

[opeep@osu.edu](mailto:opeek@osu.edu)

 THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



THE OHIO PRISON EDUCATION EXCHANGE PROJECT

Spring Semester 2024



WHO WE ARE

Co-Director Dr. Tiyi Morris

Associate Professor of African American and African Studies on the Newark Campus

Co-Director Dr. Mary Thomas

Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies on the Columbus Campus

Program Coordinators

Babette Cieskowski,
Siatta Dennis-Brown
and Nicole Edgerton





OPEEP's Org Structure

We are a project of the
Office of Academic Affairs.

Reporting line:

Senior Vice Provost of Inclusive
Excellence, Dr. Wendy Smooth

Additional **funding** comes from:

- The Mellon Foundation
- Student Academic Excellence



Our Mission & Vision Statements

Our **Mission** is to build high quality, postsecondary in-prison educational opportunities for OSU campus and incarcerated students and to establish prison-to-college pathways for returned citizens.

We are practitioners of intersectional Black feminist and decolonial pedagogies, who believe that education is a practice of freedom.

We believe that the routes to higher education should be forged through compassion, collective practice, and community engagement.





The FAFSA Simplification Act reinstated Pell Grants for incarcerated students for the first time since 1996.

372+

Colleges offered credit-bearing postsecondary education in the 2019–2020 academic year

28,119

Students enrolled in college through the Second Chance Pell pilot from 2016 to 2021

760,000+

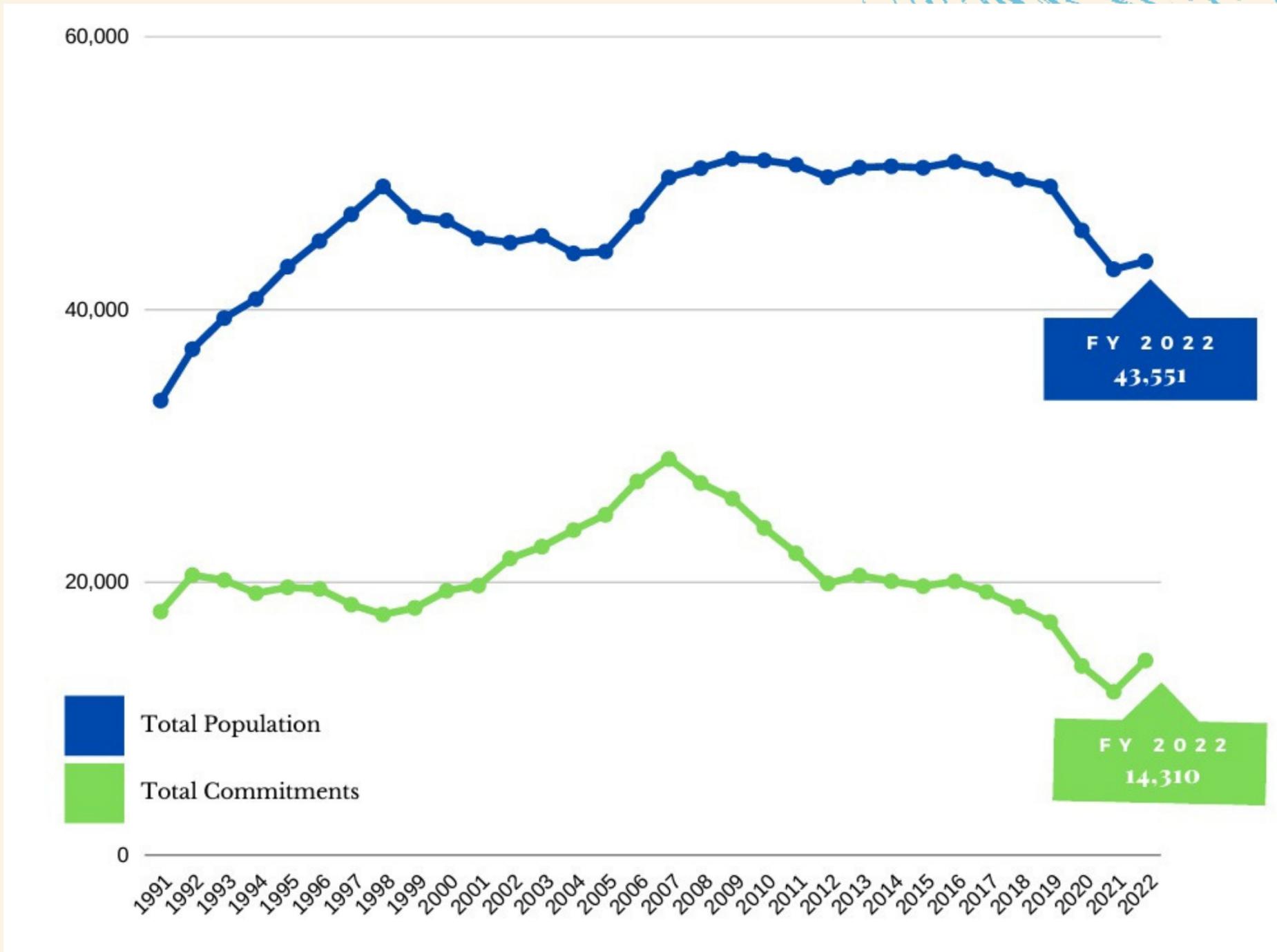
People in prison who will be eligible for Pell Grants when access is reinstated in 2023

