



African American Studies 461 LSW **Bonded Women**

Professor Lillian S. Williams

Tuesday/ Thursday 3:30-4:50

“Bonded Women” will examine the Atlantic slave trade and the evolution of slavery in the United States and the African Diaspora. This seminar will explore the visions, values, social identity (race, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, etc.), family and work of bonded women. While the major focus will be upon the United States, we also will examine bonded women in Canada and the Caribbean. We will begin by discussing their legal status and the impact of various geo-political systems. Students will read texts generated by the slaves themselves, as well as those of other chroniclers of black women’s history and slavery. They will include individuals such as Marie-Joseph Angelique of Montreal, Celia of Missouri and Mary Prince of Bermuda. Literary and popular accounts also will be used to elucidate our understanding of these women’s lives.