

# Amy Sodaro

Department of Social Sciences, Human Services, Criminal Justice  
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## Academic Positions

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Professor of Sociology, 2024; Associate Professor of Sociology, 2017-2024; Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2012-2017

Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York, New York, NY

Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2011-2012

William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ

## Education

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Ph.D., Sociology, New School for Social Research, New York, 2011

*Dissertation:* Exhibiting Atrocity: Presentation of the Past in Memorial Museums

Committee: Jeffrey Goldfarb, Elzbieta Matynia, Vera Zolberg

M.A., Liberal Studies, New School for Social Research, New York, 2004

*Thesis:* Forgotten Victims: The Absence of the Roma in the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Classics and Drama, Tufts University, Medford, MA, 1997

## Publications

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### Books

*Lifting the Shadow: Reshaping Memory, Race and Slavery in US Museums*, Rutgers University Press, 2025.

*Exhibiting Atrocity: Memorial Museums and the Politics of Past Violence*, Rutgers University Press, 2018.

### Edited Volumes and Journals

Paul Morrow, **Amy Sodaro**, Leora Kahn (eds), *Museums and Mass Violence*. Routledge, 2025.

Joyce Apsel and **Amy Sodaro** (eds), *Museums and Sites of Persuasion: Politics, Memory and Human Rights*, Routledge, 2019.

Terri Gordon and **Amy Sodaro** (eds), *Women's Studies Quarterly* "At Sea," The Feminist Press, 2017.

Yifat Gutman, Adam Brown, and **Amy Sodaro** (eds), *Memory and the Future: Transnational Politics, Ethics and Culture*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

## Journal Articles and Book Chapters

"Politics of Violence," in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Memory Studies*, eds. Lucas M Bietti and Martin Pogacar, Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.

"Recovering Silenced Pasts: Representation of Racial Violence in Montgomery's Legacy Museum and Tulsa's Greenwood Rising," in *Museums and Mass Violence*, eds Paul Morrow, Amy Sodaro and Leora Kahn, Routledge, 2025.

"Nunca Mas: Chile's Museum of Memory and Human Rights," *The Holocaust, Human Rights and the Museum*, eds. Avril Alba, Dirk Moses and Jennifer Barrett, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2025.

"Politics of Violence," in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Memory Studies*, eds. Lucas M Bietti and Martin Pogacar, Palgrave Macmillan, 2024.

"'Feeling Truth': Objects, Embodiment and Temporality in the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Legacy Museum," in *Museums, Narratives, and Critical Histories: Narrating the Past for Present and Future*, eds. Stephan Jaeger and Kerstin Barndt, DeGruyter, 2024.

"Contentious Pasts, Contentious Futures: Race, Memory and Politics in Montgomery's Legacy Museum," in *Interpreting Contentious Memory: Countermemories and Conflicts over the Past*, eds. Thomas DeGloma and Janet Jacobs, Bristol University Press, 2023.

"Museums and the Memory of Genocide," in *The Handbook of Genocide Studies*, eds. David J. Simon and Leora Kahn, Edward Elgar Press, 2023.

"Memory Activism in Memorial Museums," *The Handbook of Memory Activism*, eds. Yifat Gutman and Jenny Wüstenberg, Routledge, 2023.

"Race, Memory and Implication in Tulsa's Greenwood Rising," *Memory Studies* 15(6), 2022.

\*Winner of Ohio University's Zumkehr Prize for Scholarship in Public Memory, 2023.

"'Bring Your Kleenex and Plan Something Fun for Later...' Social Media Reviews of the 9/11 Museum," *The Memorial Museum in the Digital Age*, ed. Victoria Walden, REFRAME, 2022.

"Transnational Memory Movements in the 9/11 Memorial Museum," in *Agency in Transnational Memory*, eds by Jenny Wustenberg and Aline Sierp. New York: Berghahn Books, 2020.

"Prosthetic Trauma and Politics in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *Memory Studies* 12(2), 2019.

"Selective Memory: Memorial Museums, Human Rights and the Politics of Victimhood," *Museums and Sites of Persuasion: Politics, Memory and Human Rights*, eds. Joyce Apsel and Amy Sodaro, Routledge, 2019.

"Performativity, Affect and Politics in the 9/11 Museum," *Liminalities: A Journal of Performance Studies* special issue: "Performative Commemoration of Painful Pasts" 14(3), 2018.

"Haunted by the Spectre of Communism: Memory Politics in Hungary's House of Terror," *Silence, Screen, & Spectacle: Rethinking Social Memory in the Age of Information*, edited by Lindsey Freeman, Benjamin Nienass, Rachel Daniell. Berghahn Books, 2014.

