



## **AMST 3950: Black Lives Matter**

CRN 69367

MWF 12:30-1:20 pm  
Instructor: Dr. Shaila Mehra  
**Fall 2017**

Morrill 304A

Protests against police brutality have brought greater attention to the centrality of anti-Black racism in American life. In this course, we will study some of the historical, ideological, and cultural forces that shape anti-Black racism. Our goals are twofold: 1) to examine how African American intellectuals have reflected on the personal and communal effects of racial injustice on Black people; 2) to explore the relationship of Black Lives Matter to the phenomenon of mass incarceration. We will read works by James Baldwin, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Claudia Rankine, and Michelle Alexander, among others; and we will view films including *The 13<sup>th</sup>*, *Fruitvale Station*, and *The Prison in Twelve Landscapes*. This is an interdisciplinary, reading- and writing-intensive course.