



ENGL 631: STUDIES IN NONFICTION PROSE

Life Writing from the Concrete Tomb, or Prison Autobiography

Language gave me a way to keep the chaos of
prison at bay and prevent it from devouring me.
Jimmy Santiago Baca

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Colson 221

Office Hours: Tues. 9:00-11:00 and by appointment

In this course, we will read 20th-century and contemporary autobiographies by imprisoned and formerly imprisoned people in the United States—the country with the highest imprisonment rate in the world. Prison autobiographies provide imaginative access to a highly controlled and locked down space, a complex site of bodily mortification and daily resistance. We will consider conversion narratives and liberation narratives as well as the rhetorical and thematic similarities between slave narratives and prison memoirs. How free is a prison story? We will study the history and politics of what is called the carceral state, racial disparities that persist in criminal sentencing, and the role of the humanities in public life.

The modern penitentiary was designed with death in mind. The idea was this: Isolated in a cell, chastened by silence, disciplined by labor, the imprisoned subject would reflect and become penitent, journey through death to rejoin the human family, reborn, rehabilitated. It pretty much never worked that way. (According to Michel Foucault, it was never meant to work that way.) Our literary works offer critiques of policing and the criminal justice system, analyze gendered and racialized carceral environments, testify to internal and communal resources for survival and transformation, and reflect on the nature of time and isolation.

For those interested, there will be an opportunity to visit the Appalachian Prison Book Project, a local nonprofit that sends free books to imprisoned people in six states.

Course Goals

- To read 20th-century and contemporary prison autobiographies
- To learn about the history of the modern prison in the United States
- To consider the racial dimensions of the criminal justice system
- To create a supportive intellectual and creative community
- To reflect on, and contribute to, the humanities in public life

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Contribute to scholarly discussions about prison autobiographies
- Identify patterns and tropes in “prison writing”
- Define the carceral state and the prison industrial complex
- Compose a strong analytical research essay in response to a literary work
- Respond thoughtfully to the ideas of others
- Present ideas clearly and effectively in writing and speech
- Comment on the role of the humanities and public scholarship in the academy and the broader culture.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Chester Himes, *Yesterday Will Make You Cry* (1953, 1998)

Malcolm X, *Autobiography of Malcolm X* (1965)

Piri Thomas, *Down These Mean Streets* (1967)

Angela Davis, *An Autobiography* (1974)

Assata Shakur, *Assata* (1975)

Jack Abbott and Norman Mailer, *In the Belly of the Beast: Letters from Prison* (1981)

John Wideman, *Brothers and Keepers* (1984)

Leonard Peltier, *Prison Writings: My Life is My Sun Dance* (1991)

Mikal Gilmore, *Shot In the Heart* (1995)

R. Dwayne Betts, *A Question of Freedom* (2010)

Recommended

Mumia Abu-Jamal, *Live From Death Row* (1996)

Jimmy Santiago Baca, *A Place to Stand* (2001)

AVAILABLE ON ECAMPUS

Mumia Abu-Jamal, excerpt from *Live from Death Row* (xv-23)

Anonymous, “Autobiography of an Imprisoned Peon” (1914) from *Prison Writing*

Jimmy Santiago Baca, “Coming Into Language,” *Doing Time*

Douglas Blackmon, excerpt from *Slavery By Another Name* (intro + chapter xv + epilogue)

Joanne Braxton, excerpt from *Black Women Writing Autobiography: A Tradition within a Tradition*

Paul Butler, excerpt from *Let’s Get Free: A Hip-Hop Theory of Justice* (chapter 2 + 9)

Deborah Denno, “When Willie Francis Died: The ‘Disturbing’ Story Behind One of the Eighth Amendment’s Most Enduring Standards of Risk.” *Death Penalty Stories*

Franklin, Bruce H., Introduction to *Prison Writing in 20th-Century America*.
(Foreword by Tom Wicker)

Michel Foucault, excerpt from *Discipline and Punish: The Birth of the Prison*

David Garland, excerpt from *The Peculiar Institution* (preface + intro)

Che Gossett, “Abolitionist Imaginings.” Interview with Bo Brown, Reina Gossett, and

