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**Course: Critical Perspectives on Cultural Heritage**

**Level: Graduate/Masters**

Department of Cultural and Social History

Course designer: Silke Reeploeg, lektor/associate professor, PhD

Contact: sire@uni.gl

**Course Description and Goals**

This course examines heritage in conceptual, epistemological and intellectual terms. We focus on the interdisciplinary nature of the field and how diverse theoretical sources and methodological approaches are used. Different notions of cultural heritage are explored using models taken from, amongst others, critical museology, material and visual cultural theory, archaeology, memory-studies, postcolonial theory and cultural studies. An emphasis is placed upon uses of the past vis-à-vis addressing emergent heritage issues. These issues are subsequently grounded and problematised in a series of global case-study contexts, as seen from a Greenlandic perspective.

**Syllabus**

The topics for this semester are selected by students using a method called “creating collaborative syllabus” at the beginning of the course (see Intranet for a pdf of the process we used and a summary of responses).

**Learning Objectives and Outcomes**

A central objective of the course is to align with wider scholarship committed to disrupting Eurocentric ideas and practices that continue to dominate cultural heritage theory/practice. The course will therefore explore the contemporary 'politics of recognition' which is bound up in articulating new, alternative or critical characterisations of heritage value.

**Reading List**

Arke, P. (2006) Ethno-aesthetics. Rethinking Nordic Colonialism. A post-colonial exhibition project in five acts: Act 5. Available at: <http://www.rethinking-nordic-colonialism.org/files/index.htm> .

Barr, S. (2019). How bad news can also be good news, Greenland’s UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In Zaika, Y.V. & Kelman, I. (Eds.). Arctic Triumph: Northern Innovation and Persistence. 43-57.

Bianco, N. (2019). Colonial heritage and the inferiority complex. Foreword: from victim to victor. In Zaika, Y.V. & Kelman, I. (Eds.). Arctic Triumph: Northern Innovation and Persistence. V-Vii.

Bruchac, M M. (2018). Broken Chains of Custody: Possessing, Dispossessing, and Repossessing Lost Wampum. Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society. 162, 1, 56-105.

Duncan, C. (2005). Civilising Rituals: Inside Public Art Museums. London: Routledge. 7-20.

Forgan, S. (2005). Building the museum: knowledge, conflict and the power of place. *Isis*, 96 (4) 572-585.



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Garrow, D., Shove, E. (2007). Artefacts between disciplines: the toothbrush and the axe. *Archaeological Dialogues* 14 (2) 117–131.

Harrison, R. (2013). Heritage: Critical Approaches. London: Routledge. 13-41 (Chapter 2), 42-67 (Chapter 3).

Konsa, K. (2016). Natural and Cultural Heritage Framing. *The International Journal of Sustainability in Economic, Social, and Cultural Context*. 12, 10-18.

Murphy, A., Heffernan, M., Price, M. Harvey, D., DeLyser, D., & Lowenthal, D. (2017). The past is a foreign country – revisited. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 5(3), 201-214.

Ndoro, W. & Wijesuriya, G. (2015). Heritage management and conservation from colonization to globalization. In *Global Heritage: A Reader*, Meskell, L. (Ed.), New York: John Wiley & Sons. 131-149.

Nordin, Ojala. (2018). Collecting, connecting, constructing Sami material culture. *Journal of Material Culture*. 23(1) 58–82.

Rossen, R. (2017). Jeg ringer efter politiet! Sådan kan I ikke behandle den grønlandske nationaldragt! Uenigheder om identitet og kulturelle udtryk i grønlandsk mode. In *Grønlandsk kultur- og samfundsforskning 2015-17*. Nielsen, F., Rygaard, J., Kleist B., Langgård, K., Pedersen, K. (Eds.) Nuuk: Ilisimatusarfik / Forlaget Atuagkat. 99-115.

Shanshan, Z. (2017). Religious diversity and patrimonialisation in China, A case study of the Nianli Festival in Leizhou Peninsula, China *Approaching Religion*. 7, 1, 21-31.

Tolia-Kelly, D.P., Waterton, E. & Watson, S. (2016). Heritage: affect and emotion: politics, practices and infrastructures. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge. 1-11.

Verterius, S. (2016). Between History and Heritage: Redrawing the Roman Limes into a Locus of Public History. Unpublished Master Thesis. Utrecht: University of Utrecht. Available at: <http://dspace.library.uu.nl/handle/1874/334264>

#### Websites and Internet Resources

Cambridge University, Scott Polar Museum Exhibition  
<https://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/museum/news/conservation/2013/07/03/inukshuk/>

Coming Home to Indigenous Place Names, Canadian-American Centre, University of Maine. Available at: <https://umaine.edu/canam/publications/coming-home-map/coming-home-indigenous-place-names-canada-pdf-download/>

East Greenlandic Place Names, Arctic Institute, Denmark. Available at:



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<https://arktiskinstitut.dk/en/knowledge-database/east-greenland-place-names/> (Accessed on 20 April 2020) <https://oqaasileriffik.gl/place-names/>

Global Social Theory, Available at: <https://globalsocialtheory.org/>

Jensen, P., Diemer, R. (2013) Blok P Erindringer. Available at: <https://youtu.be/mDI3xdHZZ74>

Kulturarv i Grønland, Tidsskriftet Grønland 2018, 02 (pp.100-114), <https://issuu.com/greenland/docs/tg2-2018-gratisartikler> (link)

Online exhibition: Frida Kahlo, “Appearances can be deceiving”  
Available at: <https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/appearances-can-be-deceiving%2%A0/6gICPDLcNAzkJA>  
Museo Frida Kahlo, Mexico, Mexico — Google Arts & Culture

Pastforward Heritage Limited, Writers and publishers of social history  
[https://www.pastforward.ca/perspectives/columns/07\\_09\\_07.htm](https://www.pastforward.ca/perspectives/columns/07_09_07.htm)

Remains of Greenland, Archaeology Project movie, Available at:  
<https://www.remains.eu/videos.html>

The myth of Aboriginal stories being myths, Jacinta Koolmatrie, TEDxAdelaid, Available at:  
<https://youtu.be/aUIgkbExn6I> (Accessed on 16 April 2020)

The Prize of the Pole, Available at: <https://vimeo.com/127523606>

UNESCO, Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage, Definitions and Examples, Available at:  
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1149/>

What is Critical Heritage Studies, Available at: <https://www.criticalheritagestudies.org/history>

What is kulturarv? Available at: <https://slks.dk/omraader/kulturarv/bevaringsvaerdige-bygninger-og-miljoer/lokalplaner-og-kulturarv-en-guide/2-hvad-er-kulturarv/>  
<https://blogg.forskning.no/kulturminnebloggen/kulturarv-nar-fortid-natid-og-framtid-motes/1098662>