

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



UNA NEWSLETTER

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF DR. YASCHICA WILLIAMS-JACKSON, (THE JUSTICE SYSTEM: RACE, CLASS AND, GENDER)

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DR. YASCHICA
WILLIAMS-JACKSON,
(THE JUSTICE SYSTEM:
RACE, CLASS, AND
GENDER)

"This semester has proven to be one of the most rewarding periods in my teaching experience.

I completed my Inside-Out instructor training in the Summer of 2021. This training equipped me with the tools needed to teach my first **Inside-Out course in the Fall** of 2023. The training was comprehensive, introducing new concepts and strategies that I eagerly anticipated implementing in my class. Despite my excitement, I must confess there was a touch of apprehension mingled in as I grappled with the realization that I would need to step outside of my comfort zone.

This comfort zone, you might ask, was the familiar territory of a traditional classroom setting, where I typically stood at the front, lecturing and encouraging student participation.

Transitioning to an Inside-Out instructor role meant embracing a more interactive approach. I found value in the flexible seating arrangement and icebreakers, both of which played a crucial role in fostering conversation and building an engaging learning community. This approach facilitated open and candid discussions on the course content.

As an instructor, I am grateful for the understanding and encouragement extended by my students, recognizing this was my inaugural Inside-Out course. Their support contributed significantly to creating a positive, rewarding, and dynamic learning environment."

EXPERIENCE FROM AN OUTSIDE STUDENT IN CLASS

"The Inside-Out program was not what I expected.
When I heard of the class, I just thought it would be like any other class, (minus the inside students). I thought I would show up, write some

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE:

THE ETHOS, PRACTICE AND OUTCOME OF ACCOUNTING FOR HARM AS IT MOVES THROUGH A COMMUNITY, IN WAYS THAT DO NOT CAUSE MORE HARM!

A DEFINITION OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE BY RAPHAH INSTITUTE.

RACE, CLASS, GENDER

UNDERSTANDING THE POWER DYNAMICS, THE INSTITUTIONAL POWER STRUGGLES, HOW THESE POWERS CORRELATE WITH EACH OTHER, BECOMING AWARE OF THE INJUSTICES OF THESE INSTITUTIONS, AND ENLIGHTENING OURSELVES OF THE PAST TO EVOLVE INTO THE FUTURE!

papers, maybe say a few words and then move on.

However, my personal opinions on restorative justice and the criminal justice system has been changed. Before the class, I thought our policy makers and justice system were doing the best they could.

However, I learned that this is so wrong. The criminal justice system has a lot of improvement to be made.

This program has also made me want to be the change in the criminal justice system. Another surprise about this program was how comfortable I was in class. Everyone made me feel welcomed and I always felt that I could be open and honest about my opinions. I have learned more about the justice system and restorative justice in this program, than any other criminal justice class. The opinions of my fellow classmates have also opened my mind to many theories and different ways of thinking.

In the typical college setting, everyone seems afraid to speak up and have a different opinion but this program encourages and supports the opinion of everyone, no matter how different.

I would advise anyone to take this program. Not only was it educational, it made me excited again about learning."

OPINIONS OF INSIDE STUDENTS ON DR. JACKSON'S CLASS

- (1) "Dr. J's class was very informative. We learned a lot about criminal justice, specifically about its shortcomings. The more you understand something, the easier it is to see the big picture."
- (2) "What I took away from Dr. J's class was understanding biases and perspectives; the prevalence of class and gender bias versus racial bias. I learned how poor people are kept under the heel and confined to low paying jobs-poor communities- and prisons by the upper class and wealthy who own the resources and hold sway (political), making laws that promote their agendas at the pre-judging of the lower class and their interest. I also came to understand how through avenues of the media, the perspectives of the middle class are shaped into biases that keep the processes of

- class and gender bias going strong, disguised as the proverbial carrot of democratic capitalistic systems. All of which is dressed up in a way that declares racial discord to the enemy, when in truth, race matters are the trojans horse disguising an under belly of greed."
- (3) "I learned to search myself for implicit biases that I may not realize I may show to others and how I can change or remove these biases. To make my own understanding of others better, giving me the ability to accept myself and others in a manner suitable to my community, family and friends."
- (4) "Our justice system does not treat all as equal. Prisons can be and are being used for schools that promote more crime. The rich need to be held accountable for their crimes."