Dylan Rodriguez in *Captive Genders*
 Joy James, Introduction to *Imprisoned Intellectuals*
 Joy James, "Framing the Panther: Assata Shakur and Black Female Agency"
 Caren Kaplan, "Resisting Autobiography: Out-Law Genres and Transnational Feminist Subjects." *Women, Autobiography, Theory: A Reader*
 Nancy Kurshan, "Women and Imprisonment in the US"
 Jack London, " "Pinched": A Prison Experience" and "The Pen" (1907) from H. Bruce Franklin, ed. *Prison Writing in 20th-century America*
 Kate Richards O'Hare, *Crime and Criminals* (1921) from *Prison Writing*
 Agnes Smedley, "Cell Mates" (1920) from *Prison Writing*
 Caleb Smith, excerpt from *Prison and the American Imagination*
 Eric A. Stanley, "Fugitive Flesh: Gender Self-Determination, Queer Abolition, and Trans Resistance," *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex*, eds. Eric A. Stanley and Nat Smith (1-11)
 Megan Sweeney, *Reading Is My Window* (chapter one)
 Paul St. John, "Behind the Mirror" from Bell Chevigny, ed., *Doing Time: 25 Years of Prison Writing*

GRADING DISTRIBUTION

1) Participation	15
2) Six Reader Responses (paced)	30
3) Annotated Bibliography	10
4) Conference Presentation	15
5) 12-page Research Essay	30

REQUIREMENTS

1) Participation (15 points)

Participation mainly involves active discussion during class, offering ideas and interpretations as well as responding to others. It can also involve posting or commenting on our blog and talking with me in my office.

I will especially appreciate it when students can broaden our perspective by bringing in articles, essays, or books with viewpoints that may be at odds with those in our readings.

2) Reader Responses (30 points)

You will compose six 500-word reader responses. Please pace these responses throughout the semester. You can focus on whatever you would like in the primary or secondary literature. The best responses typically focus on a specific question or idea and are anchored in the language of literary or theoretical works. Be sure to quote directly from the texts.

Once during the semester, you have the option to write a retrospective response. This means that you can write a response *after* class discussion. See special folder for “Retro Responses.” Retrospective ones must be turned in within 2 weeks of the reading. You also have the option to write one creative response. With the creative option, you can construct an additional scene, write a letter to a character or an author, create a dialogue between characters from different works, or something else entirely. The goal is to offer insight into the original work through this creative engagement.

One last option! For those who are interested in writing an abstract for the final paper, you can use one of your responses for this purpose.

***Please upload to ECampus reader responses by Tuesday at 6:00 PM.

3) Annotated Bibliography (10 points)

To prepare for the final essay, you will compile an annotated bibliography with a minimum of 8 sources. Each notation should be approximately 250-300 words. Sources should be varied (books, chapters, journal articles; electronic and non-electronic).

4) 12-page Research Essay (30 points)

See separate handout.

5) Conference Presentation (15 points)

At the end of the semester, we will hold a one-day symposium to showcase your work. This will be an opportunity for you to present your ideas and research to an interested, supportive public.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

AUTOBIOGRAPHIES AND ANTHOLOGIES

Robert Burns, *I am a Fugitive from a Georgia Chain Gang!*

Eldridge Cleaver, *Soul on Ice*

Earl Dudding, *Trail of the Dead Years*

Damien Echols, *Life After Death*

Piper Kerman, *Orange Is the New Black*

Donald Lowrie, *My Life In Prison*

Jarvis Jay Masters, *That Bird Has My Wings*

Haywood Patterson and Earl Conrad, *Scottsboro Boy*

Sanyika Shakur, *Monster: The Autobiography of an L.A. Gang Member*

Iceberg Slim, *The Naked Soul*

Stanley Tookie Williams, *Blue Redemption*

Anthologies

Bell Chevigny, ed. *Doing Time*

Siobhan Dowd, ed., from *This Prison Where I Live: PEN Anthology*

Marc Falkoff, ed. *Poems from Guantánamo: The Detainees Speak*. U of Iowa P, 2007
Prosecution for torture
<http://www.thenation.com/article/190433/former-gitmo-detainee-it-time-prosecute-those-responsible-my-torture>

