HI7030 Remembering, Reminding and Forgetting

Module type Optional (approved module: MPhil in Public History)

Term / hours Michaelmas / 22

ECTS 10

Coordinator(s) Dr Georgina Laragy

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Lecturer(s) Dr Georgina Laragy

Cap 2 (depending on demand)

Module description

This module will introduce students to the relationship between the scholarly study of history, the public understanding of the past, and the role of museums and galleries in these processes. It also explores the role of collectors and museums and their place in contemporary society, investigating also the meanings that can be attributed to objects. Aspects of curiosity and colonialism in the museum setting are touched upon, as well as matters of authenticity, conservation and display. This module may have some guest speakers in the second half of the semester, who will speak to some of the subjects studied and how they are practiced and deployed in specific cultural and institutions settings.

Assessment

The module is assessed through a digital portfolio (due at the end of Teaching Week 6) and a 3,500-4,000-word essay (end of Teaching Week 9).

Indicative bibliography

- Hilda Kean and Paul Ashton, People and their Pasts: Public History Today (2009).
- Rosenweig and Thelen, *The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life* (1998).
- Jordanova, Ludmilla, History in Practice (2000).
- Jeremy Black, Contesting History: Narratives of Public History (2014).
- James B. Gardner and Peter S. LaPaglia (eds), *Public History: Essays from the Field* (Malabar, Fla., 2006).
- Kean and Paul Martin (eds), The Public History Reader (2013).
- Cathy Stanton, The Lowell Experiment: Public History in a Post-industrial City (2006).
- Tony Bennett, The Birth of the Museum: History, Theory, Politics (1995).
- Brian Graham & Peter Howard, *The Ashgate Research Companion to Heritage and Identity* (2008).
- Richard Evans, In Defence of History (1997).
- Faye Sayer, Public History: a Practical Guide (2019)

- Thomas Cauvin, Public history: A Textbook of Practice (2015)
- James B. Gardner and Paula Hamilton, The Oxford Handbook of Public History (2017)
- Paul Ashton and Alex Trapeznik, What is Public History Globally? Working with the Past in the Present (2019)

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- LO1 Construct a research question.
- LO2 Develop a coherent argument around a specific theme/question.
- LO3 Display research skills in public history and cultural heritage.
- LO4 Analyse information and ideas.
- LO5 Develop their own ideas/concepts about the subject matter.
- LO6 Demonstrate referencing, citation and IT skills.