

Susan Eastman

Course Description: English 102

Remembering the American War in Vietnam

By looking at a wide range of issues, rhetorical strategies, and audiences, this course will seek to widen students' conception the American War in Vietnam and artistic responses to the conflict. We will investigate representations of the war by those who witnessed, fought, lost, survived, were damaged, and continue to wrestle with the legacy of the time. In addition, we will consider why the war remains a "hot spot" in American discussion. Despite American efforts at healing from the war in Vietnam, memories of the war continue to haunt American politics, history, culture, and the arts. This class will explore multigenerational, intercultural, and multi-genre works of soldiers and civilians, Americans and Vietnamese—the many voices of history, memory, and imagination—responding to the war and its aftermath. We will examine how film, fiction, poetry, memoir, history, memorials, and multimedia texts have kept the war alive in contemporary culture.