Bruce Franklin, ed. *Prison Writing in 20th-Century America*
Wally Lamb, ed. *Couldn't Keep It To Myself*

LEGAL, HISTORICAL, AND CULTURAL STUDIES SELECTIONS

Michelle Alexander, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Imprisonment in the Age of Colorblindness*

Joanne Braxton, *Black Women Writing Autobiography*

Angela Davis, *Are Prisons Obsolete?*

Bruce Franklin, *Prison Literature in America: The Victim as Criminal and Artist*

David Garland, *Culture of Control: Crime and Social Order in Contemporary Society*

Ruth Gilmore, *The Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis and Opposition in Globalizing California*

Lisa Guenther, *Solitary Confinement: Social Death and its Afterlives*

Barbara Harlow, *Barred: Women, Writing and Political Detention*

Joseph T. Hallinan, *Going Up the River: Travels in a Prison Nation*

Michael Hames-Garcia, *Fugitive Justice: Prison Movements, Race, and the Meaning of Justice* [chapter on Assata Shakur]

Regina Kunzel, *Criminal Intimacy*

Marc Mauer and Meda Chesney-Lind, eds., *Invisible Punishment: The Collateral Consequences of Mass Imprisonment*

Quentin Miller, ed. *Prose and Cons: Essays on Prison Literature*

Naomi Murakawa, *The First Civil Right: How Liberals Built Prison America*

Martha Nussbaum, *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*

David M. Oshinsky, *"Worse Than Slavery": Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice*

Margo V. Perkins, *Autobiography as Activism: three Black Women of the Sixties*

Katy Ryan, ed. *Demands of the Dead: Executions, Storytelling, and Activism in the United States*

Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy*

Bruce Western, *Punishment and Inequality in America*

PRISON PUBLICATIONS

Fortune News (Fortune Society)

Stateville Speaks

Prison Legal News

Jailhouse Journalism by James Morris

American Prison Writing Archive <http://www.dhinitiative.org/projects/apwa>

SELECT FILMS

I Am A Fugitive from a Georgia Chain Gang! Dir. Mervyn LeRoy, 1932

The Last Mile, Dir. Sam Bischoff, 1932

Zoot Suit, Dir. Luis Valdez, 1981

Kiss of the Spiderwoman, Dir. Hector Babenco 1985
Weeds, Dir. John Hancock, 1987
Shawshank Redemption, Dir. Frank Darabont, 1994
Murder in the First, Dir. Marc Rocco, 1995
Dead Man Walking, Dir. Tim Robbins, 1995
Sleepers, Dir. Barry Levinson, 1996
Dancer in the Dark, Dir. Lars Von Trier, 2000
Pinero, Dir. Leon Ishaso, 2001
Talk to Me, Dir. Kasi Lemmons, 2007

SELECT DOCUMENTARY FILMS

The House I Live In, Dir. Eugene Jarecki, 2012
A Sentence Apart, Dirs. Jason Sussberg and Theo Rigby
(<http://asentenceapart.com/>)
Big House--Alderson, PBS, 1998
Hard Road Home, Dir. Macky Alston, 2007 (<http://www.hardroadhome.org/>)
Incident at Ogala, Dir. Michael Apted, 1992
Scottsboro: An American Tragedy, Dir. Barak Goodman, 2000
Thin Blue Line, Dir. Errol Morris, 1988
Execution of Wanda Jean Allen, Dir. Liz Garbus, 2002
Shielded Brutality (spokefilms.com), 2007
Up the Ridge, dirs. Amelia Kirby and Nick Szuberia
Slavery By Another Name <http://video.pbs.org/video/2176766758/>

TV SHOW

Orange is the New Black <http://piperkerman.com/>; *Oz*; *The Wire*; *MSNBC LockUp*

INFORMATIONAL SITES (As you find useful sites, let me know.)

