The course will be a sustained interrogation of Michel Foucault's concept of biopower and its relation to “neoliberalism.” Among the topics covered will be race, mass incarceration, and disability. Discussion will be in English. I will order the French versions of books and allow Francophone students to write their papers in French and to converse with me in French during office hours.

ASSIGNMENTS

Instructor and students will agree on the number and length of writing assignments that will determine 75% of the final grade, with the remaining 25% coming from seminar presentations.

READING LIST

Note on readings. We will all read the Foucault books, but we’ll divide up the rest to class members for presentations; the people not doing presentations that day can skim the readings.

FOUCAULT

- Discipline and Punish
- "Society Must be Defended"
- History of Sexuality, volume 1
- Security, Territory, Population
- Birth of Biopolitics

BIOPOWER

- Biopower and Subjectivation

- Race and Racism
• Ladelle McWhorter, “From Scientific Racism to Neoliberal Biopolitics: Using Foucault’s Toolkit,” *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Race*

• **Biopolitics and “Life”**

• **Mass Incarceration**

• **Disability**
  • Shelley Tremain, “‘This Is What a Historician and Relativist Feminist Philosophy of Disability Looks Like’” *Foucault Studies* 19 (June 2015):7-42.

**TRANSITION**

- Jeffrey Nealon, *Foucault Beyond Foucault*, Stanford University Press, 2007

**NEOLIBERALISM**
Neoliberalism and subjectivity

Foucault and the Chicago School / Gary Becker
- François Ewald, "Foucault and Neoliberalism": link to columbia.edu website

Post-disciplinary Incarceration practices

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Web resources
- Foucault News, by Clare O’Farrell: https://michel-foucault.com/author/moonmobile/
- Progressive Geographies, by Stuart Elden: https://progressivegeographies.com/category/thinkers/michel-foucault/
Foucault Studies: https://rauli.cbs.dk/index.php/foucault-studies/index
The Carceral Notebooks: http://www.thecarceral.org/index2.html
Foucault course materials: http://www.protevi.com/john/Foucault/index.html
Audio, transcripts, and English translations from Purdue University of Deleuze’s course on Foucault

Work on or relevant to Foucault
Stuart Elden, “How should we do the history of territory?” *Territory, Politics, Governance*, 2013. Vol. 1, No. 1, 5–20
Nicolae Morar, Thomas Nail, and Daniel W Smith, eds., *Between Deleuze and Foucault*, Edinburgh, 2016
  * https://www.viewpointmag.com/2018/03/19/family-matters/
## CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T 14 Jan</td>
<td>NO CLASS MEETING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 16 Jan</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>T 21 Jan</td>
<td>Discipline and Punish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 23 Jan</td>
<td>Discipline and Punish</td>
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<tr>
<td>T 28 Jan</td>
<td>“Society Must Be Defended”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 30 Jan</td>
<td>“Society Must Be Defended”</td>
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<tr>
<td>T 4 Feb</td>
<td>History of Sexuality volume 1</td>
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<td>Th 6 Feb</td>
<td>History of Sexuality volume 2</td>
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<td>T 11 Feb</td>
<td>Security, Territory, Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 13 Feb</td>
<td>Security, Territory, Population</td>
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<tr>
<td>T 25 Feb</td>
<td>NO CLASS – MARDI GRAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 27 Feb</td>
<td>Birth of Biopolitics</td>
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<td>T 3 Mar</td>
<td>Birth of Biopolitics</td>
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<td>Th 5 Mar</td>
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<td>T 24 Mar</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>Th 26 Mar</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<td>T 31 Mar</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Th 2 Apr</td>
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<td>T 7 Apr</td>
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<td>T 28 Apr</td>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Th 30 Apr</td>
<td>CLASS WRAP-UP</td>
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<td>F 8 May</td>
<td>FINAL PAPERS DUE</td>
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GRADING COMPONENTS:
Presentations: 25%
Papers (students choose to do 1, 2, or 3 papers): 75%

GRADING SCALE
A+ 100 - 97; A = 96.9 – 93; A- = 92.9 – 90 // B+ 89.9 – 87; B = 86.9 – 83; B-
82.9 – 80 // C+ 79.9 – 77; C = 76.9 – 73; C- 72.9 – 70 // D+ 69.9 – 67; D = 66.9 – 83; D-
62.9 – 60 // F = 59.9

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LSU Statement on Academic Integrity:  
http://students.lsu.edu/saa/faculty/academicintegrity
LSU Student Advocacy: Understanding Plagiarism  
http://students.lsu.edu/saa/students/plagiarism