<https://www.vera.org/ending-mass-incarceration/dignity-behind-bars/college-in-prison/unlocking-potential-initiative>



Ohio Dept of Rehabilitation & Correction (ODRC) 2022 Annual Report

Men=40,232/12,434
Women=3,319/1,876



Ohio Central School System

ODRC's school district established in 1973.
The current Superintendent is Jennifer Sanders.

The **purpose of OCSS**, as described in Ohio Revised Code 5145.06, is to “provide educational programs for prisoners to allow them to complete adult education courses, earn Ohio certificates of high school equivalence, or pursue vocational training.”

PLEASE NOTE:

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) affords the same rights to incarcerated students as it does free world students.

OSU will be first liberal arts higher ed project in Ohio's prison system.



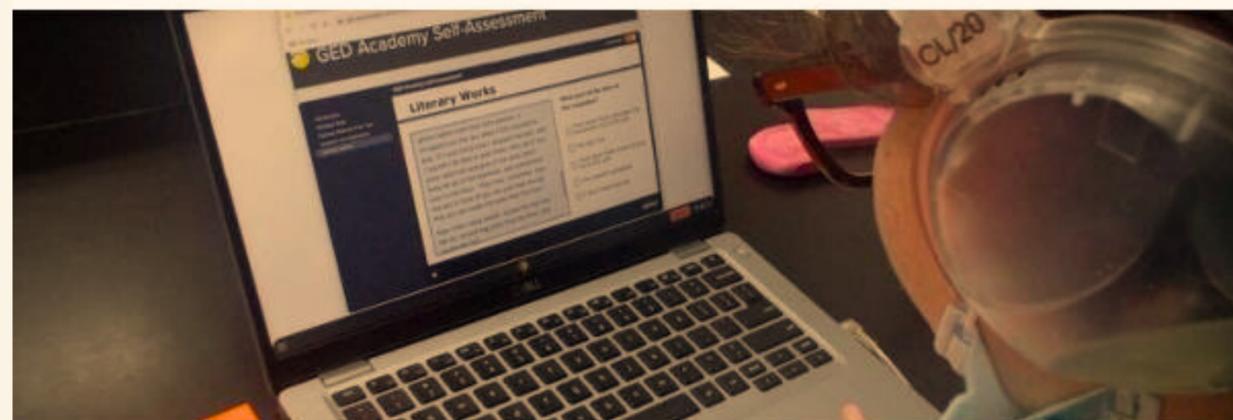


Pandemic

Lots of ground to regain after 2020

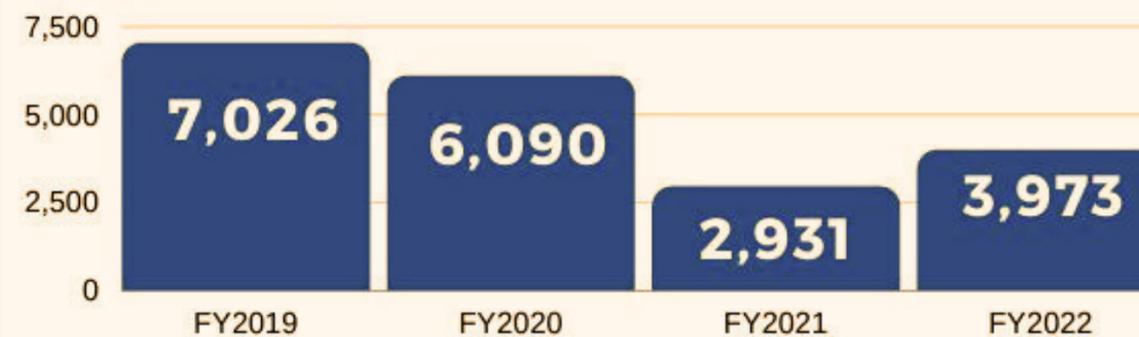
HOLISTIC SERVICES

OHIO CENTRAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

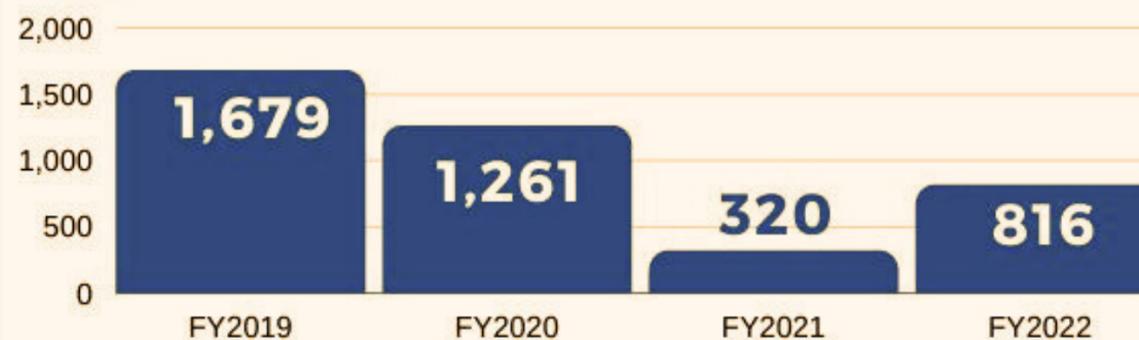


High School Equivalency (GED & HiSET)

HSE STUDENTS SERVED



HSE STUDENTS CERTIFIED





Core Activities



OPEEP Combined
- enrollment Courses



Campus Initiatives



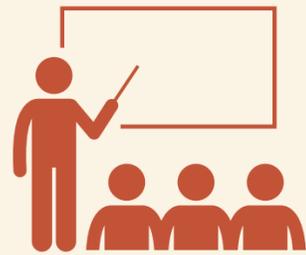
Embedded Degree at the
Ohio Reformatory for
Women (ORW)



Embedded degree plans at ORW



We are currently working on a new embedded degree program at ORW.



Students will earn a Bachelor of Arts in WGSS.



An OPEEP campus task force is working on this initiative, to develop infrastructure, student services, curriculum, and university policy.

We begin Autumn 2024!

Combined Enrollment OPEEP Courses

- OPEEP courses bring campus and incarcerated students together in prison-based classrooms.
- Incarcerated students in prisons other than ORW are admitted each semester as non-degree seeking students
- Fees are canceled by OSU for incarcerated students.
- All students earn grades for their coursework.
- We have offered courses through Mansfield, Newark, Lima and Columbus campuses recently.



Class photos from the Ohio Reformatory for Women.
See our newsletter for more stories and images!



Facilities where we offer combined enrollment courses

ORW = Ohio Reformatory for Women, Marysville

SCI = Southeastern Correctional Institution, Lancaster

LoCI = London Correctional Institution, London

