BOR 4345 Federal Immigration Law

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Office Hours:  
By Appointment/Virtual Office Hours Preferred in Online Courses

Course Description
Introduces students to the basic principles and practices of Federal Immigration Law.

The course will be taught from a law school perspective and as such, the Course requires careful and critical reading by all students.

Subjects will not only be limited to what Immigration Law is, but its’ impacts on economics, families and on other areas of law and or current events (search and seizures, terrorism, etc.).

Doing well in the course will necessitate motivation, concentration and active participation and discussions.

Course Bibliography and Required Readings:

   * Immigration and Nationality Law, 4th Edition  
   * Author: Richard A. Boswell  
   * Carolina Academic Press, 2010  
   * LCCN: 2010920632

External links which will provide information needed to complete assignments:

   * Immigration and Nationality Act (Legal Code)  
   * US Citizenship and Immigration Services  
   * Legal Briefs and or case law:(the sites below are just a few of the many databases that will have the briefs you are required to read.)

Prerequisites
There are no prerequisites for this course.

Technical skills required for this course

As with all online courses, students must be able to operate a computer and have the necessary technical skills to navigate around a web page. Additional technical skills are not
a prerequisite for this course, however your computer must meet certain minimum requirements to operate Blackboard.

Time spent on this course
Students can expect to spend a minimum of 6 hours per week to complete all the readings and assignments. The lessons themselves take as long as the student will require to read the materials and watch or listen to media presentations.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes
Objective 1: Understand the history of Immigration Law, including the motivation for policies.
Objective 2: Understand the structure of our immigration system and its interwoven departments.
Objective 3: Understand the rights of Aliens
Objective 4: Understand the process of legal entrance and consequences of legal entrance vs. illegal entrance.
Objective 5: Develop and enhance critical thinking on immigration issues.

Learning Outcomes:
As a student, you should be aware of what instructors are going to expect that you are to learn form a course, and how this learning will be measured. This course includes several leaning outcomes that are measured both objectively and subjectively. When you complete this course, you should be able to:

1. Explain public policy of the past and present on Immigration Law.
2. Explain Immigration’s impact on Economy and National Security.
3. Be familiar with the difference between Immigrant visa and Non-immigrant visa.
4. Explain the importance of being admitted vs. not admitted as it related to a Change of Status.
5. Explain and understand the many interwoven departments that deal with Immigration.
6. Analyze complex scenarios, give solutions and explain why those solutions are recommended.
7. Understand the impact of policies on economy and national security.
8. Analyze complex scenarios and provide answers as to how the issues should be resolved and why.

One consistent skill which you will need in any future career is that of effective writing and the ability to clearly communicate your thoughts. Therefore, you will be assigned discussion boards as well as writing assignments that evaluate your ability to write clearly. Your instructor will grade your assignments on technical skills such as clear organization, spelling and grammar usage, as well
as subjective assessment of whether or not you are able to think critically and analyze both sides of a legal or social issue.

**Grading Policies**
The grades are based on participation in the discussion boards, writing assignments, weekly assigned questions and the final exam/case brief. Each discussion is due the week of the module assigned and will not be accepted (or graded) after the module is complete. Writing assignments will be due on the due date or a 10 point deduction per day will result. Assigned questions will be due on assigned due date and will not be accepted late. The final exam is due no later than Friday of the 8th week of class. All Discussion and Written assignments will be graded in accordance to Border Security Writing Assignment and Discussion Rubrics.

Points to be given as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Assignments</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Date and Time of Final Exam**
The final exam is due no later than Friday on the 8th week of class.

**Letter Grade**
Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale.

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% and below</td>
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**Rubrics**

**Discussion Rubric**
Discussion forums will be graded using a standardized [Discussion Rubric](#). It is recommended that you be familiar with the grading criteria and keep them in mind as you complete the discussion assignments. Click the link to download the PDF document.

**Writing Assignment Rubric**
Writing assignments will be graded using a standardized [Writing Rubric](#). You should be familiar with these grading criteria and follow them as you complete your writing assignments.
Office Hours and/or hours of outside-of class contact
This is an online course, thus there are no set office hours. Refer to the Instructor Information section in the Blackboard course for details regarding the instructor's contact information.

