Instructor: Larry L. Bembry, MA, JD.
Phone: 201 259-7482 or (609) 292-9350
Email: Larry.Bembry@rutgers.edu, Larryb4807@gmail.com

Class I.D.: CLJ 47:202:424

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Information: Thurs, 2:30 pm - 5:20 pm. BRD RM. 311

Text and Required Readings:

The syllabus, many readings, assignments and grades will be posted via Blackboard.
- Please update your email information so that you have access to Blackboard. All class updates will be posted onto Blackboard.
- Readings listed in the course schedule must be completed prior to class meeting times.
- Additional readings will be posted on Blackboard at least one week before they are due.

**Required Textbook and Readings – The New Jim Crow, Mass Incarceration in the**

- *W.E.B Dubois Black Reconstruction in America*
- *The Strange Career of Jim Crow*
- *Orange Is The New Black*, by Piper Kerman
- *The Fire Next Time* - James Baldwin
Course Overview

Mass Incarceration

Since 1970, incarceration rates in the United States have quintupled and are now higher than those in any other country in the world. These huge increases in mass incarceration over a short period-of-time have persisted through periods when crime was rising and even in the more recent time periods when crime has been falling. Apart from the dubious effects of mass incarceration on public safety suggested by these divergent trends, mass incarceration also has substantial collateral consequences across society, affecting families, communities, the labor market, the military, political processes, and the use of taxpayer dollars. This course examines trends in mass incarceration, their sources, and their direct and indirect effects on society.

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:
- understand the dynamics of the issues involving race and the criminal justice system.
- Examine the criminal justice system and its impact on people of color, and ethnic groups that constitute the minority population in the United States.
- Students will have analyzed the historical theoretical perspectives of criminal justice system and disproportionate of criminalization of minorities in the United States.
- Students will also review historical law enforcement strategies employed as a means of social control of Blacks and other minorities in the United States.
- Assess and evaluate the impact of the Court, Sentencing practices, Death Penalty and the Penal system on various races and ethnic groups in the American society.

Requirements

Participation in class discussions is highly encouraged as it enhances the learning experience for everyone. Students are expected to attend class regularly, and complete the required readings and assignments by the scheduled date. Class participation and attendance are part of the course grade, it is imperative to attend class. Please advise me in advance of any unavoidable absences 24 hours before class. Excused absences will be decided on a case by case basis. Coming to class on time is required. Consistent tardiness will be reflected in the class participation grade.

You are required to bring each day’s readings to class, either in print or digital format. All types of electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, pagers, personal digital assistants) are prohibited during class. Laptop computers are allowed ONLY for note taking. Individuals using laptops for other purposes will be asked to put away the device. If misconduct is widespread, computers will no longer be allowed in the classroom.

Course paper & presentation - Extra Credit- 10 points - Students can work in groups as well as individually to produce a course paper on the characteristics of local crime at certain locations and ways to reduce it. More information and guidance will be provided throughout the course. At the end of the semester each group will present their paper. The course paper and presentation are worth 30% of the final grade.
Participation - 10 points - Participation is a very important element of this class (and is worth 10% of your final grade!). Participation includes punctuality, questions, comments, discussions, group activity, etc. Attendance will be taken when a guest speaker is invited or when your fellow students are presenting in class. For each unexcused absence on those days, 2 points will be deducted from the final cumulative grade. **Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. before the beginning of class. Text messaging will not be allowed during class.

*** Late assignments will be penalized by 15% per day, and will not be accepted after 3 days

Evaluation:

Your grade in the course will be determined by the following:

- Attendance and participation 10%
- Mid-term exam – 40%
- Final Exam - 50%
- Extra Credit Research Paper - 10%

Final grades will be assigned using the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 and above</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59 and below</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Assignments:

**Researcher's Memo/Project Outline (1-2 pages)**

This is a personal statement outlining why you are interested in your selected topic. The researcher’s memo is the only time you may use the first person point of view. All other academic writing should use the formal third person point of view. Briefly explain in 1-2 pages why this topic is important to you, and what kinds of outcomes you hope your proposal could achieve.

Next, focus on factors contributing to the situation. This 1-2 page section of your paper outlines different situations, activities, and features that contribute to your chosen topic. For example, continued service to drunk patrons, overcrowding and aggressive bouncers contribute to the problem of assaults at bars. For each of your identified factors, please cite at least one academic peer reviewed source. Please refer to any of the Problem Specific Guides for an example of how this section should be formatted.

Also include a one page list of questions your proposed research would address. Be sure to include questions on the nature, scope and root causes of your issue, who is affected by these incidents, etc. Please refer to any of the Problem Specific Guides for inspiration and for an example of how this section should be formatted.

You should also include a works cited page of any academic peer reviewed sources used. The works cited is not included in your page count.

**Final Project (5-10 pages) 10%**
Your final paper will include your researcher’s memo (1-2 pages), a literature review (3-4 pages), factors contributing to the problem (1-2 pages), identified stakeholders (1 page), research questions (1 page), and a proposed response (2-3 pages).

