Public history is the practice of history outside the classroom in diverse community and institutional settings that may include such specializations as archival management, cultural resource management, preservation, historic site management and interpretation, documentary media, museum science, and heritage tourism. This class is an introduction to the field of public history and the methodological and theoretical approaches that shape its practice. The class will explore a wide range of issues and topics that inform the work of public historians through case studies, oral presentations as well as guest lectures from current professionals in the field.

Required Texts:
Bruggeman, S. Born in the USA: Commemoration and American Public Memory
Jackson, A. Speaking for the Enslaved: Heritage Interpretation at Antebellum Plantation Sites
Linenthal, E. Preserving Memory: The Struggle to Create America’s Holocaust Museum
Longstreth, R. Cultural Landscapes: Balancing Nature and Heritage in Preservation Practice
Sather-Wagstaff, J. Heritage that Hurts: Tourists in the Memoryscapes of September 11