Course Organization:
This is an eight (8) week course. As such, there is limited time to finish the assigned readings and associated projects. Please keep this in mind as you schedule your work. The assignments are completed in eight (8) modules. You should complete one module each week. Discussion questions are for subject matter each week thus late submissions will not be accepted as the class and instructor have moved on to the next weeks material.

The class will be organized in the following manner:

I. History (2 weeks)
II. Theory (4 weeks)
III. Application and Putting it all Together (1 week)

Lesson 1 will focus on the current system and the history that has led to its present structure. The readings will provide a general overview of the public policy and the current system of Immigration. Students will become familiar with the current structure of our immigration system and its' historical foundation.

Lesson 2: History of Immigration System-Alien Rights and State Laws
The readings will provide a general overview of the rights of aliens and states' legislation attempting to curtail such possible rights. Students will become familiar with alien rights in relation to education, employment, public benefits, and state laws.

Lesson 3: Immigration Theory-Basics and Admissibility
The readings of case law, briefs and the Immigration and Nationality Act codes (INA) will provide overview of “inadmissibility,” and exceptions to inadmissibility. Students will become familiar with what crimes and or illnesses hold Aliens attempting to enter the country, inadmissible and whether or not such conditions have exceptions or waivers to such inadmissible category.

Lesson 4: Theory-Getting Here, Immigrant Visa and Non Immigrant Visa.
The readings of case law and or briefs (including INA code) will provide overview of means of legal ingress to the U.S. Students will become familiar with most of the means to enter legal via a visa and will become learned in the difference between, an “immigrant” visa and a “non-immigrant” visa.
Lesson 5: Theory-Once Here, Applying for Adjustment of Status and Deportation/Removal.

The readings of case law and or briefs will provide overview of what options are available to Aliens once they are present in The United States. Students will become familiar with the importance of having been “admitted/inspected, and also with what conditions result in deportable category.

Lesson 6: Theory-Once Here, Deportation Defenses.

The readings of case law and or briefs will provide overview of what possible defenses aliens have to deportation/removal. Students will become familiar with the concepts of “asylum” and other defenses to deportation.

Lesson 7: Putting It All Together-A Brief.

The mini-lecture and briefing assignment will provide an overview on writing a brief. Students will become familiar with the format of a brief and be able to write one out.

Lesson 8: Study and Final Exam

There are no assignments or discussions. Students will use this time to prepare for final exam and to ask instructor any questions before final exam (legal hypothetical) is given.

Administration

Communication

Students are expected to participate regularly through the course discussion forum. Students may receive occasional emails from the course instructor and are expected to respond promptly. Asynchronous communication (i.e. face-to-face or "real-time" communication is not required for this course, however your professor is available for phone conversation, chat sessions, or video conferencing via Blackboard Collaborate during the published office hours, or during other times with prior arrangement.

Attendance

This is an online course and attendance is not taken. However, failure to participate in the discussion board, to communicate or respond to e-mails from the professor, is an indication something is wrong. Therefore, we have made both a significant component of the course grade as an enticement to keep you engaged in the learning process. Failure to participate or communicate on the part of a student will result in an appropriate reduction of your grade and possibly in your failure of this course.

Late Work

You must contact your professor before the assignment is due if you believe it will be late. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment.
**Incompletes**

The University policy on grades of "Incomplete" is that the deficiency in performance must be addressed satisfactorily by the end of the next long (16 week) semester or the grade automatically becomes a "F". Grades of "Incomplete" will only be awarded to students who have demonstrated sufficient progress to earn the opportunity to complete the course outside of the normal course duration. The award of an "Incomplete" will only be made in rare circumstances, with the concurrence of the student and the professor on what specific tasks remain and when they are due for the grade to be changed to a higher grade. The determination of the need to award an "Incomplete" is entirely up to the professor's personal judgment.

**Add/Drop dates**

Students may add this course up to the last Friday of the first week of class.

Students may drop this course up to the 6th day of the class or the last drop date as specified by the University Administration.

**University Policies**

**Academic Integrity**

Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the university Academic Honor Code and the ASU Student Handbook.

**Accommodations for Disability**

The Student Life Office is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting the Student Life Office at (325) 942-2191 or (325) 942-2126 (TDD/FAX) or by e-mail at Student.Life@angelo.edu to begin the process. The Student Life Office will establish the particular documentation requirements necessary for the various types of disabilities.

**Student absence for religious holidays**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.