Syllabus

Doing Transitional Justice Through Politics Journalism and Culture - 50070

Last update 13-09-2018

**HU Credits:** 2

**Degree/Cycle:** 2nd degree (Master)

**Responsible Department:** Communication & Journalism

**Academic year:** 0

**Semester:** 2nd Semester

**Teaching Languages:** English

**Campus:** Mt. Scopus

**Course/Module Coordinator:** Dr. Alexandra Herfroy-Mischler

**Coordinator Email:** a.mischler@mail.huji.ac.il

**Coordinator Office Hours:** upon request via email

**Teaching Staff:**
Dr. Eliora Mischler
Course/Module description:
The overarching purpose of transitional justice is to investigate past human rights violations such as ethnic cleansing, genocides, crimes against humanity, human rights abuses and to (re-)establish justice. This course is investigating most recent research on political and cultural initiatives taken to reach transitional justice as well as empirical cases and their media coverage. To do so, we will first define the concept of transitional justice engaging with each of its various constitutive steps: i.e. truth commission, trials, apology, reparation payment and communicative history. Then we will deal with the political aspects of transitional justice and tackle its cultural implications. Finally we will discuss media coverage of empirical cases and its repercussion on collective memory, sense of identity and how it impacts the past, present and future of victims' and perpetrators' societies.

Course/Module aims:
The purposes of this course are to introduce:

- The various elements that constitute the Transitional Justice process.
- The concept and the role of trials in the transitional justice process.
- The concept and the role of truth commissions in the transitional justice process.
- The concept and the role of public apologies in the transitional justice process.
- The concept and the role of reparation payments in the transitional justice process.
- The concept and the role of communicative history/change of historical narrative in the transitional justice process.

- The concept of reconciliation as part of the post-transitional justice process.

- The concept and the role of commemoration, be it official or alternative as part of the post-transitional justice process.

- To address the political aspects of the transitional justice process.

- To assess the role of media in building collective memory as part of the post-transitional justice process.

- Introduce the concept and the role of civilian initiatives in the post-transitional justice process.

- Introduce the concept of cultural encounter and its role in establishing a post-transitional justice via the work of memory when transitional justice failed or did not exist.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Gain a rich and broad theoretical knowledge about the transitional Justice process and its various aspects
-Gain historical background about diverse ethnic cleansing, genocides, crimes against humanity, human rights abuses

-Understand the role of politics and media in the transitional Justice process

**Attendance requirements(%):**

70%

**Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:** Frontal teaching with powerpoint, student presentation, class activities, video screening

**Course/Module Content:**

**Week 1: What is Transitional Justice?**
The purpose of this session is to introduce the various elements that constitute the Transitional Justice process.

**Mandatory Reading:**

**Optional Readings:**

**Week 2: Trials and Transitional Justice**
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of trials in the transitional justice process.

**Mandatory Reading:**

**Optional Readings:**

**Week 3: Truth Commissions and Transitional Justice**
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of truth
commissions in the transitional justice process.

Mandatory Reading:

Optional Readings:

Week 4: Public Apology and Transitional Justice
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of public apologies in the transitional justice process.

Mandatory Readings:

Optional Readings:

Week 5: Reparation payments
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of reparation payments in the transitional justice process.

Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:

Week 6: Communicative History
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of communicative history/change of historical narrative in the transitional justice process.

Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:

Week 7: Reconciliation
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept of reconciliation as part of the post-transitional justice process.
Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:

Week 8 and 9: Commemoration and Non-Commemorative Cultural Memory

The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of commemoration, be it official or alternative as part of the post-transitional justice process.
Mandatory readings:

Optional Readings:
Gutman, Y. (2015). Looking backward to the future: Counter-memory as oppositional knowledge production in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Current...

Week 10: The political aspects of transitional justice
The purpose of this session is to address the political aspects of the transitional justice process.
Mandatory reading:
Optional Readings

Week 11: The ‘media setting’ of collective memory
The purpose of this session is to assess the role of media in building collective memory as part of the post-transitional justice process.
Mandatory reading:
Optional Readings:

Week 12: Civilian Initiatives toward post- transitional justice
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept and the role of civilian initiatives in the post- transitional justice process.
Mandatory reading:
Optional Readings:

Week 13: Cultural Encounter: a post-transitional justice?
The purpose of this session is to introduce the concept of cultural encounter and its
role in establishing a post-transitional justice via the work of memory when transitional justice failed or did not exist.

Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:

Bibliography


Gutman, Y. (2015). Looking backward to the future: Counter-memory as


Required Reading:

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Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:


Kaiser S (2014) Argentinean Torturers on Trial: How Are Journalists Covering the


**Additional Reading Material:**

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Mandatory Readings:
Optional Readings:
Dialogue (43): 43-60.

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Mandatory reading:

Optional Readings:

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Zandberg E, Meyers O and Neiger M (2012) 'Past Continuous: Newsworthiness and

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Optional Readings:

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Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 20 %
Participation in Tutorials 10 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 70 %
take home exam

Additional information:
Students can choose to between:
-take home exam
or
-take home exam and write a seminar paper

-All student need to do an oral presentation in class.