IMMIGRATION POLICY SEMINAR (Law 422)  
George Mason University School of Law  
Spring 2012

Jan 12th  
I. Introduction to the Immigration Debate  
   A. Course theme  
   B. Defining the debate  
   C. Overview of the law  
   D. Governmental structure

II. Federalism  
   A. Preeminence of federal law  
   B. Role of states and municipalities  
   C. Controversy du jour: state immigration laws

Jan. 19th  
III. Illegal Immigration  
   A. Magnitude of the problem  
   B. The case for comprehensive immigration reform  
   C. Defining the population  
   D. Border enforcement and border security  
   E. Smuggling, trafficking, and harboring  
   F. Controversy du jour: amnesty for the 12 million undocumented  
   G. Employers: sanction or deputize  
   H. INA § 287(g)  
   I. Employment authorization and verification  
   J. Controversy du jour: creation of a national ID card?

Jan. 26th  
IV. Legal Immigration: Families  
   A. Overview of legal immigration  
   B. Quotas and diversity  
   C. Defining the “family” in family immigration  
   D. Finding love in the INA  
   E. Impact of fraud  
   F. Controversy du jour: petitioning for a same sex spouse
IMMIGRATION POLICY SEMINAR .......................... Course Outline & Calendar

Feb. 2nd     V.  Legal Immigration: Employment & Labor

A. Employment-based immigration and labor certification
B. Temporary workers
C. Visitors and foreign students
D. Employment discrimination
E. Religious workers
F. **Controversy du jour**: investing in a green card
G. **Controversy du jour**: who should work at McDonalds?

Feb. 9th     VI.  Admission and Exclusion

A. Health grounds
B. Public charges
C. Sex
D. **Controversy du jour**: excluding HIV-positive aliens

Feb. 16th    VII.  Detention and Removal

A. Standards and conditions of detention
B. Prioritizing removal
C. Prosecutorial discretion
D. **Controversy du jour**: detaining asylum-seekers

Feb. 23rd    VIII.  Humanitarian Protection

A. Forms of humanitarian protection
B. Foreign relations complications
C. **Controversy du jour**: TPS for Haitians?
D. **Controversy du jour**: CAT claims and America’s allies

IX. Compassionate Relief

A. Cancellation of removal
B. VAWA relief
C. TVPRA relief
D. **Controversy du jour**: how much hardship should we require?
Mar. 1st  X.  Asylum and Related Forms of Relief
   A. Origins and purpose of asylum law
   B. Refugee Convention and Protocol
   C. Withholding of removal
   D. Convention Against Torture
   E. Controversy du jour: Is Osama CAT eligible?

Mar. 8th  XI.  Persecution, Persecutors, and Asylum
   A. Persecutors, terrorists, gangs, and conscription
   B. Material support for terrorism
   C. Loss of status
   D. Controversy du jour: violence as a form of political expression
   E. Controversy du jour: duress defense for persecutors

Mar. 22nd  XII.  Women and Asylum
   A. Women as a social group
   B. FGM
   C. Domestic violence as grounds for asylum
   D. Controversy du jour: when can women form a social group?

Mar. 29th  XIII.  Crime
   A. Aggravated felons and serious criminals
   B. Traffickers (people and drugs)
   C. Misdemeanors and lesser crimes
   D. Controversy du jour: deporting drunk drivers and gangbangers

Apr. 5th  XIV.  Security
   A. Border security
   B. National security
   C. Terrorism
   D. Controversy du jour: profiling terrorists
   E. Controversy du jour: involuntary or unknowing support of terrorism
IMMIGRATION POLICY SEMINAR ........................ Course Outline & Calendar

Apr. 12th  XV.  Immigration Courts

A. Structure and location
B. The role of the Department of Homeland Security
C. Representation in immigration proceedings
D. Justice today vs. justice delayed
E. Controversy du jour: refugee roulette

Apr. 19th  XVI.  Citizenship and Naturalization

A. Jus soli
B. Naturalization requirements and policy
C. Children, citizenship, and status
D. Non-citizens in the classroom
E. Controversy du jour: can dual citizens truly divide their loyalties?