



COMM 400: Policing, Prisons, and Media
4.0 Units

Tu/Thu – 2:00-3:20 PM
Section: 20614

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In *Are Prisons Obsolete?* Angela Davis notes that “the prison is one of the most important features of our image environment. This has caused us to take the existence of prisons for granted...It has become so much a part of our lives that it requires a great feat of the imagination to envision life beyond the prison.” This course takes Davis’ findings alongside other scholars of the relationship between culture, media, police, and prisons, to look at how popular culture normalizes policing and prisons in our society, and what narratives it tells in doing so. Through analyzing the hegemonic role of police and prisons in our culture, this course also looks at methods and mediums of resistance to police and prisons, towards envisioning the possible role of abolition in our society.