Urban Affects: Anger, Fear, & hate in the Global City

FREN 602: Raison et Déraison III.
Spring 2013. WPH 603. Thursday 2-5
Prof: Edwin Hill

Description
This course explores the ways in which transformations in world order lead to transformations in structures of feeling, and more specifically transformations in the ways in which we feel and think about anger, fear, and hate. Our critical discussion lies at the crossroads of globalization, urban studies, "the affective turn," the philosophy of emotions, and postcolonial discourse. Adopting a comparatist point of view, our corpus of fiction, film, and music includes voices from the West Indies, Europe, and the US. The contexts focus on a range of violent trauma in relation to upheavals in social and personal life, registered in the most visceral and intimate terms as cultures of difference increasingly come into contact with one another in our globalized world.

Core Questions
How do emotions configure space and how do we emotionally register the global transformations in the conditions of our social spaces and cultural practices? How do our contemporary political and economic crises become enmeshed with the construction and circulation of specific forms of affect? How has the transformation of the conditions of cultural production and dissemination modified the ways in which affect is constructed, mobilized, or rerouted? What networks of desire fuel and connect contemporary mobilizations of anger, fear, and hate in contexts of social change or crisis? What sorts of communities come together through anger, fear, and hate as new and old forms of social affect? What ethics should govern the representation of anger, fear, and hate? What sorts of images of despair, rage, hate, or fear have crystallized our contemporary moment or recent historic events and how have they done so? How does the intellectual, artist, writer, come to terms with the representational demands and responsibilities that come with the status of immigrant or native son, marginalized or dominant class?
**Fiction**


**Film**


**Critical Texts**

- Sénèque (4 BC - AC 65), *De la colère*