This talk will engage the movement of our day as an ongoing, decentralized struggle for black humanity. The author argues that the direct action protests, mass marches, expressions of international solidarity, and the demands for community oversight of government and police point to the incompatibility of black radical protest, especially that which is comprised of black youth, black queer, and anti-capital. Rather than advance a convenient progress narrative, Ferguson, as the epicenter of this justice struggle, reveals the continuous tension between black political desires and notions of democracy.

**Black (im)Possibility: Ferguson and the Persistent Indictment of American Society**

Distinguished Lecture Series on Social Thought & Political Economy
Co-sponsored with Commonwealth Honors College

**Wednesday, 2/11**
7:00 p.m.
CHC Events Hall
UMass, by the roots cafe

**CHRIS TINSON**
Assistant Professor of African American Studies

Chris Tinson’s interdisciplinary research and teaching focuses on the intersections between Africana radical traditions, U.S. ethnic studies, hip-hop culture, critical media studies, incarceration, community-based education, and race and sports. His writings have been published in The Black Scholar, The Journal of African American History, The Nation, and Radical Teacher. He currently resides in Holyoke, Massachusetts and has conducted workshops at various college campuses, high schools, and juvenile detention centers in the area, and serves as a youth mentor. Since 2006 he has hosted TRGGR Radio, a Hip-Hop-rooted social justice radio program.