"Memory, History, and Nostalgia in Berlin's Jewish Museum," in *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*. Vol. 26, No. 1, pp 77-91. March 2013

Sodaro, A. "Remembering the Rwandan Genocide at the Kigali Memorial Center," in *Curating Difficult Knowledge: Violent Pasts in Public Places*, edited by Erica Lehrer, Cynthia Milton, Monica Patterson. Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

Sodaro, A. "Skabelsen af fortiden i Kigali Genocide Memorial Center" ("Production of the Past in the Kigali Genocide Memorial Center," translated to Danish by Astrid Nonbo Andersen) in *Slagmark: Tidsskrift for idehistorie*, special issue *Historiepolitik*, No. 60, 2011.

Sodaro, A. "Whose Holocaust? The Struggle for Romany Inclusion in the US Holocaust Memorial Museum," *The International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*, Vol. 1, Issue 4, 2008.

### **Textbook Chapters**

"Understanding War and Terrorism," *Sociology in Action: Social Problems*, eds. Mary N. Trautner, Kathleen Korgen and Maxine Atkinson, Sage Press, 2019.

"Understanding Socialization," *Sociology in Action*, eds. Kathleen Korgen and Maxine Atkinson, Sage Press, 2018.

### **Book Reviews**

Review of *Affective Heritage and the Politics of Memory After 9/11: Curating Trauma at the Memorial Museum* by Jacque Micieli-Voutsinas (Routledge 2021) in *AAG Review of Books* 11(1), 2023.

Review of *Creating the Creation Museum: How Fundamental Beliefs Come to Life* by Kathleen C. Oberlin (NYU Press 2020) in *American Journal of Sociology* 127(5), 2022.

Review of *Routledge International Handbook of Memory Studies*, eds. Anna Lisa Tota and Trever Hagen (Routledge 2016) in *European Journal of Cultural and Political Sociology* 4(3), 2017.

## Academic Awards and Honors

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- Zumkehr Prize for Scholarship in Public Memory, 2023
- Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowship, 2022-2023
- Visiting Scholar, The New School for Social Research, Spring 2022
- Visiting Scholar, New York University Faculty Resource Network, Fall 2021
- PSC CUNY Grants, BMCC, CUNY, 2020-2021, 2019-2020, 2014-2015
- Faculty Development Grants, BMCC, CUNY, 2018-2019, 2014-2015
- Honorable Mention, Memory Studies Association First Book Award, 2019
- Scholar-in-Residence, New York University Faculty Resource Network, summer 2016 & 2017

## Conferences & Talks

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### Conference Organizing Committee

*Museums and Mass Violence*, Yale University Genocide Studies Program, October 2022

*Memory: Silence, Screen and Spectacle*, New School for Social Research, March 2011

*The Limits of Memory*, New School for Social Research, March 2010

*Memory and the Future*, New School for Social Research, February 2009

*Is an Interdisciplinary Field of Memory Studies Possible?* New School for Social Research, February 2008

### Select Conference Presentations & Panels

“‘Feeling Truth’: Objects, Embodiment and Temporality in the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Legacy Museum” (paper presentation); Laws, Organizations and Activists (chair); Methodologies Workshop (chair), *Memory Studies Association Annual Conference*, Newcastle, UK, July 2023

“Race, Representation and Atrocity: US Memorial Museums and the Memory of Slavery.” *Museums and Mass Violence*, Yale University Genocide Studies Program, October 2022

“Greenwood Rising and the Politics of Past/Present/Future,” *Pasts/Presents/Futures*, George Mason University, April 2022

“The Potential and Perils of Visualizing Advocacy: Museums and Racial Justice,” *The Social Practice of Human Rights: Between Peril and Potential*, University of Dayton Human Rights Center, December 2021

A Manifesto for the Post-Pandemic Museum (roundtable panelist); Curatorial Dilemmas (organizer); Memorial Museums in the Digital Age (presenter), *Memory Studies Association Annual Conference*, Warsaw (online), July 2021

Museums and Human Rights (commentator and organizer), *Association for the Study of Nationalities Annual Conference*, Columbia University (online), May 2021

"Race and Memory in the US: Pandemic, Protest and Politics," *Suspended Present: Downloading the Past and Gaming the Future in a Time of Pandemic*, The New School for Social Research (online), April 2021

"Memory Activism and Human Rights in Memorial Museums," *Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Justice*, Columbia University, December 2019

"'Bring Your Kleenex and Plan Something Fun for Later...' Visitor Responses to the 9/11 Museum," *Memory Studies Association Annual Conference*, Madrid, Spain, June 2019

"'Probably the most relevant museum I've ever visited': Visitor responses to the 9/11 Museum" *Traversing the Gap, Relevance as a Transformative Force at Sites of Public Memory*, Mellon Conference at the 9/11 Museum, June 2019

"Memory | Politics in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *Memory Studies Association Conference: Memory Unbound*, University of Denmark, Copenhagen, 2017

"Affect, Memory and Politics in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *History Is Not Was, History Is*, Mellon Conference at the National September 11 Memorial Museum, 2017

