

TUT 100.22

American Memorials Fall 2002
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-9:50 ARH 315

Sarah J. Purcell

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Office Hours: Monday 2-4p.m. Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-11:00 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.

Please come see me during office hours or make an appointment. Feel free to call or e-mail me any time if you have problems or questions.

Course Web-site: <http://web.grinnell.edu/courses/tut/F02/tut100-22/index.html>

Course Description: In the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attack in the United States, many people have proposed memorials to mark the site of the tragedy, especially at the World Trade Center. Why does the American public feel the need to commemorate sacrifice, and why is there a debate over the proper form of public memory? This tutorial will explore these questions and will put the current debate in the context of a long tradition of public memorials in America. Students will investigate how Americans have often defined important matters such as national identity, politics, and race in the process of building memorials that celebrate the past. We will analyze formal commemorations such as war memorials (including the Bunker Hill Monument and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial), museums, and national parks; popular culture commemorations in graffiti, rap music, and on the web; and proposals for new kinds of monuments in the twenty-first century.

Over the course of the semester, students in this class will collaborate on designing a memorial for September 11 using the insights gained from their study of other American memorials and their meanings. At the end of the semester, we will present our memorial design in a public forum on campus.

Texts:

All students are required to purchase a Mon.-Fri. subscription to the *New York Times* through the College Book Store.

Course Pack of articles

Kristin Hass, *Carried to the Wall: American Memory and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial* (University of California, 1998)

Edward Linenthal, *The Unfinished Bombing: Oklahoma City in American Memory* (Oxford, 2001)

Andrea Lunsford, *Easy Writer, 2nd Edition* (Bedford/ St. Martin, 2002)

Kirk Savage, *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves* (Princeton, 1997)

Student Responsibilities:

Tutorial is a collaborative enterprise, so it is very important for all students to participate fully in class. This means attending class having done the reading, ready and willing to share your ideas. We will be exploring the specific topic of American memorials, and we will also simultaneously be working on improving our writing, analytical, and oral skills.

Students will participate in a variety of activities and discussions outside of class, both formally and informally. The most notable of these will be the use of the Blackboard on-line discussion forum. All students must post a contribution at least once a week on the on-line discussion forum. From time to time the entire class will be asked to post contributions to a specific discussion. Guidelines and instructions for using the Blackboard forum will be distributed in class. The on-line discussion forum will also be used extensively in the semester-long preparation of our design for a September 11 memorial.

Students in this class will complete a variety of writing assignments, ranging from one paragraph to the final 4-5 page paper. All assignments must be turned in on time and in good order. Unless otherwise indicated, all papers must be typed, double-spaced, in a 10 or 12-point font with footnotes or endnotes in University of Chicago style. Additional paper guidelines will be discussed in class.

Because class time is so important to this course, regular attendance is essential. You should not miss class unless you are ill or have another emergency. Chronic lateness will cause problems. If you miss class or are habitually late without a good explanation, your performance and grade in this class will suffer severely. If you need to miss class for sickness, emergency, or athletics, let Ms. Purcell know.

Grinnell College grants reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you require an accommodation due to a disability, please alert Ms. Purcell during the first week of class so arrangements can be made.

Schedule and Assignments

Thursday, Aug. 29 Discussion of Memorials and September 11

Reading Due: Paul Goldberger, "Groundwork: How the Future of Ground Zero is Being Resolved," The New Yorker, May 20, 2002, 86-95; Newspaper articles; website: Lower Manhattan Development Corporation <http://renewnyc.com/index.shtml>

Tuesday, Sept. 3 Memory, Memorials, and History

Reading Due: Peter Burk, "History as Social Memory" PACKET; Jack Hitt, "The American Way of Dealing with Death," New York Times, August 18, 2002

Thursday, Sept. 5 Library Session MEET IN ARH 124

FRIDAY, SEPT. 6 REVISED PARAGRAPH DUE IN MS. PURCELL'S BOX

Tuesday, Sept. 10 How to read the *New York Times*, bring your paper to class

Thursday, Sept. 12 Media critique for the first anniversary of September 11
MEDIA CRITIQUE DUE IN CLASS

