# Collective Memory

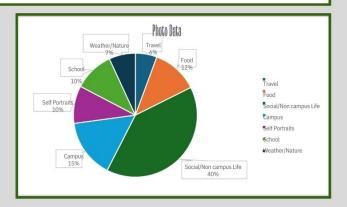
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#### Introduction

This study delves into the concept of collective memory, exploring its impact on social identity and cultural narratives. It draws on various works, including Susan Sontag's "On Photography," which examines how photography influences societal perception and diminishes the significance of events by treating all images equally. Noa Gedi and Yigal Elam's article, "Collective Memory: What is it?", discusses how collective memory is an active process shaped by social interactions and cultural contexts, while also examining its role in historical discourse. Katy Parry's chapter on "Quantitative Content Analysis of the Visual" highlights the importance of combining numerical methods with other approaches to fully understand visual media. Lastly, the article "Collective Memory: An Hourglass Between the Collective and the Individual" emphasizes the interplay between individual and collective memories, using the hourglass metaphor to illustrate the evolution of memories across generations.

## Research Question

Does the typical college freshman have a "typical" college experience, and will our visual collective memory prove or disprove or redefine typical?



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### **Conclusion**

The typical college experience portrayed in the media, while entertaining, doesn't necessarily reflect the reality of the freshman experience. We have all faced different challenges and experiences throughout our first semester, that are represented in these photos. These photos demonstrate these experiences that we've had throughout our transition into college life, and how it differs from media portrayal of college life.

