This course examines the phenomena of policing and punishment in the United States, focusing specifically on the emergence of mass incarceration since the 1960s and 1970s. How did over two million Americans wind up behind bars? Why are 4.5 million people on probation, parole, or community supervision in the US? How did nearly one million Americans end up on sex offense registries? Why have certain populations been disproportionately subjected to punishment? What has such punishment looked like at various points in US history? This class tackles these and other questions by tracing the origins and consequences of mass incarceration.