History, Memory, Silence



'Stones' by Ai Weiwei. Porcelain, 91 pieces, 2011The Museum of Cycladic Art, Athens, Greece, July 2016, picture by Hakem Al-Rustom

HISTORY 445/594 & ANTHRCUL 458 Hakem Al-Rustom Winter 2017 – Mondays 4-7pm

The seminar provides anthropological perspectives—both in theory and ethnographic methods—on the study of the past: the process and politics of history making, the role of memory, and the knowledge retained in ethnographic silences. The readings provide theoretical and methodological approaches to the fields of anthropology and memory studies, as well as the emerging concepts such remnants of the past ruins, rubble, and artifacts.

This course is taught simultaneously at the American University in Cairo.