Education and Re-Entry

All of Us or None: http://www.allofusornone.org/newsite/about_us
Inside Out Center <http://www.insideoutcenter.org/>
Education Justice Project <http://www.educationjustice.net/home/>
Alabama Prison Creative Arts + Education
Prison Studies Project <http://prisonstudiesproject.org/about/>
Arizona State University Prison English <http://english.clas.asu.edu/prisonenglish>
Chris Hedges, "The Play's the Thing" <http://billmoyers.com/2013/12/18/the-plays-the-thing/>
Prison English News
<http://english.clas.asu.edu/files/PrisonEnglishNewsletterSummer2013final.pdf>
Solitary Watch
http://www.salon.com/2013/05/07/battling_censorship_behind_bars_partner/
Presentation by Arthur Longworth on LWOP:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yC8wGu7uCMk&index=7&list=PLki4QkQOqBsGP3ofy8YDjok2K9LMmUVXy>
Stanford Experiment: <http://zimbardo.socialpsychology.org/>

Humanities Action Lab Global Dialogues on Incarceration
<http://humanitiesactionlab.org/globaldialogues/incarceration/>

Appalachian Prison Book Project <http://aprisonbookproject.wordpress.com/>

Prison Culture in 2013 (sterilization of imprisoned women)
<http://www.usprisonculture.com/blog/2013/12/17/15-things-that-we-re-learned-about-the-prison-industrial-complex-in-2013/>

New Graphics for Familiar Stats

Real Cost of Prison: Comic Books: <http://www.realcostofprisons.org/comics.html>

Sentencing Project Interactive Map

<http://www.sentencingproject.org/map/map.cfm#map>

[ACLU Infographic](#) on mass incarceration

Prison Culture visuals: <http://www.usprisonculture.com/blog/visualizations/>

News Articles

ACLU on life sentencing: <https://www.aclu.org/blog/criminal-law-reform-human-rights/15-year-old-gets-six-life-sentences>

“The Conservative Case Against More Prisons”:

<http://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/the-conservative-case-against-more-prisons/>

Black/White Arrest Rates:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/06/04/the-blackwhite-marijuana-arrest-gap-in-nine-charts/>

Violent v. Nonviolent Crimes:

<http://www.upworthy.com/why-the-war-on-drugs-looks-even-stupider-when-you-see-what-other-countries-do-4?g=2&c=bl3>

Life Sentences for Nonviolent Crimes:

http://www.democracynow.org/2013/11/15/jailed_for_life_for_stealing_a

Maria Gottschalk, “Prison Overcrowding and Brown v. Plata.” *New Republic* 8 June 2011.

<http://www.newrepublic.com/article/politics/89575/prison-overcrowding-brown-plata-supreme-court-california>

SCHEDULE

Jan 14

Syllabus. Introductions.

Clips from *Slavery By Another Name* (1-17:00; 59:25-1:09:35)

EARLY 20TH-c. IMPRISONMENT AND LABOR: The Exception Clause

Jan 21

Anonymous, "Autobiography of an Imprisoned Peon" [ECampus—see "Wicker, Franklin, and Autobiography"]

Jack London, " 'Pinched': A Prison Experience" and "Pen" [ECampus]

Pictures of Erie PA Penitentiary

http://www.wnyheritagepress.org/photos_week_2012/jack_londen_pen/jack_londen_pen.htm

Kate Richards O'Hare, from *Crime and Criminals* [ECampus]

Sarah Haley, " 'Like I Was A Man': Chain Gangs, Gender, and the Domestic Carceral Sphere in Jim Crow Georgia," *Signs* 39.1 (Autumn 2013).

Douglas Blackmon, excerpt from *Slavery By Another Name* – Introduction, Chapter XV, and Epilogue [ECampus]

Recommended: Rivkah Zim "Writing Behind Bars: Literary Contexts and the Authority of Carceral Experience."

