

**IMMIGRATION LAW  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW  
SPRING 2025  
LAW 6296**

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**Seminar Class Time and Location:** Tues. & Thurs. 1:15-2:40 PM  
HH –285D

**Office Hours:** Mon. & Wed.  
2:00 – 3:00 (or upon request)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:**

This course provides an overview of immigration law and practice. The course surveys the legal, historical, and political considerations that shape modern U.S. immigration law. It is also a practical course to assist the student in understanding both the substantive and procedural aspects of practicing in this dynamic area of law. The course will involve analysis of immigration events that frequently appear in the news.

A significant portion of the course focuses on the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (“INA”), as amended by numerous laws and their implementing regulations. While international law and comparisons to immigration law and policy of other countries may be referenced, this class focuses primarily on immigration law in the U.S. In light of the heightened focus on immigration in the national debate, the course will provide a space for dialogue about immigration policy in the news and address changes in the law and policy proposals as they occur, to the extent possible

**STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Students will analyze and apply the constitutional, statutory, and practical frameworks that govern the admission, exclusion, deportation, and naturalization of noncitizens in the United States.
- Students will evaluate U.S. immigration law and policy and critique current law and proposals for reform.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze the interaction of immigration law with other areas of law such as criminal and family law.

**REQUIRED READING MATERIALS:**

The following course materials are required:

Stephen H. Legomsky & David B. Thronson, *Immigration and Refugee Law and Policy* (7<sup>th</sup> ed. 2018).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> ISBN: 1640207341

The following course materials are recommended:

Aleinikoff, Martin, Motomura, Fullerton, and Stumpf, *Immigration and Nationality Laws of the United States: Selected Statutes, Regulations, Forms*, 2020.<sup>2</sup>

**Note:** The above text is a printed version of the Immigration & Nationality Act (INA) and immigration regulations, which we will regularly reference in class. You may also use the AILA version of this printed text: American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Immigration & Nationality Act + Immigration Regulations (CFR). Although the INA is available in a free online version at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) and [ailalink.aila.org](http://ailalink.aila.org),<sup>3</sup> I strongly recommend that you use a printed version for class.

The assigned readings are significant and will keep you sufficiently busy. I recommend that you read the assigned material, including statutory references, multiple times before turning elsewhere. If you want to read supplementary materials, the most thorough reference work for immigration practice is the multi-volume treatise by Charles Gordon, Stanley Mailman, & Stephen Yale-Loehr, *Immigration Law and Procedure* (Matthew Bender) and the *Immigration Law Sourcebook* by Ira Kurzban. For current immigration information, an online resource is Bender's Immigration Bulletin (available at [www.bibdaily.com](http://www.bibdaily.com)).

Please be sure to register for the Canvas course and have any additional materials with you in print or easily accessible electronic form in class. You are responsible for checking your Canvas page and the e-mail connected to the page on a regular basis for any class announcements or adjustments.

### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING EVALUATION:**

Grades will be based on your final examination and class participation as follows:

<b>Class Participation</b>	<b>5%</b>
I value in-class contributions and professionalism. Assigned reading will vary from week to week and may be substantial on occasion. Nonetheless, I expect you to come to class prepared. I aim for all classes to include substantial dialogue about the assigned material and expect all students to participate in class discussion every week. Class performance will be evaluated based on the quality, not the quantity, of your contributions.	
I will be using a “panel” system wherein students will be “on call” during select days. While you may only be “on call” for one day of the week, I hope to foster an active dialog with all the students in the course and everyone is encouraged to ask questions of the materials. I have divided you into three groups, as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group 1: Surnames beginning with letters “A” through “M”</li><li>• Group 2: Surnames beginning with letters “N” through “Z”</li></ul>	
<b>Canvas Discussion: Chess Piece: The Elian Gonzalez Story</b>	<b>5%</b>
Students are responsible for reviewing the relevant material and posting responses to the discussion questions presented. Students may post new comments or they may respond to other students comments.	

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<sup>2</sup> ISBN: 1684679699

<sup>3</sup> Ailalink is a subscription service offered through the law school. In order to access it, you must either be on the Law School Wi-Fi, or using the Law School VPN.

