

# Psychology and Public History: How Memory Shapes Power and Identity

SPRING 2026

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- Our identities – individual, communal, and national – are shaped by what we remember. What do we remember and what do we forget as we seek to communicate and interpret the past?
- How do we remember a collective story? How are those memories shaped by current social issues, and how do they connect with place, race, gender, sexuality, and other markers of belonging?

Together we will investigate and evaluate the effects of memory on political culture, democracy, reconciliation, and belonging, and the efforts made by everyday people to elevate counternarratives. In addition, historical and political narratives show up in public spaces, as they are shaped to tell us what and how to remember our past. We will explore how public spaces are sites where identities, power, and memory are contested, and how they can become spaces for reconciliation.

**HYBRID CLASS: ZOOM, CANVAS AND FOUR FIELD TRIPS**

**ZOOM MEETINGS: EVERY THURSDAY 5:30-7:20**

**FOUR FIELD TRIPS ON SUNDAYS WEEKS 3, 5, 7 AND 8:**

**OLYMPIA ARTS & HERITAGE ALLIANCE MUSEUM  
BIGELOW HOUSE MUSEUM**

**TACOMA WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY MUSEUM  
OLYMPIA HIDDEN HISTORY WALKING/LISTENING TOUR**