Course Description
This course offers an overview of theories and philosophies of emotion and affect, focusing particularly on the shift from locating emotion in the individual to feminist and poststructural accounts that understand emotions in their cultural, historical, and political contexts. Questions include: How have emotions, affect, and feeling been defined and theorized? How might theorizing emotion and affect inform new accounts of the public sphere and political philosophy, ethics, and epistemology? What is at stake in how we conceptualize emotions and affect in relation to subjectivity, public and private, race, class, gender, and agency?

Required Texts (available at University of Toronto bookstore)
Sarah Ahmed, The Cultural Politics of Emotion
Megan Boler, Feeling Power: Emotions and Education
Melissa Gregg and Seigworth eds, The Affect Theory Reader (ATR)
Mary Zournazi, Hope: New Philosophies for Change

Recommended Texts
Judith Butler, Giving an Account of Oneself
Kathleen Stewart, Ordinary Affects
Virginia Woolf, A Room of One’s Own
Discerning Critical Hope in Educational Practices (V. Bozalek, B. Leibowitz, R. Carolissen & M. Boler, eds.; Routledge, 2014)

Pepper: Course website (weekly readings that are not in books above can be found on Pepper. Pepper is also where you will post your weekly responses)
CREATE YOUR ACCT ON PEPPER by accessing this url
https://pepper.oise.utoronto.ca/sje1465
and then click on “register”

Assignments
Attendance and Participation: 20%
Threaded Discussion (Pepper): 35%
  ● You will post on Pepper a “major post” 4 times during term. In the weeks you are not doing a major posting, post a response to 2 colleagues per week in the weeks you are not responsible for a major posting. Each week, you are required to read all posts.
  ● Posts = 5 pts max= total 25 pts; responses =1 pt max, total 10 pts

Final Paper (in two parts): 35%
  ● Part 1: Outline and 5 page written argument: 10% DUE in class NOV. 16
Final Paper (15-20 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt font, hard copy) 25% DUE DEC 15

Shared, co-facilitation of part of seminar: In-Class Presentation of Reading Response Themes, and concepts from assigned readings: 10%

- On one occasion, you (and likely another colleague) are asked to present a brief overview of key points from the threaded discussion, and a presentation of 2 or more key concepts from the readings that raise questions you consider central to the theme(s) of the week.

( wk1) September 14: Introduction and Overview

1. Introduction to *What is an Emotion*, by C. Calhoun and R. Solomon, eds.
   NB: Supplemental readings on *women, silence, violence, and voice* —please choose at least two to read, and then practice posting your responses in two places on pepper: (your dialogue contribution should reference what you chose to read, but **please** feel free to post/write in any medium or genre your that you are able to share via Pepper. You are invited to share your reactions, insights, emotions, thoughts, and actions related to the recent blog posts, especially sharing your perspective on current event as they are shaped by lens of the suggested authors.

   From the course readings which were already on the syllabus, I recommend you take a look at some of these which are also posted on our course website Pepper or in one of the texts for the course:
   2. Marilyn Frye, from *The Politics of Reality*
   3. Boler, “All Speech is Not Free” (from M.Boler, ed., *Democratic Dialogue in Education: troubling speech, disturbing silence*)
      https://utoronto.academia.edu/MeganBoler, scroll down to
   All speech is not free: The ethics of “affirmative action pedagogy.”

   Additional readings:
   Adrienne Rich, *On Lies, Secrets and Silences*

   *Silence, Feminism, Power: Reflections at the Edges of Sound*, Edited by Sheena Malhotra, Aimee Carillo Rowe
   http://www.palgrave.com/page/detail/silence-feminism-power-/?isbn=9781137002365
(wk2) September 21: Challenging Binaries of Emotion and Reason
1. Genevieve Lloyd from *The Man of Reason* in *Women, Knowledge and Reality*
5. bell hooks, from *Talking Back*

Recommended:
Grosz, “Feminism and the Crisis of Reason” from *Feminist Epistemologies* eds Code et al
Patricia Hill Collins, *Black Feminist Thought*
Fredric Jameson, “Postmodernism and Consumer Society” (“waning of affect”)
Arlie Russell Hochschild, on Emotional Labor in *The Managed Heart* (1983)
Chapter 6: www.chass.utoronto.ca/~salaff/Hochschild2.pdf

