

## FAIR 334B/HGST 334 – TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

### 013 Memorials and Transitional Justice

- Jonathan I. Leib, Gerald R. Webster and Roberta H. Webster, *Rebel with a cause? Iconography and public memory in the Southern United States*, 52(4) GEOJOURNAL, pp. 303-309 (Iconographies) (2000)
- Susanne Buckley-Zistel & Annika Björkdahl, *Memorials and Transitional Justice*, in *INTRODUCTION TO TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE*, (Olivera Simić, ed., 2017), (Chapter 12): pp. 249-264.
- UN Human Rights Council, *Memorialization processes in the context of serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law: the fifth pillar of transitional justice: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence*, UN. Doc. A/HRC/45/45, July 9, 2020
- UN Human Rights Council, *Report of the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, Farida Shaheed*, UN. Doc. A/HRC/25/49, January 23, 2014

1. What are memorials and their forms? Who creates them? In what sense are memorials a form of reparations? Why are memorials considered a pillar of transitional justice? In what sense has remembering become a “duty”? What accounts for the shift in the aesthetic form of memorials from concrete objects to more reflective forms? (Zistel & Björkdahl, pp. 249-253; UN. Doc. A/HRC/45/45, pp. 4-8; paras. 15-24, 27-41; UN. Doc. A/HRC/25/49, pp. 3-5, paras. 5-14)
2. What functions do memorials play in transitional justice? Which of these functions are private, and which are public? Why is the Srebrenica site (Case Study A) emblematic of the contestation that accompanies memorial sites? How does the Berlin memorial (Case Study B) serve as a site of resistance? What are the various political agendas embedded in the “battlefield of memory”? (Zistel & Björkdahl, pp. 254-261; UN. Doc. A/HRC/25/49, pp. 6-7, paras. 18-24)
3. How do memorials reflect the object of commemoration such as victims or war heroes? How can memory and memorials be more encompassing and not just telling the story of one side? How do memorials help affirm or dispel gendered roles in armed conflicts? What are counter-memorials? Because memorials serve to transfer memory across generations, how can they avoid a narrow conception of the events and not obscure the larger issues that led to the conflict? (Zistel & Björkdahl, pp. 262-264; UN. Doc. A/HRC/45/45, pp. 10-12; paras. 58-66)
4. What are the specific challenges associated with memorialization practices, according to Farida Shaheed (Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights)? (UN. Doc. A/HRC/25/49, pp. 11-19, paras. 49-97). What is “iconography”? And “public memory”? What is the relationship between these concepts? What is the proper way to address the issue of confederate flags and other sites that commemorate slavery, racism, and other injustices in recent US history? (Leib, et al., 303-309).