



New Frontiers in Memory Studies



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Postcolonial Memory

Monday 20 November | 18:15 | Online via Zoom



Register [here](https://www.memorystudies-frankfurt.com) for the event (or on www.memorystudies-frankfurt.com)

This lecture explores the emerging subfield of postcolonial memory studies. I argue that the colonial enterprise is a memory enterprise and that colonialism, among other things, is an attempt at wiping out a people's memory. It is this coloniality of memory (as well as the 'colonial mentality' underlying mainstream memory scholarship) that postcolonial (African) memory narratives attempt to circumvent. Therefore, I examine the traces of colonial post-memories and the representations of the subtle and not-so-subtle afterlives of colonialism in postcolonial African memory narratives. Because colonialism is by its very nature transnational, I maintain that postcolonial memory studies is also attuned to a transnational framework. I show how the rise of postcolonial studies in academia had an influence on the transnational and transcultural turn in memory studies. I argue that despite the calls to move away from trauma paradigms in memory studies, postcolonial memory is still suffused with the discourse of memory as a discourse of trauma and mourning.

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