

African and African Diaspora Studies

## OPEN HOUSE

*featuring*

Calvin John Smiley and Michael Fernandez

February 25, 6:00-8:30pm  
Green Dolphin Lounge  
Black History Month Events  
Refreshments will be served.  
This is a CLUE credit event.

# Youth Justice & Abolition: Utilizing a Restorative Justice Framework to Combat the Carceral State

In celebration of Black History Month, the African and African Diaspora Studies program invites students, faculty, and community members to an open house that brings together scholars and guest speakers to reflect on the importance of studying African and African diaspora histories, cultures, and struggles for justice. This gathering aims to foster dialogue, build community, and highlight the role of African and African Diaspora Studies in advancing critical scholarship and social transformation.

This year's featured conversation, "Youth Justice & Abolition: Utilizing a Restorative Justice Framework to Combat the Carceral State," will be led by Calvin John Smiley and Michael Fernandez. The discussion will center on youth justice, abolitionist frameworks, and restorative justice practices as alternatives to punitive systems, with a focus on how communities, educators, and institutions can work toward transformative justice.

Join us for conversation, connection, and collective reflection on the past, present, and future of justice in African and African diaspora communities.

**Presenter:** Calvin John Smiley, Ph.D.,  
Associate Professor, Sociology  
Hunter College

**Discussant:** Michael Fernandez,  
Director of Juvenile Facility Programs  
Center for Community Alternatives

Legal Studies and the Department of  
Sociology and Anthropology are  
co-sponsoring this event.



Calvin John  
Smiley, Ph.D



Michael  
Fernandez