

# CRITICAL APPROACHES to HERITAGE

ARCH 4204/5204 | HIST 5000 | ANTH 4090/5090 | ARTH 3001



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**TIME/DATE:** Fall 2023 | Storrs 255 | Tuesday/Thursdays | 10:00-11:15

**PREMISE:** This course is a theoretical exploration of heritage from a variety of disciplinary perspectives and methodological frameworks with a focus on key contemporary issues and themes.

**OBJECTIVES:** The primary objective of this course is to develop a culture of critical inquiry and toward heritage. In addition, students will:

- become familiar with theories and debates and terminology regarding the representation, commodification, and authenticity of the past
- understand the inherent interdisciplinarity of heritage studies and what expertise and perspectives the variety of fields bring to the discourse
- understand scholarship committed to disrupting authorized heritage discourses and Eurocentric approaches that have dominated cultural heritage theory and practice in order to participate in the reconceptualization of methods and practices
- examine the contested political nature of heritage projects and the ideological and symbolic content of heritage sites
- explore intersections between the conservation of tangible and intangible heritage and the sustainability of social and environmental resources

**METHOD:** The course consists of a combination of instructor lectures, guest presentations, reading discussions, and student presentations. A series of debates on key issues will engage course material and contested themes as well as model the discursive nature of heritage studies.