

COURSE DETAIL

LITERATURE AND THE WORK OF MEMORY

Country

South Africa

Host Institution

University of Cape Town

Program(s)

University of Cape Town

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Psychology English

UCEAP Course Number

131

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

LITERATURE AND THE WORK OF MEMORY

UCEAP Transcript Title

LIT & WRK OF MEMORY

UCEAP Quarter Units

8.00

UCEAP Semester Units

5.30

Course Description

This course explores questions of memory, remembering, and time as these are refracted and represented via a range of verbal, literary, and cultural forms. The course considers the making of collective and public memory (e.g. the creation of national pasts; cultures of commemoration; oral history; testimonial forms; displacement, exile and global conflict; literatures of war) but also the question of individual and personal memory (e.g. language and identity; narrative and subjectivity; literature and psychoanalytic theory). As such, the course opens onto a wide range of topics, including but not limited to: the relation between the literary text and the history text; life-writing, autobiography and memoir; representations of childhood and ageing; engagements with the archive; the question of silenced, repressed or invisible histories; the historical, post-colonial and post-apartheid novel; discourses of trauma, truth and reconciliation; old age and forgetting; death and commemoration. Course entry requirements: At least second-year status.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

ELL2001S

Host Institution Course Title

LITERATURE AND THE WORK OF MEMORY

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.uct.ac.za/sites/default/files/media/documents/uct-handbook-09a-2025...>

Host Institution Campus

University of Cape Town

Host Institution Faculty

Humanities

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

English Literary Studies

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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