(wk3) September 28 Challenging the Binaries, cont.: The Politics of Epistemologies
1. Introduction and Chapter One, Boler, *Feeling Power: Emotions and Education*
3. Maria Lugones, “World-Traveling and Loving Perception”
6. Gregg and Seigworth, “An Inventory of Shimmers”

(Wk4) October 5: Emotions, Culture, and Nationalism
   a. Ch. 1 “The Contingency of Pain”
   b. Ch. 4, “The Performativity of Disgust”
2. Lawrence Grossberg, “Mapping Popular Culture” from *We Gotta get Out of This Place*, Routledge 1992.
4. Brian Massumi, Ch 2 “The Future Birth of the Affective Fact” in ATR
5. Raymond Williams, excerpt on “Structures of Feeling” from *Marxism and Literature*

Recommended:
Lauren Berlant “The Epistemology of State Emotion” from A. Sarat, ed. *Dissent in Dangerous Times*, Univ. Michigan 2005
Brian Massumi, “Fear: The Spectrum Said”
Boler, Chapter 7, “License to Feel: Teaching in the Context of War”
Film: *A Place of Rage*, dir. Prahtibha Parmar

(wk5) October 12 THANKSGIVING NO CLASS

(wk6) October 19 Emotions, Identities, and Education
● Boler, *Feeling Power*, Chapter 7 “The Risks of Empathy”
● Zembylas: Dimensions of a Postmodern Culture of Emotions in Education from *Teaching with Emotion*
● Diana Fuss, “Essentialism in the Classroom”
● bell hooks, “Essentialism and Experience” from *Teaching to Transgress*
● Boler, “Teaching for Hope: The Ethics of Shattering World Views” from Garrison and Liston
● Kimberley Crenshaw, INtersectionalitis

**(Wk7) October 26 The Politics of Emotions and Race**

● Sarah Ahmed, Chapter 3 “The Affective Politics of Fear”
● Frantz Fanon, from *Black Skin White Masks*
● Elizabeth Alexander, “Can You Be Black and Look at This?” Public Culture 1994 7(1):77-94

**Recommended:**
Audre Lorde, “The Transformation of Silence into Language and Action” and “Age Race Class and Sex: Women Redefining Difference” from *Sister/Outsider*
Elizabeth Ellsworth, “Why Doesn’t this Feel Empowering?”
Patricia Williams, *An Alchemy of Race and Rights*
Denise Riley, *Am I That Name?*
Patricia Williams, *Black Feminist Thought*
Sherene Razack, “Looking White People in the Eye”

VIDEOS: Tongues Untied, Marlon Riggs
Fanon, Isaac Julian

**(Wk8) November 2 November 16 Affect Theory**

Sarah Ahmed, Ch 1, “Happy Objects” in ATR
Lawrence Grossberg, “Affect’s Future,” in ATR
Other readings to be selected from *The Affect Theory Reader*

**Recommended:**
Boler, Chapter 5, “A Feminist Politics of Emotion”
Changing the Subject: Psychology, Social Regulation, and Subjectivity (Methuen 1984) eds Henriques et al
November 9 New Materialism, Feminisms, and Post-Humanism: the work of Karen Barad

1. Patricia Clough, “The Affective Turn: Biopolitics…” in ATR

November 16 Guest Speaker: Zofia Zaliwska, Cultivating Despair

1. Zaliwska, TBA
2. Berlant, selections, *Cruel Optimism*
3. Boler, Chapter 8, Pedagogy of Discomfort

November 23 Guest Speaker, John Horton, Philosophies of Hope and Education

1. Selections from *Hope: New Philosophies for Change*, edited by Mary Zournazi
2. Ahmed, Ch. 8. “Feminist Attachments”
4. Ahmed Ch. 6, “In the Name of Love”

Recommended:
Lauren Berlant, “The Subject of True Feeling”

November 30: TBA, final class potluck and essay discussion
Seminar time reserved for any suggested readings from class members, as well as brief presentations of our final essay ideas

Further topics and recommended readings:

Eve Sedgwick, “Paranoid Reading”

**postcoloniality, psychoanalysis and emotions**
- Kelly Oliver, selections from *Colonization of Psychic Space*
- Judith Butler, *Giving an Account of Oneself*
- Slajov Zizek, selections

**Irony and Humor**
Linda Hutcheon, Chs, 1 and 2 from Irony’s Edge: the theory and politics of irony (1994)
Claire Colebrook, *Ironic selections*
Alenka Zupancic, *The Odd One In:* On Comedy—selections (pps. 3-10; 43-60; 111-147)