This seminar focuses on a comparative study of the ethics and politics of trauma and memory by looking at some examples of cinema, photography and visual arts in Latin America and Spain. We explore the way that these film, photographic and artistic practices function as a mode of witnessing the traumatic past, mediating between subjective and collective experiences at a local, national or trans-national level. The seminar asks: how do these cinematic, photographic and visual texts reflect and respond to complex and contradictory political and social concerns with remembering the victims of war and/or state terror and those silenced, persecuted, executed, forced to migrate or to exile, anonymously buried in common graves, or rendered invisible within public history and social memory? How do these cinematic, photographic and visual texts articulate the way that state terror impinges upon concrete and intangible realities, as Suely Rolnik suggests? Is trauma a helpful theoretical concept to think about how the effects of state terror, whether in Latin America or Spain, impact on the present, or to reflect on the experiences of victims of war or state terror, or are we reducing and distilling complex, multilayered and contentious historical, social and cultural processes to the category of trauma? What are the affective, emotional and critical implications in effective witnessing practices? How do cinema, photography and the visual arts represent horror and traumatic experiences without running the risk of objectifying the other and the horrific? Can historical memory be interpreted as symptomatic of the way in which the public use of history could be reduced to its commemorative dimension, or do cinema, photography and the visual arts function as thoughtful cultural practices that bring together subjective and collective memories and discourses as constitutive forces for a rethinking of the fragments of history? Artists, photographers and filmmakers studied include: Doris Salcedo (Colombia), Llorenç Soler (Spain), Óscar Muñoz (Colombia), Cildo Meireles (Brazil), Marcelo Brodsky (Argentina), Patricio Guzmán (Chile), Albertina Carri (Argentina), Jaime Camino (Spain), Eva Koch (Spain), Pedro Almodóvar (Spain), Guillermo del Toro (Mexico), Luis César D’Angiolillo (Argentina) or Gonzalo Justiniano (Chile). The seminar allows us to engage deeply and widely with current theoretical debates on memory and trauma and on the ethics and politics of memory and amnesia in Latin America and Spain. Authors studied include (but not limited to): Theodor Adorno, Giorgio Agamben, Hannah Arendt, Mieke Bal, Jill Bennett, Bracha Ettinger, Cathy Caruth, Jacques Derrida, Sigmund Freud, Marianne Hirsch, Andreas Huyssen, Dominick LaCapra, Primo Levi, Emmanuel Lévinas, Griselda Pollock, Paul Ricoeur, Suely Rolnik or Susan Sontag.