

WORDS NO BARS CAN HOLD: LITERACY LEARNING IN PRISON

Deborah Appleman chronicles her work teaching college-level classes at a high-security prison for men, most of whom are serving life sentences. Through narrative, poetry, memoir, and fiction, the students in Appleman's classes attempt to write themselves back into a society that has erased their lived histories. From the sobering endpoint of what scholars have called the "school to prison pipeline," Appleman raises questions from the narratives and experiences of those who have traveled it.

Deborah Appleman is the Hollis L. Caswell Professor of Educational Studies and director of the Summer Writing Program at Carleton College. She also contributes to Carleton's American Studies program. Professor Appleman's recent research has focused on teaching college-level language and literature courses at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Stillwater.

MARCH 10, 2020 | 5-7PM
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