There is no minimum word length to these posts; as with your in class contributions, I am interested in the substance of your contribution, not the quantity. To this end, I will be reviewing all posts for substantive engagement with the materials the form the basis of the discussion as well as engagement with your colleagues' posts.

<b>Canvas Discussion: White Lies</b>	<b>5%</b>
<i>See supra</i>	
<b>Midterm Assignment</b>	<b>25%</b>
Students will be tasked with preparing an asylum application on behalf of a fictitious client. For additional information, see the “assignments” tab on Canvas after October 9, 2024.	
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>60%</b>
The final examination will consist of a three-hour, open book exam that test different skills and objective knowledge across the course. The exam will be cumulative and it will draw on <i>all</i> material discussed throughout the semester.	

### **CLASS ATTENDANCE AND MAKEUP POLICY:**

Attendance in class is required by both the ABA and the Law School. Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Students are allowed **2** absences during the course of the semester. Students are responsible for ensuring that they are not recorded as absent if they come in late. A student who fails to meet the attendance requirement will be dropped from the course. The law school’s policy on attendance can be found [here](#).

### **UF LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW STANDARD SYLLABUS POLICIES:**

Other information about UF Levin College of Law policies, including compliance with the UF Honor Code, Grading, Accommodations, Class Recordings, and Course Evaluations can be found at this link: <https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/427635/files?preview=98226140>.

### **UF ACADEMIC POLICIES AND RESOURCES:**

Other information about UF academic policies and resources can be found at [this link](#).

### **COURSE SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

This syllabus is offered as a guide to the direction of the course. Our pace will depend in part on the level of interest and the level of difficulty of each section and is subject to change.

<b>Week 1.</b>	Jan. 20	<b>Moral Dimensions of Immigration Control</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplement, pp. 1-3</li> <li>• Legomsky, pp. 27-38</li> </ul> <b>Politics of Immigration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp 84 – 90</li> </ul> <p><i>Additional Assignment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Immigration Priorities Exercise</b> – Please complete the exercise on the following pages prior to the first class and come prepared to discuss your decisions.</li> </ul>
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	Jan. 22	<b>Immigration, Race, Culture and Language</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 38-58</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 3-6</li> </ul> <b>Limits to the Federal Immigration Power, Foundation Cases,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 127-151</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 8-10</li> </ul> <p><i>Additional Assignment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Podcast Discussion- Chess Piece: The Elian Gonzalez Story</b> (Assignment available on Canvas “Discussions” tab)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2.</b>	Jan. 27	<b>Procedural Due Process and Substantive Applications in Deportation Cases</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 151-192</li> <li>• <a href="#">JAV v. Trump, 25-cv-00072 (SDTX, May 1, 2025)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Alien Enemies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 21</a></li> </ul>
	Jan. 29	<b>Trump v. Hawaii</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 192-216</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 12-18</li> <li>• INA §§ 202(a)(1)(a) and 212(f)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Proclamation No. 10949, Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals To Protect the United States From Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats (Jun 4, 2025)</a></li> </ul>
<b>Week 3.</b>	Feb. 3	<b>Trump v. Hawaii (cont.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Hamama v. Adducci</i>, Declaration of Lisa Gore</li> <li>• <i>Hamama v. Adducci</i>, Order Approving Settlement Agreement</li> <li>• <i>Hamama v. Adducci</i>, Proposed Class Settlement Agreement (skim)</li> </ul>
	Feb. 5	<b>Intro to Immigration Detention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 228-267</li> <li>• INA §§ 236(c) and 241(a)(6)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4.</b>	Feb. 10	<b>Immigrant Priorities, Quotas and Preferences</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplement p. 52</li> <li>• Legomsky pp. 325-334</li> </ul> <b>Family Immigration Basics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 338-347 (work through problems 3 and 4 on pp. 346-347)</li> <li>• Supplement p. 53</li> <li>• INA §§ 201 (skim), 202 (skim), 203(a) (read closely), 203(d)-(h), 204(a)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Department of State (most recent Visa Bulletin)</a></li> </ul>
	Feb. 12	<b>Family Immigration, Spouses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 347-371 (work through problems 5 to 11 on pp. 367-368)</li> <li>• <i>Matter of P. Singh</i>, 27 I&amp;N Dec. 598 (BIA Aug. 23, 2019) (skim) (posted to Canvas)</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(15)(K), 204(a)(2), (c) &amp; (g), 216 (read closely)</li> <li>• 8 CFR §§ 216.4 &amp; 216.5 (skim)</li> <li>• Review USCIS Forms I-130 and I-130A</li> </ul>

