LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

CRIM 4090WAO/POLI 4113WAO

The Politics of Incarceration

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Office: OAO 3024

Winter 2017
MON/WED: 4-5.30 P.M.

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday: 11:30 -1.00 OR by Appointment

OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT:

This is a seminar course, not a lecture course. The purpose of the course is to examine the theory and practice of mass incarceration. The gradual transformation of prison systems and mass incarceration as tools for maintaining social order, managing class, racial and ethnic conflict have become an important political tendency throughout the world. There are currently more individuals confined inside penal institutions across the world than in the past. The purpose of the seminar is to study the implications of these trends. We will discuss global patterns, national variations and historical transformations in punishment regimes and prison systems; the prison-industrial complex; race and incarceration. The objective is to think through the political nature of incarceration how penal practices are oppressive.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

Lectures, Presentations, and Discussion.

REQUIRED TEXT:

1. P. Scraton and J. McCulloch, eds. *The Violence of Incarceration* (Routledge publishers) ISBN: 13-978-0-415-96313-8.

2. Rose Ricciardelli, *Surviving Incarceration: Inside Canadian Prisons…*

The Textbooks are available in the University Bookstore as well as on Reserve in the Orillia campus library.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

3. R. Sparks, *The Politics of Imprisonment.*

4. Michele Foccult, Discipline *and Punish: The Birth of the Prison.*

5. Julia Sudbury, *Global Lockdown.*

6. Michael Tonry, *Why Punish? How Much?*

7. Craig Russel, *Incarceration Around the World*

8. Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*

EVALUATION:

Class Participation..... 10%

Mid Term Test …… 30%

Presentation…… 20%

Draft Research Paper Presentation… 10%

Research Paper…… 30%

Class Participation (10%)

Every Student is expected to attend and actively engage with the material presented in the assigned readings and in the seminars. If any student does not attend at least 80% of classes (10 out of 12), she/he will NOT be permitted to write the final paper. Everybody is expected to come to class prepared; if one fails to do the assigned readings he/she will be unable to participate adequately during the seminar and this will be reflected in his/her participation in the class, in the mid term test and in the research paper.

Seminar Presentation (20%)

During the first class, students will select a class to present course readings and lead classroom discussion. In their presentations students could use video and other media materials.

Students must have predetermined general and specific discussion questions. Students should avoid simply summarizing the readings and must critically analyze the readings and generate a thought provoking discussion.

Mid Term Test: To be held on Week 8

Midterm Test will be based on the reading materials from The Violence of Incarceration book. Questions will be essay type.

Draft Paper Presentation (10%)

Every student will select a topic in the first two weeks of class for writing his/her final research paper. Primarily students will choose a case study of the Practice of Incarceration in a particular country of the world. I would strongly urge to do a case study of any of these a) Guantanamo Bay Prison; b) Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq; and c) Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. However, you are free to choose any other case studies.

In the Draft presentation students will primarily talk about his/her topic and give a preliminary findings of his/her research within 10 minutes. Power point can be used.

Research Paper (30%): Due on the last day of the class.

Please note: The final paper must be submitted to the professor directly; it cannot be slid under his office door. Students will be evaluated based on their ability to apply the contents of course readings and seminar discussions.

For useful tips on how to write your paper, please refer to the following Website: http://www.sciencessociales.uottawa.ca/USB/cleusbkey.swf.

REQUIRED READING SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 January 9: Introduction/ Course Overview

January 11: Lecture on Theoretical Approaches on Imprisonment

WEEK 2 January 16: Lecture on Theoretical Approaches on Imprisonment

January 18: McCulloch: Chapters 1 and 2

WEEK 3 January 23: Lecture and Ricciardelli: Chapter 1

January 25: McCulloch: Chapters 3 and 4

WEEK 4 January 30: Lecture and Ricciardelli: Chapter 2

February 1: McCulloch: Chapters 5 and 6

WEEK 5 February 6: Lecture and Ricciardelli: Chapter 3

February 8: McCulloch: Chapters 7 and 8

WEEK 6: February 13: Lecture and Ricciardelli : Chapter 4

February 15: McCulloch: Chapters 9 and 10

WEEK 7: STUDY BREAK

WEEK 8: February 27: Ricciardelli: Chapters 5 and 6

March 1: McCulloch: Chapters: 11 and 12

WEEK 9: March 8: McCulloch: Chapter 13 and Ricciardelli: Chapter 7

WEEK 9: March 10**: MID TERM TEST: TAKE HOME**

WEEK 10: Draft Paper Presentation

WEEK: 11: Draft Paper Presentation

WEEK: 12 Draft Paper Presentations

RESEARCH PAPER DUE