This is a reading seminar and writing experiment on affect. For Deleuze, following Spinoza, affect is force. The capacity to affect and to be affected. A vital point of emergence where the actual meets the potential. This means seeing forms, powers, socialites, aesthetics, and sensory registers not as the obvious effects of abstracted, pre-known structures and determinants but as lived intensities, impacts, circulation, assemblages, and planes of expressivity. A world is not a bounded unity but a multiplicity of trajectories of potentiality. Binary oppositions and contradictions become resonating relations (of inside/outside, action/reaction, quiescence and arousal...). Constructions are not mere representations but compositions that take place as rhythms, atmospheres, refrains and energies entrained on bodies of all kinds. Culture and power are not structures and determinations but articulations of lines of flight. Structures are ontologically complex, prismatically proliferating assemblages of noumena and matter, dream and abstractions, energy and machines of all kinds.

Books
Lauren Berlant. Cruel Optimism.
William Connolly. A World of Becoming.
Giles Deleuze and Felix Guattari. A Thousand Plateaus.
Melissa Gregg and Greg Seigworth. The Affect Studies Reader.
Derek McCormack. Refrains for Moving Bodies.
John Protevi. Political Affect.
Rajchman. The Deleuze Connections.
Kathleen Stewart. Ordinary Affects.

Writing: Each week read aloud a 300 word piece of writing inspired by the reading and useful for your project.

January 21
Introductions
Emily Martin “The Potentiality of Ethnography and the Limits of Affect Theory.”
Jason Pine “Last Chance Incorporated.”

January 28
William Connolly. A World of Becoming.

Feb 4
Melissa Gregg and Greg Seigworth. The Affect Studies Reader.

February 11
Melissa Gregg and Greg Seigworth. The Affect Studies Reader.
**February 18**
Kathleen Stewart. *Ordinary Affects*

**February 25**
Giles Deleuze and Felix Guattari. *A Thousand Plateaus.*

**March 4**
Giles Deleuze and Felix Guattari. *A Thousand Plateaus.*

**March 11**
Lauren Berlant. *Cruel Optimism.*

**March 18**
Spring break

**March 25**
Lauren Berlant. *Cruel Optimism.*

**April 8**
John Protevi. *Political Affect.*

**April 15**
Rajchman. *The Deleuze Connections.*

**April 22**
Derek McCormack. *Refrains for Moving Bodies.*

**April 29**

**May 6**
