

HUM002A

MIND GAMES:

How Memories
Shape Our Past,
Present, and Future

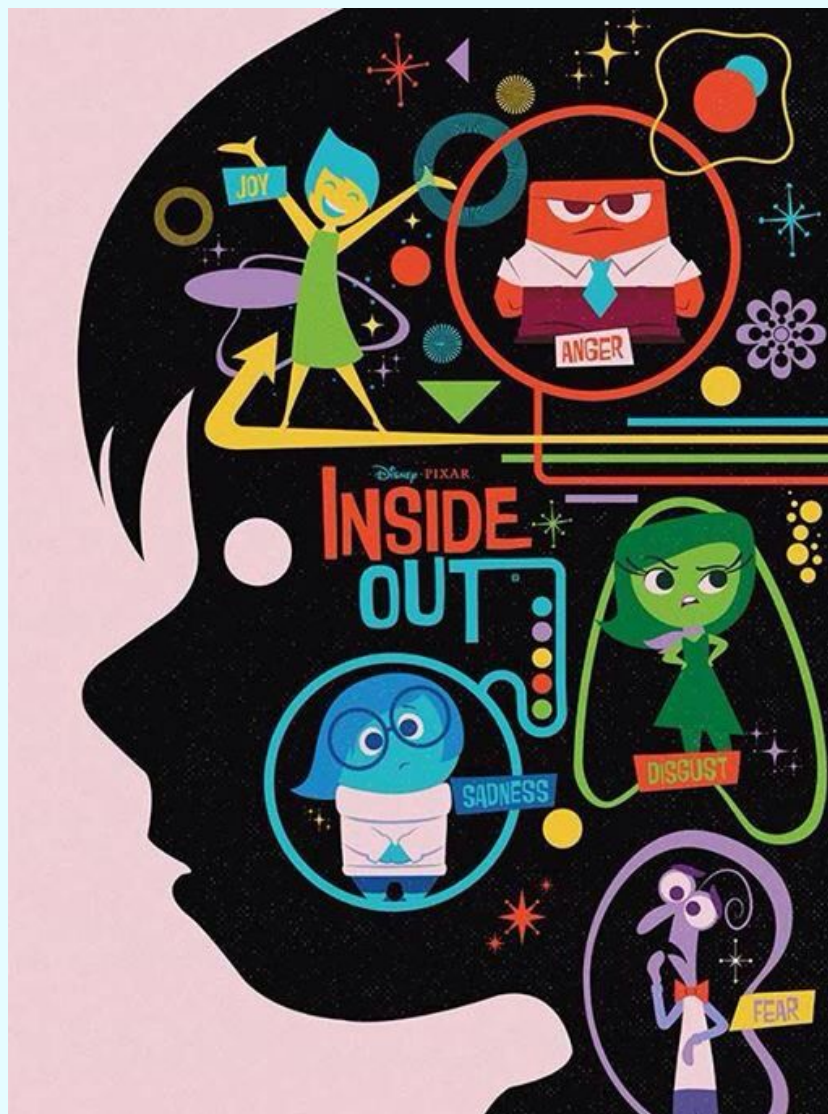
Summer Session II
(August 5th - September 13th)

MTW 12:10pm-1:50pm

Olson Hall 101

CRN 72208

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Why are we so fascinated by memories of the past? What is the allure of bringing the past back to the present? When a show like *Stranger Things* premiered, many viewers and critics praised how it represented the Reagan years through many references to 80s movies, music, and questionable fashion choices. *Stranger Things*' popularity, and other shows and movies like it, has exemplified our fixation with memories of the past. Where did this sudden nostalgia come from? Is it just a fad? Are we fleeing to the past to run away from the present? Or are we looking for answers that can shape the future?

In this course, we will examine how film represents the past and challenges the methods through which we remember it. We will focus on films that reveal how memory works, how it fails, and how it can be enhanced or altered. We will study a diverse group of films: blockbusters and art house, fictional and non-fictional, animated and live-action, and US and foreign films. Through these films, we will tackle questions such as: Whose memories am I really remembering? What if the past returns to haunt the present? How do memories of the past *affect* our present?

*HUM002A may be repeated one time if topic differs.