Community Conversation

Immigration Reform: Political, Economic, and Historical Context

A selected bibliography of materials in the University of Oregon Libraries

**DVDs**

**Homeland 'in'security : race, immigration and labor in post 9/11 North America / Center on Diversity and Community ; Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics. 2005.**
Knight Library. Call number: DVD 01189 x

Recorded March 31-April 1, 2005 at the University of Oregon. The symposium discussed the issues of race, region, and the realities of living in a post-9/11 world. Topics include: impacts of the war on terrorism on immigration, national security, and guest labor; constructing borders and communities of color inside and outside the U.S.; legal systems and the reconstructions of race and ethnicity after 9/11; immigrant, refugee, and of color community responses to law and policy shifts in North America.

**In America / produced by Jim Sheridan and Arthur Lappin ; directed by Jim Sheridan. 2004.**
Knight Library. Call number: DVD 02333

Told by 11-year-old Christy, a child wise beyond her years. An Irish couple bring their two young daughters to America in search of a better life. Christy and her sister, Ariel find New York's Hell's Kitchen a place of magic where anything is possible. To their parents, it represents a place to begin anew. Carried by the girls' youthful hope and faith, the family finds the heart to live and love again.

**Letters from the other side / produced and directed by Heather Courtney. 2006.**
Knight Library. Call number: DVD 01517

Heather Courtney's film interweaves video letters carried across the U.S.-Mexico border by the film's director with the personal stories of women left behind in post-NAFTA Mexico. The video letters provides a way for these women to communicate with both loved ones and strangers on the other side of the border, and illustrates an unjust truth - as an American Courtney can carry these video letters back and forth across a border that these women are not legally allowed to cross. Focusing on a side of the immigration story rarely told by the media or touched upon in the national debate, the film offers a fresh perspective, painting a complex portrait of families torn apart by economics, communities dying at the hands of globalization, and governments incapable or unwilling to do anything about it.

**Non-fiction**

**Opening the floodgates : why America needs to rethink its borders and immigration laws / Kevin R. Johnson. 2007.**

Seeking to re-imagine the meaning and significance of the international border, *Opening the Floodgates* makes a case for eliminating the border as a legal construct that impedes the movement of people into this country. Controversially, Kevin R. Johnson suggests that open borders are entirely consistent with efforts to prevent terrorism that have dominated immigration enforcement since the events of September 11, 2001. More liberal migration, he suggests, would allow for full attention to be paid to the true dangers to public safety and national security.—Publisher’s description
This study examines immigration into the United States in the 1990s and how it is playing out across the country. Currently, America receives over one million immigrants per year, both legal and illegal, but does this affect the economy favorably or adversely?--Amazon.com

Law Library. Call number: KF4819.3.W4 2005

Weissbrodt's Immigration Law and Procedure in a Nutshell offers an expert overview of the history, source, and structure of immigration law. Visa standards, deportation and exclusion issues, refugee and asylum issues, citizenship, and the rights of aliens are also discussed.--Amazon.com

Immigrant families in contemporary society / Jennifer E. Lansford.
Knight Library. Call Number: JV6033 .I46 2007

This book highlights immigrant families as an important topic that can be studied from many academic perspectives. This book has the potential to stimulate interdisciplinary research on this topic, which ultimately could lead to improved social, psychological, and health services for members of immigrant families.--APA PsycCRITIQUES

Fiction

Across a hundred mountains / Reyna Grande. 2007.
Knight Library. Call number: PS3607.R3627 A63 2007

Across a Hundred Mountains is one of the most exciting fictional debuts in years. It's a wonderful journey, a fast-paced, reader-friendly story that takes you in and out of different worlds. It shows the harshness and complexity of life on two sides of the US-Mexico border, in an authentic landscape that is beautiful and sad.--Daniel Chacón, author of And the Shadows Took Him

Foreign brides / Elena Lappin. 1999.
Knight Library. Call number: PR6062.A67 F67 1999

There are some short-story writers who seem too knowing, too eager to nudge the reader in the ribs with an authorial elbow. Others seem not knowing enough, as if they'd never quite gotten a purchase on their material. But in her first collection, Foreign Brides, Elena Lappin has already discovered the golden mean. Her tales of emigrant life--and more specifically, intermarriage among the tribes of Israel, Russia, England, and the United States--are unfailingly witty. Yet the author never keeps herself too far above the fictional fray, which ensures that the pain in these stories is no mere postmodernist construct but, well, painful.--Amazon.com

Samba dreamers / Kathleen de Azevedo. 2006.
Knight Library. Call number: PS3601.Z483 S26 2006

The Brazil of the imagination is shattered in this novel of two tortured souls wrestling with the myths of movies, politics, and the American Dream. Laced with fantastic tales of bird-boys and cannibal rituals, it spins a compelling story of desperation as it reminds us that American freedom and the myth of unbridled opportunity can also consume and destroy.--Amazon.com
**Petropolis / Anya Ulinich.** 2007.

Knight Library. Call number: PS3621.L44 P48 2007

Anya Ulinich has crafted an unforgettable story of familial fault lines, cross-cultural confusion, and the beguiling allure of new beginnings. *Petropolis* is a funny and poignant debut marking the arrival of a major new voice in fiction.--Publisher’s description

**2666 / Roberto Bolaño ; translated from the Spanish by Natasha Wimmer.** 2008.

Knight Library. Call number: PQ8098.12.O38 A12213 2008

Composed in the last years of Roberto Bolaño’s life, *2666* was greeted across Europe and Latin America as his highest achievement, surpassing even his previous work in its strangeness, beauty, and scope. Its throng of unforgettable characters includes academics and convicts, an American sportswriter, an elusive German novelist, and a teenage student and her widowed, mentally unstable father. Their lives intersect in the urban sprawl of SantaTeresa—a fictional Juárez—on the U.S.-Mexico border, where hundreds of young factory workers, in the novel as in life, have disappeared.--Publisher’s description

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**Internet**


The Department is responsible for providing immigration-related data such as statistics and services and benefits such as naturalization and work authorization as well as investigative and enforcement responsibilities for enforcement of federal immigration laws, customs laws and air security laws.


USCIS will secure America’s promise as a nation of immigrants by providing accurate and useful information to our customers, granting immigration and citizenship benefits, promoting an awareness and understanding of citizenship, and ensuring the integrity of our immigration system.

Access via: [http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis](http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis)

**U.S. Census Bureau. Immigration Data**

The U.S. Census Bureau makes estimates of net international migration for the nation, states, and counties in the United States. These estimates are based in part on data collected in censuses and surveys. Projections of the U.S. population are also made using assumptions about net international migration.


There are many more fascinating stories, recordings, photographs, teaching and learning materials available through various websites, including Library of Congress, Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), and many others. Please contact the UO Librarians to learn more about these treasures via [http://libweb.uoregon.edu/general/gethelp.html](http://libweb.uoregon.edu/general/gethelp.html)

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