[The Rise of Prison Literature Thomas S. Freeman](#)

Huntington Library Quarterly 72. 2 (June 2009): 133-146. [Follow Link]

CONVERSIONS/TRANSFORMATIONS

Jan 28

Agnes Smedley, "Cell Mates" (1920) from *Prison Writing* [ECampus]

Chester Himes, *Yesterday Will Make You Cry*

"Portrait of the Artist as a Young Convict"

<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~hbf/himes.html>

Eric A. Stanley, "Fugitive Flesh: Gender Self-Determination, Queer Abolition, and Trans Resistance," *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex*, eds. Eric A. Stanley and Nat Smith [ECampus]

H. Bruce Franklin, Introduction to *Prison Writing in 20th-Century America* [ECampus]

Tom Wicker, Foreword to *Prison Writing* [ECampus]

Recommended: Caren Kaplan, "Resisting Autobiography: Out-Law Genres and Transnational Feminist Subjects." *Women, Autobiography, Theory: A Reader*, eds. Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson [ECampus]

Feb 4

Malcolm X, *Autobiography of Malcolm X*

Erik S. McDuffie and Komozi Woodard, "If you're in a country that's progressive, the woman is progressive": Black Women Radicals and The Making of the Politics and Legacy of Malcolm X." *Biography* 36. 3 (Summer 2013). 507-539. [Entire issue devoted to El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz]

Article on Austin Reed's *The Life and Adventures of a Haunted Convict, or the Inmate of a Gloomy Prison*

<http://www.mhpbooks.com/random-house-buys-rights-to-unearthed-1850s-prison-memoir/>

Linda Anderson, *Autobiography* 2nd Edition. Introduction and Chap 5. [WVU E-book]

Recommended: Digital Scholarship: <http://www.brothermalcolm.net/>
David Remnick in *New Yorker*:
<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2011/04/25/this-american-life>

Feb 11

Piri Thomas, *Down these Mean Streets*

Alfredo J. Sosa-Velasco, "Gerald and Thomas: The Subtext within the Text in *Down These Mean Streets*," *Romance Notes* 49. 3 (2009): 287-299.

Tim Adams, Introduction to *Telling Lies in Modern American Autobiography* [ECampus]

Recommended: G. Thomas Couser, Introduction, *Signifying Bodies: Disability in Contemporary Life Writing*. [WVU E-Book]

INSIDE-OUT CONNECTIONS

Feb 18

Jack Abbott and Norman Mailer, *In the Belly of the Beast*

Paul St. John, "Behind the Mirror," from Bell Chevigny, ed., *Doing Time: 25 Years of Prison Writing*

Dylan Rodriguez, from *Forced Passages*

http://rebeccaginsburg.net/Rebecca_Ginsburg/Social_Justice_files/rodriguez_ch2_forced_passages.pdf

Megan Sweeney, Chapter One from *Reading Is My Window* [ECampus]

Feb 25

John Edgar Wideman, *Brothers and Keepers*

Michel Foucault, excerpt from *Discipline and Punish* [ECampus]

Robin Riley Fast, "Brothers and Keepers and the Tradition of the Slave Narrative," *MELUS* 22.4 (1997)

Eugene Philip Page, "'Familiar Strangers': The Quest for Connection and Self-Knowledge in *Brothers and Keepers*" [ECampus]

Photos requested by men in TAMMS supermaximum:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/20/solitary-confinement-phot_n_3950622.html?utm_hp_ref=arts

Mar 4

Dwayne Betts, *A Question of Freedom*

Jimmy Santiago Baca, "Coming Into Language" [ECampus]

Caleb Smith, excerpt from *Prison and the American Imagination* [ECampus—See Caleb Smith and Paul Butler]

DUE: Paper Proposal

Writing-Related Readings

Rebecca Koenig, "Why . . . Academics Should Write 'BuzzFeed-Style Scholarship'"

http://chronicle.com/blogs/wiredcampus/why-one-professor-thinks-academics-should-write-buzzfeed-style-scholarship/55025?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

Steven Pinker, "Why Academics Stink at Writing" http://chronicle.com/article/Why-Academics-Writing-Stinks/148989/?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

Christopher Panza and Richard Schur, "To Save the Humanities, Change the Narrative" http://chronicle.com/article/To-Save-the-Humanities-Change/149513/?cid=cr&utm_source=cr&utm_medium=en

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Mar 11

Assata Shakur, *Assata*

Nancy Kurshan, "Women and Imprisonment in the US" [Ecampus]

