Exiles and Outsiders (30 credits)

This module will take as its starting point the notion of the ‘exile’ or the ‘outsider’ in the city and explore the place(s) and forms of non-hegemonic expressions and experience to the history and culture of Paris. Engaging with the plurality of idioms and artistic traditions that have converged in the city throughout the centuries, it will focus particularly on modern and contemporary poetry and fiction. Students will be encouraged to think about why literary material may be of particular significance in articulating of the changing shape of urban experience in Paris from a specifically non-Parisian perspective, and to gauge its significance against the perspectives of cultural geography, with focus give to the contested nature of public space, urban revolts and the ‘rights to the city’.