



MEMORY, MUSEUMS, MEMORIALS + RACE

ARCH 4204 - ARCH 5204 -AAHP 3702 | History/Theory Topics

Spring 2020

FACULTY Dr. Emily Makas | emakas@uncc.edu

MEETING Thursdays 10:00-12:30 | Online Synchronous

PREMISE This seminar will interrogate the way memories and histories of people of color are interpreted and represented in museums and memorials the United States. While the focus will primarily be on African American histories and identities, the seminar will also explore the experiences and commemorations associated with Native Americans, Hispanics, immigrants, and other racial minorities. Questions of process, meaning, form, inscription, timing, site, narrative, and reception will be analyzed for a variety of memorials and museums.

METHOD The course is structured around informal thematic presentations by the instructor and numerous in-class reading-based discussions. Students will also be asked to present case studies and conduct independent research.

OBJECTIVES The objectives of this course are for students to:

- understand the history of memorials and museums referencing the history, culture, and identity of people of color;
- understand the complexities and multiplicities of representations and memories of race;
- understand the relationship between commemorative practices and broader socio-political contexts in the US;
- improve abilities to organize and conduct research-oriented investigations on architecture and to express ideas and arguments orally and in writing.