		<a href="https://www.uscis.gov/i-130">https://www.uscis.gov/i-130</a>
<b>Week 5.</b>	Feb. 17	<b>Family Immigration, Other Family Members,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 372-386 (work through problems 12 to 15 on p. 379)</li> <li>• Supplement, p. 38-39</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(b)(1) &amp; (2), 203(a), 203(d)</li> <li>• Child Status Protection Act, INA §§ 201(f) &amp; 203(h) (read closely)</li> </ul>
	Feb. 19	<b>Economic Impact of Immigration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 64-77 (skim)</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 6-7</li> <li>• Employment-Based Immigration, Legomsky pp. 386-405, 408-412 (skim)</li> <li>• Proclamation No. 10014, <i>Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak</i>, 85 Fed. Reg. 23441 (Apr. 22, 2020) (skim), <a href="https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-09068.pdf">https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-04-27/pdf/2020-09068.pdf</a></li> <li>• <i>A Proclamation on Revoking Proclamation 10014</i> (Feb. 24, 2022), available at <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/02/24/a-proclamation-on-revoking-proclamation-10014/">https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/02/24/a-proclamation-on-revoking-proclamation-10014/</a></li> <li>• INA §§ 203(b)(1)-(3), 212(a)(5), 8 C.F.R. §§ 204.5 &amp; 656.21 (skim)</li> <li>• Browse <a href="https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/23-1011.00">https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/23-1011.00</a> and <a href="https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/37-2012.00">https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/37-2012.00</a></li> </ul>
<b>Week 6.</b>	Feb. 24	<b>Employment-Based Immigration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 412-430</li> <li>• Supplement p. 39-40 (last item)</li> </ul> <b>Diversity Immigration,</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 430-438</li> <li>• Elizabeth F. Cohen, <i>Immigration Restriction's Unintended Consequences</i>, The Atlantic, Mar. 13, 2019</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(27)(j); 203(b)(4)-(5), 203(c)</li> </ul>
	Feb. 26	<b>Nonimmigrant Priorities, Commercial Categories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 439-477</li> <li>• Supplement, pp. 57-61</li> <li>• <a href="#">Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers, Presidential Proclamation (Sept. 19, 2025)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Memorandum from Joseph B. Edlow, Director of USCIS, re. Proclamation, Restriction on Entry of Certain Nonimmigrant Workers, H-1B (Sept. 20, 2025)</a></li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(15) (skim all, focus on subsections B2, H, L), 214(b)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 7.</b>	Mar. 3	<b>Nonimmigrant Priorities, Education, Tourists &amp; Others</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 483-507</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 61-64</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(15) (focus on subsections B1, F, J, T, U)</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Isabel Keane, Australian woman says she was deported after visiting her US army officer husband at Hawaii base, Independent (May 27, 2025)</u></a></li> </ul>
	Mar. 5	<b>Refugees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1133-1160</li> <li>• Supplement p. 205</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Addressing Egregious Actions of The Republic of South Africa, Exec. Order 14204 (Feb. 7, 2025)</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Refugee Admissions Program for South Africans, US Embassy &amp; Consulates in South Africa (Nov. 4, 2025)</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Bernd Debusmann, Trump caps refugee admissions at record low - with most to be white South Africans, BBC (Oct. 30, 2025)</u></a></li> </ul> <p><i>Additional Assignment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Podcast Discussion- White Lies Podcast</b> (Assignment available on Canvas “Discussions” tab)</li> <li>• <b>Midterm Assignment: Asylum Petition</b> (Please check the “Assignments” tab on Canvas).</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8.</b>	Mar. 10	<b>Asylum and Nonrefoulement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1160-1178</li> <li>• INA § 101(a)(42), 207, 208, 241(b)(3)</li> <li>• 8 CFR § 208.2</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Joseph R. Biden, President, A Proclamation on Securing the Border (June 4, 2024)</u></a></li> </ul>
	Mar. 12	<b>Asylum and Nonrefoulement (cont.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1178-1220</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 206-215</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Matter of O-A-R-G-, 29 I&amp;N Dec. 30 (BIA 2025)</u></a></li> </ul>
<b>Apr. 16-20 Spring Break</b>		
<b>Week 9.</b>	Mar. 24	<b>Asylum and Nonrefoulement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1220-1264</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 215-223</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Matter of K-E-S-G-, 29 I&amp;N Dec. 145 (BIA 2025)</u></a></li> </ul>
	Mar. 26	<b>Barring or Discouraging Access to the Asylum Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1318-1361</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 224-249</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Memorandum from Kristjen M. Nielsen, Secretary of DHS, re. Policy Guidance for Implementation of the Migrant Protection Protocols (June 25, 2019)</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Innovation L. Lab v. Nielsen, 366 F. Supp. 3d 1110 (N.D. Cal. 2019)</u></a></li> <li>• INA § 208(2); 235(b); 241(b)(3)(B)</li> </ul>