AOCI = Allen Oakwood Correctional Institution, Lima

RiCI = Richland Correctional Institution, Mansfield

Nicole Edgerton: coordinates courses at ORW, AOCI

Babette Cieskowski: coordinates courses at SCI, LoCI, and RiCI

Campus Activities

- Outreach to student organizations.
- Education on mass incarceration's impacts on Ohio's communities.
- Counseling initiatives for students impacted by incarceration.
- Support for formerly incarcerated students
- Advocacy for policies at OSU that impact those affected by incarceration.

- Theme collaborators for 2023–2024 Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme: Abolition and Freedom Dreams.
- Members of the Big Ten Consortium for Higher Education in Prison (Big10 CHEP) from May, 2023.
- Faculty & instructor training.



Picture from Reentry Panel



Information for recruiting students

- Our website offers a range of material for students who are curious about OPEEP, our courses, and events.
- Parents may be interested in our FAQs page and the student handbook.



FAQS



**Student
Resources**



Instagram



OPEEP's current active list of trained faculty & instructors

Those who have taught previously or hope to in the next two- three academic years

NAME	Campus	Department
Adams, David	Lima	English Writing
Anich, Margie	Lima	Theater
Austin, Sierra	Columbus	WGSS
Bryant, Angela	Newark	Sociology
Dietsch, Alia	Columbus	SENR
Edgerton, Nicole	Columbus	OPEEP
Farrell, Molly	Columbus	English
Hinton, Terrance	Columbus	Sociology
Leonard-Pingle, Jill	Newark	Earth Sciences
Madsen, Kenneth	Newark	Geography
McPherson, Tristram	Columbus	Philosophy
Mizejewski, Linda	Columbus	WGSS
Montenegro	Alvaro	Geography/Atmospheric Science
Morris, Tiyi	Newark	AAAS
Newman, Dai	Newark	Library/Research Skills
Oehlers, Adrienne	Columbus	Theater
ReStack, Dani	Columbus	Art
Robinson, Chris	Newark	Psychology
Ruderman, David	Newark	English
Rush, George	Columbus	Art
Schneider, Rachel	Newark	Sociology
Shabel, Lisa	Columbus	Philosophy
Shuster, Amy	Columbus	Philosophy
Stigler, Monica	Columbus	AAAS
Suchland, Jennifer	Columbus	WGSS
Tjon Soei Len, Lyn	Columbus	WGSS
Thomas, Mary	Columbus	WGSS
Thompson, Winston	Columbus	Education
Weiss, Elizabeth	Newark	Psychology
Winant, Carmen	Columbus	Art
Winnick, Terri	Mansfield	Sociology
Winnubst, Shannon	Columbus	WGSS

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THANK YOU!

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