The literature review section of your paper should focus on discussing the academic research that has already been done on your chosen topic. This section should include at least 5 academic peer reviewed sources.

Your identified stakeholder section will outline who is affected by your topic. Consider the people, groups and organizations that are affected by your chosen topic. Who contributes to the problem? Who is injured by your chosen issue? Who can benefit from improving the situation? Please refer to any of the Problem Specific Guides for an example of how this section should be formatted.

The proposed response section of your paper discussed how your issue. Consider past responses to your issue and consider new approaches. Use at least 4 academic peer reviewed sources to support your plan.

You should also include a works cited page with a total of at least 10 academic peer reviewed sources. The works cited is not included in your page count.

**Presentation 10%**
You will explain your completed project in a brief PowerPoint presentation to the class. This presentation should include a summary of each of your paper sections and should be approximately 5 minutes. Presentations significantly longer or shorter will lose points accordingly.

**Note:** All writing assignments should be double spaced, Times New Roman font, 12 pt font size, 1 inch margins. Papers requiring peer reviewed sources must be cited in the proper MLA or APA format. You will be required to attach a bibliography of these sources at the end of the paper in MLA or APA style. This page does not count towards the page requirements. Writing style, grammar and typos can and will affect your grade, so please proofread carefully before submitting it. Please bring printed copies of your papers to class on the assigned due dates. *late and/or emailed papers will not be accepted.*

If you need assistance with your writing skills or an outline, please use the tools and services offer at the Rutgers University-Newark Writing Center [http://www.ncs.rutgers.edu/~nwc/index.html](http://www.ncs.rutgers.edu/~nwc/index.html).

**Grades will be posted on Blackboard. Grades will not be emailed for security and privacy concerns.** Any issues or questions regarding an assignment or any given grade must be brought to the instructor’s attention prior to the final exam. Do not wait until the last minute. I am willing to work with students who express concerns, but absolutely NO CHANGES will be made to grades after the date of the final class.

**Resources:**

**Academic Integrity**
As a member of the Rutgers University community you are not to engage in any academic dishonesty. You are responsible for adhering to basic academic standards of honesty and integrity as outlined in the Rutgers University Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students ([http://cat.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html](http://cat.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html)). Your academic work should be the result of your own individual effort, you should not allow other students to use your work, and you are required to recognize and reference any material that is not your own. Violations of the university’s policy will result in appropriate action.

**Students with Disabilities**
As stated in the Manual for Students and Coordinators of Services for Students with Disabilities ([http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/docs/studentmanual.pdf](http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/docs/studentmanual.pdf)), Rutgers University “is committed to providing equal educational opportunity for persons with disabilities in accordance with the Nondiscrimination Policy of the University and in compliance with § 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.”
and with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.” For students with disabilities, review the manual and then contact the Student Disability Coordinator, Nelitha Wilson-Michael (nmichael@andromeda.rutgers.edu ; 973-353-5300), who is located in room 352 in the Robeson Campus Center.

Psychological and Counseling Services
If you experience psychological or other difficulties that may interfere with your performance in the course, please contact the university’s psychological and counseling service center (http://www.counseling.newark.rutgers.edu; 973-353-5805), which is located in Blumenthal Hall, room 101. The center offers a variety of free, confidential services to part-time and full-time students who are enrolled at Rutgers.

If you are interested in finding out more about

- Accelerated Master's Program (B.S. /M.A.)
- Criminal Justice National Honor Society (Alpha Phi Sigma)

Please refer to the School of Criminal Justice website http://www.newark.rutgers.edu/rscj
# Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Required Reading/Assignments</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/18</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration</td>
<td>Bring copy of syllabus Overview of Course/I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/25</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Introduction - pp.1 -20</td>
<td>The New Jim Crow</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 1-pp. 20-58.</td>
<td>The Rebirth of Caste</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/8</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 2- pp. 59-98</td>
<td>The Lockdown</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 2-</td>
<td>The Lockdown</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/22</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 3- pp.97-139</td>
<td>The Color of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 3-pp.</td>
<td>The Color of Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration</td>
<td>Mid-term Quiz/Term Paper Outline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 4-pp. 140-177</td>
<td>Cruel Hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-12-18</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-22</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 4-Cont'd</td>
<td>Cruel Hand</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-29</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 5-pp. 178-221</td>
<td>The New Jim Crow</td>
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<td>4-5</td>
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<td>The New Jim Crow</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-12</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 6-pp. 179-210</td>
<td>The Fire This Time</td>
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<td>4-19</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration Chapter 6 pp. 179-210 continued</td>
<td>The Fire This Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-26</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration</td>
<td>Just Mercy</td>
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<tr>
<td>5-3</td>
<td>Mass Incarceration</td>
<td>Final Exam/ Term Paper</td>
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</tbody>
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