



Photo By: Kyle Wilkinson

Cultural Memory

FRENCH / ROMST / HISTORY 715

Prof. Helen Solterer
Fall 2015

This seminar investigates the critical issues of the invention, reconfiguration, and use of literary fictions over time. How are works made by different authors -- beyond those who first create them? To whom do fictions belong: an original writer, actor, artist or trans-historical community; individuals or symbolic groups? Do fictions cease to exist?

Questions: our investigation proceeds by fundamental one of aesthetics; and we'll consider them in historical context, in relation to a variety of temporal circumstances. Our starting point: fiction has a cultural memory.

Debates: our study will engage with major thinkers and arguments : Jan Assman on cultural memory; Jacques Rancière on 'anachrony'; Maurice Halbwachs & Jacques LeGoff on memory and history; the *Archaologie du présent* by Paul Strouven; Marcel Mauss on media and transmission; with Schlegel on the structures of play; the presence of forgotten works.

around key pre-modern fictions in French vernaculars. **Materials:** our repertoire first them together with others that experiment creatively with their our starting point, we'll read the poetry of Villon with Edouard Glissant, utopian allegories of memory over many periods: Rigolot; popular theatre, the Adam Plays, with Jean-Paul Christine de Pizan with Yvon with Michelet, and filmmaker Dreyer's *Joan of Arc*; troubadour Sartre, historical chronicle in Maaubouf and Kaija Saariaho pictorial narrative, the Bayeux song with Lou's Aragon, Am readings are designed to give a cross-section of genres and tapestry, with Jean Lurçat. f media from a range of periods.

Digital Humanities project, this seminar will collaborate with **Media:** As part of the FDH Europe in the second half of the semester, we'll pursue our researchers in France and seminar of Prof. Deborah McGrady, University of Virginia. Digital work in tandem with the seminar. New/v. available, are key to our work. surrogat