NEW - FALL 2018:  Mass Incarceration & the Literature of Confinement
(AMER 0094 or WGSS 185)

Course taught in medium-security prison in Concord, MA; transportation provided

Instructor: Hilary Binda
Day & Time: Thursday 1:00-3:30  (Leave Tufts 12:15, return by 4:30 – commute by van or carpool & prison security clearance)

This “Inside-Out” course on mass incarceration and the literature of confinement will include an equal number of incarcerated and non-incarcerated students taking the same course together for Tufts college credit. The course will meet at the men’s medium-security prison in Concord, MA, and Tisch College will provide transportation by van from the Medford campus. Together, we will read, discuss, work in small groups and as a large group, and write on literary texts directly and indirectly pertaining to the experience of confinement. This course explores how writers from different historical periods, regions, cultures, and genders have understood different kinds of discipline, confinement, and freedom. What are some of the effects on human beings of various modes of confinement -- economic, educational, legal, physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and social -- and how are these effects mitigated? Includes texts by: Frederick Douglass, Paul Laurence Dunbar, James Joyce, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Langston Hughes, Herman Melville, Lorraine Hansberry, James Baldwin, George Saunders, Sandra Cisneros, and Suzan-Lori Parks.

⇒ This course requires a pre-course meeting with the professor and a pre-course training at the prison, both to occur at the beginning of the semester.

⇒ SPACE IS LIMITED: those interested should contact the professor as soon as possible to set up an informal interview: HILARY.BINDA@TUFTS.EDU. Faculty signature/permission is required for registration.

⇒ Please note: Course will not run Spring 2019.