Large parts of today's Spain and Portugal were ruled by Muslims between 711 and 1492. This territory, called Al-Andalus, ceased to exist as a place in 1492, but its memories and legacies have survived in many cultural forms, one of the most salient of which is the idea that Al-Andalus was a place of exceptional freedom or creativity for Muslim and Arab women. Professor Calderwood will discuss how the memory of Al-Andalus has become intertwined with modern debates about feminism and gender in the Middle East, North Africa, and beyond.

In this talk, Professor Pinkert reexamines the revolutionary unrest that brought down the Berlin Wall. Focusing on post-1989 art documentary film, she shows how the vision of an alternative society that mobilized many East Germans is to this day controlled by hegemonic memory regimes.