Criminal Justice Reform and Decarceration Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Criminology	**Duration**	10 Days
Base Fee	$3,000 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

In an era where mass incarceration disproportionately affects marginalized communities, the Criminal Justice Reform & Decarceration training course is designed to equip professionals, policymakers, and community leaders with the knowledge and tools necessary to implement evidence-based reform strategies, foster systemic change, and promote equitable justice. This course explores the intersection of race, justice policy, and incarceration, while guiding participants through innovative models for reducing jail and prison populations.

Training Course on Criminal Justice Reform & Decarceration delves into restorative justice, alternatives to incarceration, bail reform, and community-based rehabilitation, focusing on real-world solutions grounded in legal precedents, policy changes, and human rights advocacy. Participants will learn to assess criminal justice systems, identify racial and socioeconomic disparities, and implement decarceration initiatives that emphasize public safety, rehabilitation, and social reintegration.

Programme Curriculum

Criminal Justice Reform and Decarceration Training Course

Introduction

In an era where mass incarceration disproportionately affects marginalized communities, the Criminal Justice Reform & Decarceration training course is designed to equip professionals, policymakers, and community leaders with the knowledge and tools necessary to implement evidence-based reform strategies, foster systemic change, and promote equitable justice. This course explores the intersection of race, justice policy, and incarceration, while guiding participants

through innovative models for reducing jail and prison populations.

Criminal Justice Reform and Decarceration Training Course delves into restorative justice, alternatives to incarceration, bail reform, and community-based rehabilitation, focusing on real-world solutions grounded in legal precedents, policy changes, and human rights advocacy. Participants will learn to assess criminal justice systems, identify racial and socioeconomic disparities, and implement decarceration initiatives that emphasize public safety, rehabilitation, and social reintegration.

Course Objectives

1. Understand the historical roots of mass incarceration in the U.S.
2. Analyze racial disparities in arrest, sentencing, and incarceration.
3. Learn strategies for effective decarceration and prison population reduction.
4. Evaluate alternative sentencing programs and diversion strategies.
5. Assess the impact of bail reform and pretrial justice.
6. Explore restorative justice models and practices.
7. Promote community-based rehabilitation over incarceration.
8. Study successful international models of criminal justice reform.
9. Enhance legal advocacy for marginalized populations.
10. Leverage data-driven policymaking for justice reform.
11. Understand the role of police accountability in decarceration.
12. Apply trauma-informed care principles to criminal justice systems.
13. Empower communities through grassroots justice reform efforts.

Target Audiences

1. Criminal Justice Students
2. Social Workers
3. Legal Professionals
4. Policy Makers
5. Law Enforcement Officers
6. Nonprofit Advocates
7. Community Leaders
8. Educators and Researchers

Course Duration: 10 days

Course Modules

Module 1: History of Incarceration in America

- Timeline of incarceration trends
- Jim Crow laws and systemic racism
- War on Drugs and its impact
- Role of private prisons

- Policy shifts in the 21st century
- **Case Study**: “The Rise of Mass Incarceration – Michelle Alexander’s 'The New Jim Crow'”

Module 2: Understanding the Criminal Legal System

- Components of the legal system
- Differences between criminal and civil law
- Stages of a criminal case
- The role of prosecutors and defense attorneys
- The judge’s discretion
- **Case Study**: “The Central Park Five and Systemic Failure”

Module 3: Racial Disparities in Incarceration

- Racial profiling and policing
- Sentencing disparities
- Institutional bias
- Data on incarceration by race
- Discriminatory drug laws
- **Case Study**: “The Crack vs. Cocaine Sentencing Gap”

Module 4: Bail Reform and Pretrial Detention

- What is cash bail?
- Inequities in pretrial detention
- Risk assessment tools
- Bail reform successes
- Community bail funds
- **Case Study**: “Kalief Browder’s Tragic Incarceration Story”

Module 5: Alternatives to Incarceration

- Diversion programs
- Community courts
- Probation and parole reforms
- Restorative justice circles
- Mental health treatment
- **Case Study**: “Seattle’s LEAD Program (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion)”

Module 6: Juvenile Justice Reform

- School-to-prison pipeline
- Juvenile vs. adult sentencing
- Family-based interventions
- Community support systems
- Youth reentry programs
- **Case Study**: “Close to Home Initiative – New York”

Module 7: Restorative Justice

- Principles of restorative justice
- Victim-offender dialogue
- Community engagement
- Case conferencing
- Benefits and challenges
- **Case Study**: “The Restorative Justice Project at the University of Wisconsin”

Module 8: Women and Incarceration

- Gender-specific pathways to crime
- The impact on families
- Healthcare in women’s prisons
- Support for incarcerated mothers
- Alternatives for women offenders
- **Case Study**: “JusticeHome Program – NYC”

Module 9: Reentry and Reintegration

- Barriers to reentry
- Employment and housing challenges
- Ban-the-box initiatives
- Peer support programs
- Educational opportunities in prison
- **Case Study**: “The Fortune Society in New York”

Module 10: Mental Health and Incarceration

- Criminalization of mental illness
- Lack of psychiatric care in prisons
- Community-based treatment
- Crisis intervention training
- Trauma-informed justice practices
- **Case Study**: “Mental Health Courts in Miami-Dade County”

Module 11: Substance Abuse and the Justice System

- The opioid crisis and incarceration
- Drug courts and diversion
- Treatment vs. punishment
- Harm reduction strategies
- Integrated care models
- **Case Study**: “HOPE Probation Program – Hawaii”

Module 12: Police Accountability and Reform

- Police misconduct and oversight

- Civilian review boards
- Use-of-force policies
- Community policing models
- Defund vs. reform debates
- **Case Study**: “Camden, NJ Police Department Restructuring”

Module 13: Advocacy and Legal Reform

- Legislative advocacy basics
- Coalition building
- Strategic litigation
- Media campaigns for reform
- Engaging stakeholders
- **Case Study**: “The Sentencing Project’s Role in Federal Reform”

Module 14: Global Models of Decarceration

- Norway’s prison system
- Portugal’s drug decriminalization
- Netherlands’ prison closures
- Community-based sentencing abroad
- Lessons for the U.S. system
- **Case Study**: “Halden Prison – Norway’s Humane Incarceration Model”

Module 15: Designing Local Decarceration Strategies

- Conducting a needs assessment
- Data-informed decision making
- Building partnerships
- Developing alternatives
- Sustainability and evaluation
- **Case Study**: “New Orleans Jail Reduction Strategy”

Training Methodology

- Interactive lectures with multimedia content
- Real-world case study analysis
- Small group discussions and peer learning
- Community mapping and strategic planning exercises
- Role-play and scenario-based workshops
- Final capstone project: Local Decarceration Action Plan

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Online	$2,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$9,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000

Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

Register Online Now

Email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.com | Website: www.fineskilltrainingcenter.com