence in war?
3. How do (written, oral or visual) testimonies challenge or reinforce the hegemonic accounts?
4. How are experiences of Holocaust memorialized and gendered through monuments, museums, and other memory sites?
5. How is the relationship between the “personal” and the “public/national/political” (re)conceptualized in popular culture, film, literature, and (auto)biographical texts dealing with Holocaust?
6. How do women’s, feminist, and LGBTQ movements contribute to critical memory work on Holocaust?
7. What kind of impact has feminist scholarship had on Holocaust studies and memory studies?
8. What new concepts or theoretical frameworks (queer? postcolonial? critical race studies?) promise new openings in feminist analyses of memory work on Holocaust?
9. What are the methodological problems of visualisation of Holocaust? Use one example for analysis!
10. What are the limits and options of using VHA material for gendering the Holocaust?
11. What is the politics of different collection such as the Wiener Library or VHA on Holocaust Memorialisation?

**Suggested readings for the paper (not in the reader):**