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
D. Controversy du jour: comprehensive immigration reform (CIR)

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 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?

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
Feb. 6th  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

Feb. 13th  VI.  *Admission and Exclusion*

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

Feb. 20th  VII.  *Detention and Removal*

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

Feb. 27th  VIII.  *Humanitarian Protection*

A. Forms of humanitarian protection
B. Foreign relations complications
C. *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. 6th  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: Would Osama have been CAT eligible?

Mar. 20th  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. 27th  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?

Apr. 3rd  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 gang members

Apr. 10th  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
Apr. 17th  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

XVI. Wrap up