



**American University of Central Asia  
Second Year Seminar  
SYS/HUM/SS 203 (5136)  
Spring 2021  
Syllabus**

Instructor: Clyde R. Forsberg Jr. E-mail: clydeforsberg4@msn.com  
Meetings: M 12:45–14:00  
W 12:45–14:00  
Classroom: Online, via Google Meet  
Office hours: Online, (By Appointment)

## ***What in the Hell is Memory Studies?***

### **Course Description**

This course on Memory Studies will introduce students to a very new discipline or sub-discipline in the Humanities and Social Sciences that may well change how they understand just about everything. Its interdisciplinarity is daunting to say the least. We will touch on two facets only of this exciting young academic course of study: its interdisciplinarity and iconoclastic history. Students are likely not to view anything the same ever again. It questions our ability to remember and asks whether remembering and forgetting—individually and collectively—are not two sides of the same coin. Meaning is thrown into question since it is tied closely to Memory. Is Memory good or bad? Has it been used for ill, especially now as the world appears to be in the throes of a Fascist resurgence—having given us a number of strong men who threaten to undermine democracies great and small. Their message calls upon the masses to remember the good old days of a glorious authoritarian past, real or imagined. Whether Memory Studies threatens to lay the groundwork for denials of such global atrocities as the Holocaust, Armenian Genocide etc., etc. is also worthy of serious consideration.

### **Course Reading (in order of appearance)**

- *Cultural Memory Studies: An International and Interdisciplinary Handbook*  
Edited by Astrid Erll · Ansgar Nünning in collaboration with Sara B. Young  
(Walter de Gruyter, 2008)
- *The Collective Memory Reader*  
Edited by Jeffrey K. Olick, Vered Vinitzky-Seroussi, and Daniel Levy  
(Oxford, 2011)
- *Memory in Culture*, Astrid Erll . Translated by Sara B. Young.  
(Palgrave/Macmillan, 2001)

### **Attendance and Participation**

Attendance is mandatory. Participation is recommended.



## **Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to follow the AUCA ACADEMIC HONESTY code. All types of plagiarism are strictly prohibited. Also see the section on Student Academic Dishonesty of the AUCA Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct.

- On the first occasion you are caught plagiarizing, you will fail that assignment.
- The second time, you will fail the course.
- The third time, you may be subject to more severe penalties.

## **Course Weighting:**

Participation/Presentations	40%
Writing	60%

**N.B.** You are required to write 4 response papers over the course of the semester each worth 15%.

## **Late papers**

Late papers will be penalized unless well-supported by the required documentation. Assignments submitted one week past the due date will receive an automatic failing grade.

## **Writing and Academic Resource Center (WARC)**

WARC website: [https://www.auca.kg/en/writing\\_and\\_academic\\_resource\\_center/](https://www.auca.kg/en/writing_and_academic_resource_center/)

## **Assessment**

Your formal written assignments will be assessed on the following criteria

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Argumentation: | soundness of claim/s, argument, counter-argument &c.       |
| 2. Content:       | appropriate supporting evidence from texts &c.             |
| 3. Structure:     | introduction, body paragraphs, conclusion, transitions &c. |
| 4. Style:         | accuracy and clarity of written expression                 |

## **Grade categories**

AUCA Letter-grades and GPA system: <https://auca.kg/en/p2885/>

### **Excellent work**

94–100 (A)  
90–93 (A-)

### **Good Work**

87–89 (B+)  
84–86 (B)  
80–83 (B-)



**Competent Work**

77–79 (C+)

74–76 (C)

70–73 (C-)

**Poor Work Deserving Some Credit**

67–69 (D+)

64–66 (D)

60–63 (D-)

**Failure to reach the minimum requirements for credit**

59-0 (F)