

Rethinking Women's Prison Designs

Neuroscience: Environments Influence Behavior
Seminar / Elective

*Join Architecture Faculty Marjorie P. Callahan with
OU Faculty from Journalism, Native American Studies, Policy and Leadership,
Social Work, and Social Sciences*



Fall Semester 2019
3 Credit Hours

Monday-Wednesday-Friday
11:30-12:20pm

ARCH 4970 or 5970
or JMC 4970 or 5970

Location: Gould Hall B10

Oklahoma leads the world in prevalence of female incarceration. While research shows mother-child bonding is critical for community health, Oklahoma's prisons lack physical spaces for maintaining these bonds, thereby hurting children. By re-thinking prison spaces, this project seeks to reduce cycles of inter-generational incarceration by supporting families as they bond.

An Inter-professional Seminar to bring together architecture, journalism and social work students to develop an understanding of the specific design challenges related to women's incarceration in Oklahoma. Students will consider how Oklahoma's women inmates currently experience prison environs without their children. Site visits to model women's prisons in the U.S. and abroad will allow the research team to document and analyze best practices. Students will create design guidelines for women's prisons based on best practices elsewhere and the specific cultural and physical context of Oklahoma. Research findings shared with community stakeholders and disseminated broadly.



CHRISTOPHER C. GIBBS

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