

Potential Course Readings: What is the purpose of incarceration?

Claire Potter, The New School

Weeks 1-3:

- Primary Texts: Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The House of the Dead* (1862), and the Marquis de Sade, "The Last Will and Testament" (1814).
- Selections from: Michele Foucault, *Discipline and Punish* (1979); John Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive: A Family Story from Early America* (1995); David J. Rothman, *The Discovery of the Asylum* (1971); Hannah Arendt, *Eichmann in Jerusalem* (1963); Joy Kogawa, *Obasan* (1981).

Weeks 4-6:

- Primary Texts: Mohamadou Ould Slahi, edited by Larry Siems, *Guantánamo Diary* (2015.), Franz Kafka, "In the Penal Colony," (1914)
- Selections from: Thomas Carlyle, *The Bastille; Part II of The French Revolution* (1836); Arthur Koestler, *Darkness at Noon* (1940); Leonard Peltier, *Prison Writings: My Life is Sun Dance* (2000); Susan Rosenberg, *An American Radical* (2011); Erica Lee and Judy Yung, *Angel Island* (2010)

Weeks 7-9:

- Primary Texts: Oscar Wilde, *De Profundis* (1905), and Mumia Abu Jamal, *Death Blossoms: Reflections of a Prisoner of Conscience* (1997).
- Selections from: Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions* (@400 A.D.); Mary Rowlandson, *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God* (1682); Estelle Freedman, *Their Sisters' Keepers* (1984); David J. Rothman, *Conscience and Convenience* (1980); Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, *The Death House Letters* (1953); Manuel Puig, *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (1991)

Weeks 10-12:

- Primary Text: Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz* (1947)
- Selections from: Antonio Gramsci, *Selections from the Prison Notebooks* (1935; published 1952); John Tateishi, *And Justice for All: An Oral History of the Japanese American Detention Camps* (1999); Jacobo Timerman, *Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number* (1981); Ted Conover, *NewJack* (2000); Nelson Mandela, *Long Walk to Freedom* (2008).

Weeks 13-15:

- Primary Texts: Sister Helen Prejean, *Dead Man Walking* (1994); Henry David Thoreau, *Civil Disobedience* (1849), and Martin Luther King, "Letter from Birmingham City Jail" (1963)
- Selections from: Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861); Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Letters and Papers from Prison* (1997); George Jackson, *Soledad Brother* (1970); Angela Y. Davis, *An Autobiography* (1974); Aung San Suu Kyi, *Letters from Burma* (2010), Jodi Madeira, *Killing McVeigh* (2013).