Instructor: Barbara Buckinx  
Office: 152E Supercomputer Building  
Email: bbuckinx@ucsd.edu  
Office hours: Tuesday 2-4pm and by appointment

TA: Michael Nicholson  
Email: mdnichol@ucsd.edu

POLI 119A Special Topics in Political Theory: Migration and Borders

This seminar explores normative questions about the movement of people across state borders. Under what circumstances, if any, do we have the right to close the border and exclude potential newcomers? Do we have an obligation to extend citizenship status to immigrants who already live amongst us? On what basis can we grant or deny them equal political and civil rights? And what happens to individuals who are deemed to have violated the rules of residence, or who were never admitted in the first place? When, if ever, is deportation justified? Finally, what can immigration tell us about the meaning of state borders?

Assessment:  
- 10-page mid-term paper due by Monday, May 6 (35%)  
- 10-page final paper due by Tuesday, June 11 (35%)  
Topics and instructions will be distributed a few weeks in advance.  
- 15-minute presentation (15%)  
- Participation (15%)

Readings:  
- Carol Swain, Ed, Debating Immigration. Cambridge University Press. 2007  
- Christopher Heath Wellman and Philipp Cole, Debating the Ethics of Immigration: Is there a right to exclude? Oxford University Press. 2011

These books are available for purchase at the Bookstore and all required and recommended readings (articles and books) are available on Reserves.
Course Schedule:

April 2: Introduction

I. Open Borders versus the Right to Exclude

April 4:

April 9:

April 11:

April 16:

April 18:

Recommended reading:

II. Citizenship and Borders

April 23:
April 25:

April 30:

May 2:

Recommended reading:

III. The Integration of (Documented) Immigrants

May 7:

May 9:

May 14:

May 16:

Recommended reading:
IV. Undocumented Immigration and Deportation

May 21:

May 23:

May 28:

May 30:

June 4:

*Recommended reading:*

June 6: Wrap-Up and Comprehensive Immigration Reform