Beth Ritchie, Chapter 5, "The Matrix: A Black Feminist Response" in *Arrested Justice* [WVU electronic resource]

Joy James, "Framing the Panther: Assata Shakur and Black Female Agency" in *Want to Start a Revolution? Radical Women in the Black Freedom Struggle*, eds. Jeanne Theoharis, Komozi Woodard, and Dayo F. Gore. (New York: NYU Press, 2009).
<http://humanities.williams.edu/joy-james/>

DUE: Annotated Bibliography

Mar 18

Angela Davis, *Autobiography of Angela Davis*

Che Gossett, "Abolitionist Imaginings" (Interview with Bo Brown, Reina Gossett, and Dylan Rodriguez) [Ecampus]

Doran Larson, "Toward a Prison Poetics," *College Literature* 37.3 (2010).

Martin Luther King, "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
http://mlk-kpp01.stanford.edu/kingweb/liberation_curriculum/pdfs/letterfrombirmingham_wvcw.pdf

Conversation with Angela Davis and Toni Morrison
<http://www.filmsforaction.org/watch/angela-davis-and-toni-morrison-in-conversation-literacy-libraries-and-liberation/#.VHxnc3tjNK0.facebook>

Interview with Angela Davis and Toni Morrison
<http://news.ucsc.edu/2014/10/morrison-davis-q-a.html>

Ruth Gilmore, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-chgMlctL90>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTPjC-7EDkc>

SPRING BREAK

Apr 1

Leonard Peltier, *Prison Writings: My Life is my Sun Dance*

Deena Ryhms, "Discursive Delinquency in Leonard D. Peltier's Prison Writings." *Genre* XXXV (2002). [MLA Bib]

Doran Larson, "Why Scandinavian Prisons Are Superior"
<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2013/09/why-scandinavian-prisons-are-superior/279949/>

Alcatraz Installation by Ai Weiwei
<http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/22/world/ai-weiwei-alcatraz/>

DUE: Essay Drafts (staggered deadlines)

THE PENALTY OF DEATH

Apr 8

Willie Francis, "My Trip to the Chair" [handout]

Mumia Abu-Jamal, from *Live from Death Row* [ECampus]

Commencement address:
<http://www.prisonradio.org/media/audio/mumia/goddard-commencement-speech-1054-mumia-abu-jamal>

"Lawsuit Challenging Pennsylvania's 'Mumia's Gag Order'"
<http://unprison.com/2014/11/11/lawsuit-challenging-pennsylvanias-mumia-gag-order-overlooks-copyright-protection/>

David Garland, Prologue and Introduction to *Peculiar Institution* [ECampus]

Recommended: Deborah W. Denno, "When Willie Francis Died . . ."

Writing Workshop

Apr 15

Conversation with Jacqueline Roebuck Sakho and Lori Pompa

DUE: Final Essays

**Peace Studies Lecture: Restorative Justice and Inside-Out Education
7:30 Rhododendron Room**

Apr 22

Mikal Gilmore, *Shot In the Heart*

“To Murder Victims’ Families Executing Killers is Justice”

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bal-md.kane05feb05-column.html>

Murder Victims Families for Reconciliation <http://www.mvfr.org/>

Murder Victims Families for Human Rights <http://www.mvfhr.org/>

Apr 29

Paul Butler, excerpt from *Let's Get Free: A Hip-Hop Theory of Justice*
[ECampus--See “Caleb Smith and Paul Butler” and Chapter 2]

Interview with Eric Stanley, <http://thenewinquiry.com/features/the-carceral-state/>

Final Thoughts and Preparation for Conference

Prison Autobiography Symposium: TBA

FYI: Re-Visioning Justice Conference at Vanderbilt

Keynote Address by BRYAN STEVENSON, Author of *Just Mercy*
6:30--8:00 pm, Friday, April 17, 2015

Keynote Address by HOWARD ZEHR
Author of *Changing Lenses*
9:00--10:30 am, Saturday April 18, 2015

Keynote Address by MICHELLE ALEXANDER
Author of *The New Jim Crow*
6:30--8:00 pm, Saturday, April 18, 2015

All these keynote addresses are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!