

LIBA 497.004: MEMORY AND THE CREATIVE MIND

TIME: TR 10:30-11:45

ROOM: RL 0035

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Julie Evey

DESCRIPTION: Students will gain a critical eye toward attention, perception, and memory. We will have a clearer picture of how people can remember the same event differently. This will help us as jurors, family members, co-workers and citizens. The course will enable students to look at all writing, including history, as subjective. Critical thinking skills will be enhanced by the close examination of memory in a social context.

Using psychological interpretations of the mind and memory, we will also be exploring (by reading, writing, talking about, researching) literature. We will be studying philosophical interpretations of memory. We will look at how memory works. Much of who we are—our identity—is dependent upon our memories. People are living longer, so more are afflicted with dementia. Society since the 1980s has become more open to conversations such as topics regarding childhood sexual abuse. With this openness, a subsequent increase in accusations has occurred. How reliable are memories of childhood? Factors influencing problems of contemporary life will be looked at from many angles.

TEXTS:

An English, collegiate dictionary

Alan Baddeley, Michael Eysenck, and Michael Anderson Memory 9781848720015

Kurt Vonnegut, Slaughterhouse Five or the Children's Crusade: A Duty Dance With Death

B.F. Skinner, Walden Two

Tim O'Brien, The Things They Carried

And a packet of readings to be distributed in class

REQUIREMENTS:

Class Participation: In class, you will present your ideas and discuss the content of your reading responses. You will also listen and respond to what your classmates say. During class, be prepared to write down important ideas and develop questions in response to discussion. I am looking for thinking, interactive minds here, with voices. Additionally, you will need to keep a portfolio of your work.

Ten Reading Responses (2 pages each): Throughout the class, you will write focused, thoughtful, and creative responses to the assigned readings.

1 Critical Paper Presented to the Class: Using the theories we have learned, you will compose one publishable academic paper which will be presented toward the end of the semester. This paper will go through at least two revisions, final paper to be 15 pages. I will help direct you to reach the 15 pages! You are not to sit down and attempt to write this all at once.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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