Tuesday, Sept. 17 The Bunker Hill Monument
Reading Due: John Seelye, Memory's Nation, Chapter 18 PACKET; Purcell, Sealed with Blood, Chapter 5 excerpt

Thursday, Sept. 19 Re-imagining the Bunker Hill Monument
Reading Due: Newspaper articles on Wodizcko projection

Tuesday, Sept. 24 Civil War, Race, and Monuments
Reading Due: Kirk Savage, Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves, Chapters 1-3

Thursday, Sept. 26 Civil War, Race, and Monuments
Reading Due: Kirk Savage, Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves, Chapters 4-7

Saturday, Sept. 28 Field trip to Des Moines ***Meet in front of Carnegie 10:00 a.m.**
Background Reading: Louise Rosenfield Noun, "Harriet Ketchum, Resolute Artist," The Palimpsest, May/June 1986: 70-79; Louise Rosenfield Noun, "The Iowa Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument," The Palimpsest, May/June 1986: 80-93

Tuesday, Oct. 1 Small group meetings about papers
Group 1 papers due on Wednesday, Oct. 2

Thursday, Oct. 3 Small group meetings about papers
Group 2 papers due on Friday, Oct. 4

Tuesday, Oct. 8 National Parks, National Memory
Reading Due: John Bodnar, "The National Park Service and History," PACKET; Edward Tabor Linenthal, "Gettysburg," PACKET; browse: <http://www.nps.gov/>

Thursday, Oct. 10 Memorializing World War II
Reading Due: Edward Tabor Linenthal, "Pearl Harbor," PACKET; Articles on proposed World War II monument

Tuesday, Oct. 15 United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Explore website: <http://www.ushmm.org/>

Thursday, Oct. 17 Oral presentations on Grinnell memorials

Fall Break Oct. 19-27

Tuesday, Oct. 29 The Vietnam War and Popular Culture
Reading Due: John Hellman, "The Vietnam Film and American Memory," PACKET

FILM: “The Deer Hunter” (1978) 183 minutes place and time TBA

Thursday, Oct. 31 Discuss: “The Deer Hunter”

Tuesday, Nov. 5 American Memory and the Vietnam Memorial
Reading Due: Kristin Ann Hass, Carried to the Wall

FILM: “Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision” (1994) 83 minutes place and time TBA

Thursday, Nov. 7 Discuss: “Maya Lin: A Strong, Clear Vision.”

FRIDAY, NOV. 8 PAPER DUE IN MS. PURCELL’S BOX

Tuesday, Nov. 12 “I’ll Be Missin’ You” Hip Hop and American Memory
Reading Due: Chuck D. and Yusuf Jah, Fight the Power, pp. 1-9; Derek I.M. Gilbert (aka D-Knowledge) “Reflections on the Life and Death of 2Pac: “Keep on Livin’” in Tough Love: The Life and Death of Tupac Shakur, ed. Michael Datcher and Kwame Alexander (Alexandria, VA: Black Words, 1997), pp. 64-72; Michael Eric Dyson, Holler If You Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur (New York: Basic Civitas, 2001), pp. 247-268

Thursday, Nov. 14 Web Presentations on murals, graffiti, and memory

Tuesday, Nov. 19 Oklahoma City and American Memory
Reading Due: Edward T. Linenthal, The Unfinished Bombing, pp. ix-108

Thursday, Nov. 21 Oklahoma City and American Memorials
Reading Due: Edward T. Linenthal, The Unfinished Bombing, pp. 109-241

Tuesday, Nov. 26 Discuss September 11 Memorial Design

Thursday, Nov. 28 THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, Dec. 3 Small Group paper meetings

Thursday, Dec. 5 Small Group paper meetings

Tuesday, Dec. 10 September 11 Memorial
4-5 PAGE PAPER DUE IN CLASS

Thursday, Dec. 12 September 11 Memorial