Required elements for DMS TA syllabi > Film+Immigration

While each graduate student teaching a course has the liberty of putting together a personal flavor for his/her course, we require the inclusion of certain topics and skills that are important for undergrads as they pass through the program.

Here is a list of **topics** you must include in your course materials

1. fundamental aspects of immigration in the United States and abroad through representative examples of films and documentaries
2. political and economic migration
3. representation of race and ethnicity in film
4. cultural identity and its reciprocal relationship with cinema

Video art screenings and readings in media theory should critically address the relations between viewers, producers, and media.

Here is a list of **specific skills** you must include (or enhance) in your course:

1. understanding global immigration dynamics
2. theoretical interpretation of immigration narratives through film analysis
3. identification of stereotypes and characterizations in film
4. differentiation of related topics, including biculturalism, acculturation, diversity, diaspora, refugees, discrimination, segregation
5. ability to address these issues in writing

In terms of **method**, teaching these topics and skills should occur through assignments that **combine concepts with techniques** as well as critique sessions where students describe and defend their work. DMS wants to see, even in the introductory classes, historical context and an attempt to connect to the language and culture of media making and critique. This class should make ample use of written assignments in order to train undergraduate writing and composition skills.


Finally, we ask that you help us in giving the undergrads exposure to prior art in the field your course covers. For this course we ask that you make use of the **Media Study Film and Video Library** as well as the University’s Library system.