

ANTHRO 603

## Trauma, Memory, Loss

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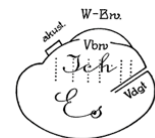
Fall 2021

Tuesdays, 11:00am-2:00 pm (BIO 206, DC)



*What role does loss play in accounting for the past? Do societies remember and do they forget?*

*How do individuals confront the past, construe it as meaningful, and share it with others?*



Memory--the process of recalling the past—often fails: sometimes because of repression as traumatic experiences are too painful to be recalled, sometimes because a particular social landscape does not facilitate remembering. Memory is strongest when it is attached to loss. The class will employ major thinkers such as Sigmund Freud, Maurice Halbwachs, Roland Barthes, Hayden White, and Judith Butler to understand processes of narrativization, loss and remembering. Based on the anthropology of memory, the course includes literary texts (Borges, Sebald, Baldwin), psychoanalytic readings and selected visual material (van Trier, Haneke, Boon Joon-ho, Oppenheimer). Each week will open onto diverse cultural contexts and stories in the present.