Inside-Out FAQ’s : Logistics

**How do I find out more?** Come to an information session! We strongly recommend that you come hear the basics and ask any questions you might have. January 28\(^{th}\) 4-5pm and February 5\(^{th}\) 2-3, both in 371 HEDCO.

**How do I get into the class?** Instructor approval is required to register, and there are only 10 spaces available. The application process includes a written application, references, and an interview. Applications are due Friday, February 13th at 3pm, and interviews will take place Thursday and Friday the 19\(^{th}\) and 20\(^{th}\).

**When and where does the class meet?** The course will meet Tuesdays, 5:30-8:45. It takes place in Salem at the Oregon State Correctional Institution (OSCI). All students, both inside and outside, attend this meeting time together. There is one exception – before the first meeting of the whole class together (which happens Tuesday of Week 2), each group meets separately during week 1. Inside students will meet at the regular time in the regular place. Outside students will meet Friday, April 3, from noon – 1:50 in 340 HEDCO.

**How do we get to Salem?** We are able to use a van or cars from the University Motor Pool. We will meet here on campus and all drive up together. Students will be expected to share in the driving responsibility, which means you will need to complete online van training (http://odt.uoregon.edu/registration/course_view.php?crse_id=88) and possess a UO Driver Certification card. If you already have this great, if you don’t we can get one for you.

Also, please note that the course meeting times are the times for the class itself. Travel time will be before and after. We need to be prepared to leave campus at 3:45 to be sure we are there by 5:00 to begin the checking in process, get escorted to the classroom, and be ready to start class at 6:00. Expect to return to campus as late as 10pm and plan accordingly.

**Is it safe?** There has never been a dangerous incident involving an Inside-Out class in any of the prisons where we work. The Department of Corrections (DOC) would not allow the program to come in if they were not 99.9% sure that both inside and outside students would be safe. The class takes place in areas within the prison that are safe, and we will be escorted through common areas by facility staff. Inside students are carefully screened and folks who are thought to be dangerous are not selected to participate in the class. Both inside and outside students complete the application and interview.

**Will I need special clearances to enter the prison?** Yes. Once you are accepted into the class you will need to complete various forms, including a background check. There are also special dress code requirements to be aware of, and other guidelines / rules for in-prison decorum and behavior. You will sign a mandatory contract agreeing to abide by Inside-Out rules. These rules are important and necessary to the class and the program as a whole. Breaking the Inside-Out rules will result in a failing grade for the class and expulsion from the program.