

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT**

Code: 46684
Name: Knowledge and Public Use of the Past
Cycle: Master's Degree
ECTS Credits: 5
Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2263 - Master's Degree in Contemporary History	Facultat de Geografia i Història	1	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2263 - Master's Degree in Contemporary History	Historiografia, metodologies històriques e investigació aplicada	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

Problems of the historical knowledge and the role of the historian; relations among history, collective memory, literature and public uses of the past; and recent trends in contemporary history.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Basic formation. Level of origin: degree in history or related

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES



2263 - Master's Degree in Contemporary History

Capacidad de comunicar, oralmente y por escrito, sus conocimientos y argumentos históricos a públicos especializados y no especializados de una forma clara y ordenada

Capacidad de uso y generación de conocimientos científicos en el campo de la Historia Contemporánea

Poseer las habilidades que les permitan continuar avanzando en el conocimiento de la Historia Contemporánea

Students should apply acquired knowledge to solve problems in unfamiliar contexts within their field of study, including multidisciplinary scenarios.

Students should be able to integrate knowledge and address the complexity of making informed judgments based on incomplete or limited information, including reflections on the social and ethical responsibilities associated with the application of their knowledge and judgments.

Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.

Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.

Students should possess and understand foundational knowledge that enables original thinking and research in the field.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. History as a kind of knowledge

The path of historiography in the 19th and 20th centuries: from the setting-up of history as a discipline to the crisis of history. The most recent turns: the linguistic or rhetorical turn; the history from below, the microhistory and the history of the daily life; experiences, concepts and the time turn; the subjective turn and the I in the writing of history. The different phases in the historiographical work.

2. Memory, public uses, and historiography

The era of the witness as a victim and the new culture of memory. Individual memory, collective memory and social memory, and public memory. The duty of memory and the public uses of the past. Past presents, trauma and postmemory.

In this unit, memory, understood as a discourse of power, and new trends in the memory studies will be addressed, together with their intersection with postcolonial and decolonial studies. Memory wars will be



3. The articulation of memory and the public uses of the colonial past

introduced, and the concept of cultural memory will be critically analysed. The students will delve into public uses of colonial past and its legacies, and in the connection between discourses of memory and the creation of contemporary identities.

4. Colonialism, racism and orientalism in the knowledge, the memory and the public use of the past

The universal in the Contemporary Universal History, coloniality and the epistemologies of the South. The boomerang effect of Hannah Arendt: descends to the hells out, before and after the European Civil War. Decolonising the perspectives on the Arab-Islamic world. Memory of the beginning, forgetting to the end: the past that cannot pass, memoricide, and the public use of the history of Israel-Palestine.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Tutorials	10,00
Theory	20,00
Seminar	20,00
Total hours	50,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	0,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	0,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Theoretical and practical teaching, with the support of texts and other materials previously distributed among the students for their active participation in the course. Guidance and tutoring about the contents of the course and about the students' task or tasks.

EVALUATION



To be evaluated, students must attend at least the 80% of the sessions. The evaluation will tackle the following aspects:

-A written exam: 70%

-Participation: 20%

-Attendance: 10%

REFERENCES

- ERLI, Astrid: *Memory in culture*, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2011, traducido al castellano *Memoria colectiva y culturas del recuerdo. Estudio introductorio*, Bogotá, Ediciones Uniandes, 2016
- IGGERS, Georg G.: *La historiografía del siglo XX. Desde la objetividad científica al desafío posmoderno*, Santiago de Chile, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2012.
- JELIN, Elizabeth. *Los trabamos de la memoria*. Madrid, Siglo XXI, 2002.
- PROST, Antoine: *Doce lecciones sobre la historia*, Valencia, PUV/Cátedra, 2001; reeditado en Granada, Editorial Comares, 2016 (introducción de Justo Serna y Analet Pons).
- SAID, Edward: *Orientalismo*, presentación de Juan Goytisolo y traducción de Maria Luisa Fuentes, Barcelona, DeBolsillo, 2008 (1978).
- SAID, Edward: *Orientalismo*, presentación de Juan Goytisolo y traducción de Maria Luisa Fuentes, Barcelona, DeBolsillo, 2008 (1978).
- HALBWACHS, Maurice: *La memoria colectiva*, Zaragoza, Prensas de la Universidad de Zaragoza, 2004.
- HUYSEN, Andrea: *En busca del futuro perdido. Cultura y memoria en tiempos de globalización*, México, Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2002.
- MOSES, A. Dirk: *The problems of genocide: permanent security and the language of transgression*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2021.



- TRAVERSO, Enzo: Passats singulars. El jo en l'escriptura de la història, traducció de Gustau Muñoz, Catarroja-Barcelona, Editorial Aferis, 2021; Pasados singulares. El yo en la escritura de la historia, traducción de Belén Gala, Madrid, Alianza Editorial, 2022.