FALL 2019: *Mass Incarceration & the Literature of Confinement*  
(VMS 145 or AMER 0094 or WGSS 185)

Course taught in maximum-security prison in Shirley, MA; transportation provided  
OPEN to undergraduates and graduate students: informal interviews Tuesday, April 9 or after TBD

Instructor: Hilary Binda  
Day & Time: Tuesday 1:00-3:30  
(Leave Tufts 11:50, return by 4:45 – includes time for commute & 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 maximum-security prison in Shirley, MA, and Tisch College will provide transportation by van from the Medford campus. Together, we will read, discuss, and work together in small and large groups, and we will 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 — economic, social, educational, legal, physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual. Additionally, we will ask how the effects of confinement have been mitigated by many individuals and groups. 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 orientation with the professor and a pre-course training at the prison.

⇒ SPACE IS LIMITED: interested students should email the professor as soon as possible to set up an informal interview on Tuesday, April 9 or TBD: HILARY.BINDA@TUFTS.EDU. Faculty signature/permission is required for registration.

⇒ Please note: Course will not run Spring 2020.