<b>Week 10.</b>	Mar. 31	<b>Beyond Persecution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 1370-1399</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 250-251</li> <li>• 8 C.F.R. §§ 208.16, 208.17, 208.18</li> </ul>
	Apr. 2	<b>Grounds of Exclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 513-543</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(13)(B), 212 (focus on (a)(6) and (a)(9))</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11.</b>	Apr. 7	<b>Grounds of Exclusion (cont.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 543-573,</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 65-71</li> <li>• Legomsky pp. 577-580</li> <li>• Supplement pp. 73-96</li> <li>• INA §§ 212 (focus on (a)(3), (a)(4)), 213A</li> <li>• Browse <a href="#">USCIS Form I-864, Affidavit of Support Under Section 213A of the INA</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Morgan Phillips, Trump State Department orders global visa crackdown under revived 'public charge' rule, Fox News (Nov. 6, 2025)</a></li> </ul>
	Apr. 9	<b>Admission Procedure &amp; Adjustment of Status</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 587-97, 602-610, 628-640</li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement of Expanded Screening and Vetting for Visa Applicants, Media Note, U.S. Dep't of State (June 18, 2025)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Restricting the Entry of Foreign Nationals to Protect the United States from Foreign Terrorists and other National Security and Public Safety Threats, Presidential Proclamation (June 4, 2025)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Ltr. From American Council on Education to Marco Rubio, Sec. of State, re. Presidential Proclamation (Sept. 8, 2025)</a></li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(13), 202(a)(1)(A) (read closely), 235(b)(1), 101(a)(13), 245 (focus on (a), (c), (i)); skim §§ 221, 222, and 217</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12.</b>	Apr. 14	<b>Deportability Grounds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 641-678</li> </ul>
	Apr. 16	<b>Deportation Procedures Overview &amp; Cancellation of Removal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 773-802; 865-889</li> <li>• INA §§ 101(a)(13), 101(a)(48), 237(a); INA §§ 240A, 240B, 249</li> <li>• <a href="#">Milena Malaver et al., ICE agents in Miami find new spot to carry out arrests: Immigration court, Miami Herald (May 21, 2025)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Matter of Q. LI, 29 I&amp;N Dec. 66 (BIA 2025)</a></li> </ul>
<b>Week 13.</b>	Apr. 21	<b>Deportability Grounds: Criminal Related Grounds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 679-708</li> <li>• Supplement p. 101</li> <li>• INA § 101(a)(48); 237(a)(2)</li> </ul>
	Apr. 23	<b>Deportability Grounds: Criminal Related Grounds (cont.)</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legomsky pp. 708-748</li> <li>• Supplement, p. 82-83</li> <li>• INA § 101(a)(43)</li> </ul>
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