



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO



DIGITAL MEMORIES

Problems, methodologies, theories

July 11th -15th, 2022

University of Milan

Summer School organized by “Plurality of Memories in Europe in a Global Perspective” (4EU+ Alliance) and hosted by the University of Milan

Deadline for Submission: April 30th, 2022

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ABOUT

The innovations introduced by new digital media have radically transformed the way in which our individual and collective memory is stored and shared as well as the processes of historical elaboration and understanding. While nowadays every form of experience seems to claim the right to be recorded and can consequently be traced on blogs and social networks, information seems to be subject to the precarious, unstable and uncontrolled nature of the web. The opportunity for a multiplication of narratives and possible points of view on facts demands new strategies to isolate the historical event from the ubiquitous flow of news, to verify its authenticity and to preserve its memory. At the same time, in the current digital mediascape, the recent diffusion of virtual, augmented and mixed

reality experiences seems to respond in many cases to a shared need for memory and understanding of collective traumas. It is the case of virtual and immersive artworks animated by the claim of faithfully reconstructing the dynamics of a collective event – as it happens in immersive journalism – or proposing a direct and empathic access to the event itself – an experience that Chris Milk in 2015 has synthesized in the well-known paradigm of the “empathy machine”. Augmented reality has been as well used as a tactical tool to occupy the public space with virtual monuments, expressing counter-historical alternatives to the official narratives. The landscape itself is reconfigured as a space constructed not only culturally but also technologically, thanks to the power provided by digital devices to inhabit it and redefine its identity from a narrative point of view. As institutional spaces for preserving historical and artistic memory, museums and archives have also undergone profound changes with the use of digital technologies, in terms of preserving and displaying. Hence, the interdisciplinary nature of memory studies becomes central to understanding the challenges that historical and collective memory are called to face within the current digital mediascape.

This Summer School invites MA and PhD students to take part in a series of lectures and workshops from various disciplines such as sociology, psychology, anthropology, history, literature, political sciences, visual and cultural studies, media studies, philosophy, art history led by top scholars from University of Warsaw, Sorbonne University, Charles University of Prague, University of Heidelberg, and University of Milan.

HOW TO APPLY?

Via mail (sending a short motivation letter - around 300 words - and a curriculum vitae to giancarlo.grossi@unimi.it, elisabetta.modena@unimi.it) until April 30th, 2022.

ORGANIZATIONAL NOTES

The Summer School will take place in Milan, and it is open to all PhD and MA students in humanities, cultural sciences, and social sciences from the Universities belonging to

the 4EU+ Alliance (University of Warsaw, Sorbonne University, Charles University of Prague, University of Heidelberg, and University of Milan). All lectures and events during the Summer School will be held in English.

We are looking for applications from students and young researchers with particular interest or research focus on memory studies. The total number of participants is limited to 5 for each University.

CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATIONS

Giancarlo Grossi (University of Milan) giancarlo.grossi@unimi.it

Elisabetta Modena (University of Milan) elisabetta.modena@unimi.it

SELECTED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Tea Sindbaek Andersen (University of Copenhagen)

Jiri Kocian (Charles University of Prague)

Luba Jurgenson (Université Paris-Sorbonne)

Pawel Dobrosielski (University of Warsaw)

Aleksandra Wiktorowska (University of Warsaw)

Andrea Pinotti (University of Milan)

Silvia Riva (University of Milan)