The work of abolition is not confined to policing and prisons; rather, it is about the broader contours of the “carceral state”—the interconnected roles of detention, corrections and law enforcement, as well as the policies, non-governmental institutions (both non-profit and for-profit) and ideologies that ground state investment in policing, punishment and incarceration.

We invite papers that address the following themes:

- Prisons, punishment, mass incarceration and the “prison industrial complex”
- Prison reform and abolition
- Policing and movements to defund and/or abolish the police
- Immigration detention and refugee camps
- Settler colonialism and decolonization
- Race, racism and the carceral state
- Prison activism
- Alternatives to incarceration
- Capital, labour and political economy in the carceral state
- Enclosure, segregation and apartheid
- Carceral feminism, gender, sexuality and the carceral state
- Abolition and Environmentalism
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: 

We welcome abstract submissions from graduate students in criminology, sociolegal studies, law, sociology, geography, history, political science, education, women and gender studies, and related disciplines.

Please send an abstract of 250-300 words to crimslgradconference@gmail.com. Be sure to include:

- Paper title
- Presenter name(s)
- Institutional affiliation
- Program of study
- E-mail address

The conference will be held virtually. Further information about the panels, keynote speakers, conference format, and length of presentations will be sent out at a later date.

Towards Decarceration is organized by graduate students at the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies at the University of Toronto, located on the traditional territories of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit. We look forward to reflecting with colleagues on what it means to meet and work on this land today.

Conference date: March 31st and April 1st
Deadline for submissions: January 31st

For more information, please contact: crimslgradconference@gmail.com