

Masterclass 8. Towards a history of memory. Remembering violence in early modern Europe

Bestemd voor:	alle promovendi
Urenbelasting:	1 ECTS
Data:	Friday 18 June 2010
Tijd:	10.00-16.30 hrs.
Locatie:	Leiden
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Kosten Huizinga promovendi:	geen
Kosten anderen (niet-Logos):	€ 50
Maximum aantal deelnemers:	15

In recent decades, it has become common knowledge that our memories are unstable, and are shaped by the social and psychological contexts in which they are being remembered. By extension, this suggests that the workings of memory may also be subject to historical change. Indeed, some scholars have argued that ‘modern’ people, ‘do’ memory differently than their early modern counterparts. New notions of selfhood, historical consciousness, or of the body, for instance, are believed to have affected memory practices. Mass media and literacy are also cited as motors for changes in memory. Yet however plausible such assumptions may be, they are yet to be backed up by historical evidence. While modern memory practices have been the subject of a host of studies, we know very little about early modern memory, and scholars have only just begun to map out differences between modern and early modern forms of remembering.

In this masterclass, we will try and explore how we might best set about this task. What evidence can we use? And how is that evidence to be read? To facilitate comparisons, we will be focusing our discussion especially on memories of war and other forms of violence. In the morning part of the seminar, we will discuss a number of theoretical perspectives as well as some existing case studies of early modern memory practices. In the afternoon session, we will examine a selection of primary source fragments. Participants are also encouraged to bring source fragments of their own for discussion.

Preliminary reading:

Schmidt, Siegfried J., ‘Memory and remembrance: A constructivist approach’, in *Cultural Memory Studies: An International and Interdisciplinary Handbook*, eds. Astrid Erll, Ansgar Nünning, and Sara B. Young (Berlin/New York, 2008), 191-201.

Esposito, Elena, ‘Social forgetting. A systems theory approach’ in *ibid*, pp. 180-189.

Schooler, Jonathan W. and Eric Eric Reich, ‘Memory for emotional events’, in *The Oxford handbook of memory*, eds. Endel Tulving and Fergus I. M. Craik (Oxford and New York, 2000).

Wagenaar, Willem A., ‘The memory of concentration camp survivors’, *Applied cognitive psychology* (1990), 77-87.

Harari, Yuval Noah, 'Martial Illusions: War and Disillusionment in Twentieth-Century and Renaissance Military Memoirs', *Journal of Military History* 69 (2005): 43-72.

Davis, Natalie Zemon, *Fiction in the archives. Pardon tales and their tellers in Sixteenth-century France* (Stanford, Ca. 1987), Introduction and chapter 3.

Fox, Adam, *Oral and literate culture in England, 1500-1700* (Oxford and New York 2000), chapter 4, pp. 213-58.

Fuchs, Ralf-Peter, 'Erinnerungsschichten: Zur Bedeutung der Vergangenheit für den "gemeinen Mann" der Frühen Neuzeit', in *Wahrheit, Wissen, Erinnerung: Zeugenverhörprotokolle als Quellen für soziale Wissensbestände in der frühen Neuzeit, Wirklichkeit und Wahrnehmung in der frühen Neuzeit*, eds. Ralf-Peter Fuchs and Winfried Schulze (Münster, 2002), 89-154.