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*YORK CENTRE FOR ASIAN RESEARCH & CITY INSTITUTE SERIES*

## **Disasters, Climate Risk and Exclusionary Modernity in Manila**

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**Thursday, 28 March 2013 from 12 to 2pm**

**Room 626, Sixth Floor, York Research Tower | Keele Campus**

*Ewol photo*

This talk traces the role played by the idea of 'irrationality' in how Manila's past and future is being imagined by reconstructing the experience of Manila with developmentalism, structural adjustment, and globalization to argue that the features of its urbanization which are often understood as consequences of irrationality were in fact produced by rational modern schemes for conquering and managing risks. It will then examine how the definition of disasters and climate change risk in terms of irrationality was used by experts, state agencies, and the Philippine media to articulate a vision for an exclusionary disaster-proofing of Manila by attributing the floods wrought by Tropical Storm Ketsana in 2009 to inadequacies in urban planning and an 'irrational' slum-dwelling poor.

**Kenneth Cardenas** is a doctoral student in the Department of Geography, York University. He completed his MA in Sociology with Distinction at the University of Manchester, where he worked on examining how the definition and management of risks from disasters and climate change are being used to justify an exclusionary reconfiguration of Manila.

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