"The Uses and Abuses of Memory in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *Museums and their Publics at Sites of Contested History*, POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw, Poland, 2017

"Memory's Future?" *Thinking Through the Future of Memory*, Memory Studies Association Inaugural Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2016

"The Uses and Abuses of Memory in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *Confronting Violent Pasts and Historical (In)Justice*, NIOD Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2016

"Cultural Forms and Memory Making in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *Translating Memory and Remembrance across the Disciplines*, SUNY New Paltz, 2015

"Affect, Empathy and Politics in the National September 11 Memorial Museum," *The Affect Conference: Memory, Aesthetics, Ethics*, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada, 2015

“Memorial Museums, Prosthetic Trauma and Politics,” *Soul Wounds: Trauma and Healing Across Generations*, Stanford University, 2015

### **Invited talks**

Keynote Address: “Communicating Atrocity: Memorializing Traumatic Histories,” Kupferberg Holocaust Center, Queensborough Community College, January 2025

Book talk: *Lifting the Shadow*, NYU, Fall 2024

Book talk: *Lifting the Shadow*, Ohio University, Fall 2024

Roundtable Panelist: Recollections Workshop, Duke University Forum for Scholars and Publics, Spring 2024

Seminar: “Memory, Representation and Museums,” Genocide and Human Rights University Program, summer intensive for graduate students, University of Toronto, August 2021 (online); August 2022 (online); August 2023 (University of Toronto)

Keynote Panelist: *The Weaponization of Memory in Times of Political Rupture(s)*, The New School for Social Research, May 2023

Book Talk: *Museums and Sites of Persuasion*, The New School for Social Research, March 2020

“Memory, Terror and Human Rights,” NYU Liberal Studies Program, February 2019

Keynote Panelist: “Memory Rebound: Reunion Panel” *Memory Rebound Conference*, The New School for Social Research, New York, April 2018

“Memory | Politics in the 9/11 Museum,” La Pietra Dialogues: Museums, Memory and Politics: Educating about Difficult Knowledge, NYU La Pietra, Florence, Italy, February 2018

### **Teaching Experience**

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- Introduction to Sociology, BMCC (modalities: in person, asynchronous, hybrid, learning community, writing intensive), William Paterson University
- Social Problems, BMCC (modalities: in person, hybrid, writing intensive)
- Sociology of Religion, William Paterson University
- Social Theory, William Paterson University
- Research Methods, William Paterson University
- Genocide: A Problem from Hell, Eugene Lang College, The New School

## Professional Activities

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- Editor, *Memory Studies* (Sage), 2022-present
- Editorial Board, *Contemporary Sociology* (Sage), beginning 2025
- Book Review Editor, *Memory Studies* (Sage), 2015-present
- Founder and Co-Chair, Memory Studies Association, Working Group on Museums and Memory, 2019-present
- Editor, Rethinking Memory, Representation and Human Rights Book Series, Routledge, 2022-present
- Reviewer – *Memory Studies*; *Memory, Mind and Media*; *Citizenship Studies*; *Journal of Genocide Research*; *The Sociological Quarterly*; *International Journal of Heritage Studies*; *International Journal of Human Rights*; *International Journal of the Inclusive Museum*; *Oxford Bibliographies*; Palgrave Macmillan; Routledge; Columbia University Press; Rutgers University Press, ICOM World Heritage.
- Member – Memory Studies Association, Association for the Study of Nationalities, Eastern Sociological Society, American Sociological Association

## Departmental, College and University Service

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- CUNY Faculty Affairs Transfer Success Faculty Fellow, 2024-2025
- Deputy Chair, Department of Social Sciences, Human Services and Criminal Justice, BMCC, Fall 2023-present
- Faculty Leader, Sociology OER and Open Pedagogy workshops, Summer 2024
- Coordinator, BMCC Sociology major, 2015-present
- Faculty Leader, Commission on Independent Colleges & Universities (CICU) Transfer Initiative, Spring 2022-present
- Faculty Leader, OER Workshop for Introduction to Sociology, BMCC, Winter 2023
- Developed BMCC Introduction to Sociology Course Hub on OpenLab, Summer 2021
- Team Leader, Sociology Academic Program Review, BMCC, 2019-2021
- Personnel & Budget Committee Member, Social Sciences Department, BMCC, Spring 2020
- Faculty Leader, BMCC Learning Academy Learning Communities Faculty Development Program, 2017-2020
- Faculty Leader, SOC 100 Adjunct Faculty Development Gateway Program, Summer 2018
- BMCC Team member, AAC&U Conference on High Impact Learning Practices, Boston University, June 2017

- Co-Chair Women's HerStory Month, Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2014-2016
- Chair, Study Abroad Committee, Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2015-2016
- Advisory Board, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Scholarship, Borough of Manhattan Community College, 2014-2016