



LARC Resources about Immigration

The LARC Lending Library has an extensive collection of educational materials for teacher and classroom use such as videos, slides, units, books, games, curriculum units, and maps. They are available for free short term loan to any instructor in the United States.

These materials can be found on the online searchable catalog:
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FILMS

America: The New Immigrants

The story of Asians, Latinos, and Africans, and the challenges they face in adapting to life in the US. Examines how immigrants are perceived in the communities in which they live, the question of reverse immigration, and historical perspective of immigration patterns to the US. The Christian Science Publishing Cooperation. 1991. English. 60 minutes.

Artistic Legacy of the Mexican Revolution

This program traces the 1910 Mexican Revolution's impact on Mexican American communities in the Southwest. This ten year civil war spawned a wave of immigration into the U.S. and gave rise to arts-related movements in mural painting, literature, and music. Displaced Mexican writers created the Mexican American community's first Spanish language newspaper and later gave rise to its first civil rights movement. The lasting impact of the revolution on Mexican American culture is discussed with historians, artists, and eye-witnesses to the changes the revolution created. 1999. English. 30 minutes.

Coming to America

The personal experiences of high school students who recently moved to the U.S. from El Salvador, Ethiopia, Korea, and Nicaragua. Includes commentary on immigration policies, political refugees, attitudes of foreign governments, cultural pluralism, and the American Dream. Current Issue Series, Close up Productions. 1989. English. 30 minutes.

Common Table: Central American Refugees and the Church Response

Hundreds of thousands of Central Americans, fleeing war and oppression in their own countries, have sought refuge in the U.S. Their chief defenders in this country have been the churches. This program shows the effort of churches to offer hospitality and the challenges of immigration authorities. Maryknoll World Films. 1987. English. 20 minutes

Dreams Ensnared

This documentary examines the situation of Dominican immigration into New York City. It details the economic pressures that led these immigrants, mostly women, to immigrate. This film sketches in the historical background and outlines contemporary economic issues facing emigrants from the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean nations. The Cinema Guild. 1994. English. 21 minutes.



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Immigration Policy in the U. S.

This program looks at the various waves of immigrants who came to the United States, considering why they came and how they reacted. It discusses the rationale for early immigration policy and describes how laws affected the ethnic composition of immigrant groups. Insight Media. 1992. English. 60 minutes.

Immigration Reform

Two immigration reform activists from opposite sides of the issue answer questions posed by an audience of high school students. The panelists address issues including the impact of immigrants on the US economy, the question of how to distinguish political and economic refugees, and whether the government should establish competency standards in English. Close up Productions. 1987. English. 60 minutes.

A Kiss to this Land

Exploring the personal and human aspects of Jewish immigration to Mexico, A KISS TO THIS LAND presents fragments of memories and oral histories together with vivid depiction of the historical period of the 1920s and 1930s. Those who participate in this documentary present a picture of diverse Jewish background, people who were propelled to leave their homes in search of a better way of life. Along the way there were many frustrations and obstacles until they were able not only to adapt but to learn to love this new land as their own. Directed by Daniel Goldberg. 1995. Spanish with English subtitles. 93 minutes.

La Misma Luna (Under the Same Moon)

Even across thousands of miles, the special bond between a mother and son can never be broken. It gives hope to Carlitos, a scrappy nine-year-old boy whose mother, Rosario, has gone to America to build a better life for both of them. While Rosario struggles for a brighter future, fate forces Carlitos' hand and he embarks on an extraordinary journey to find her. Critics and audiences alike have praised this inspirational and heartwarming take of a mother's devotion, a son's courage and a love that knows no borders. Spanish with English subtitles. 110 minutes.

Mojados: Through the night

Mojados: Through the Night is an eye-opening documentary filmed over the course of ten days that follows four men into the desperate world of illegal immigration. Alongside Bear, Tiger, Handsome, and Old Man, director Tommy Davis takes a 120 mile cross-desert journey that has been traveled innumerable times by nameless immigrants who - like these four young migrants from Michoacán, Mexico - all had the simple, American dream for a better future. Davis brings to life the often unheard hopes and stories of these migrants as their dehydrated days evading the U.S. Border Patrol turn into sub-zero nights filled with barbed wire, brutal storms and the ever-present confrontation with death that is reality for the tens of thousands of illegal immigrants who make a similar journey into the United States every year. 2004. Spanish with English subtitles. 70 minutes.

De Nadie (No One)

Prepare for the journey as an unknown, a nothing, no one. Prepare to leave everything from South and Central America behind and travel alone with a vague sense of direction and the echo of your family left in your ears. Prepare to face the same intimidation and corruptive danger in Mexico as you will eventually find 1,300 miles north, when you cross the United States-if you live through it. As rich nations sharpen their borders and differences, the poorest peoples continue to blur them in the search for liberties too universally held to be claimed by any flag. Through this burning hunger, we are drawn into *De Nadie*, and through its intimate lens and enduring crew, we find ourselves confronted with a story of immigration we only thought we understood. These personal stories force a deeper understanding of the United States border crisis, while exposing hypocrisies in a Mexican culture faced with equally uncomfortable



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intolerance of its own. All this from a film that doesn't take political stances; it merely brings us the voices of those affected, the results of which are far louder. Winner of the Audience Award, Sundance film Festival 2006. Best Feature Documentary, Mexican Academy Awards 2006. Directed by Tin Dirdamal. 2005. Spanish with English subtitles. 80 minutes.

El Norte (The North)

The story of two young Guatemalans who flee political unrest in their homeland, dreaming of a utopian life in the US. Danger follows them constantly as they join many who illegally enter and finally they face the frustration of the life of migrant workers. Directed by Gregory Nava. Starring Zayde Silva Gutierrez, David Villalpando. 1984. Guide included which provides detailed lesson plans for each 10 to 15 minute segment of the film—film Arobics, Inc. Spanish with English subtitles. 141 minutes.

Romantico

More than just a documentary dispatch from the illegal immigration frontlines, Mark Becker's *Romantico* evolves from a view of undocumented alien subculture to a deeply personal, "beautifully realized" (NY Post), subtly-hued, and bittersweet dramatic story of family, fatherhood, identity and survival. By day, Mariachi musician Carmelo Muñoz washes cars, but at night, he and his friend Arturo perform Norteño and Ranchero music for gringo tips in the taquerias and bars of San Francisco's Mission District. Carmelo's meager itinerant living belies the deep roots and binding ties he has to his native Mexico. His wife, two young daughters, and gravely ill mother rely on the money Carmelo sends them in the little town of Salvatierra. When Carmelo returns to the life and loved ones he left behind a thousand miles south of the border, he resumes the wearying struggle against medieval poverty that he sought to escape in "el Norte." As Carmelo doggedly copes with his mother's mortality, his daughters' needs, and his own dreams, *Romantico* becomes an unforgettable and "immensely moving" (NY Daily News) portrait of the love, pride, and grace connecting one life with two countries. By shooting on film instead of DV tape and trading overt political editorializing for enchantingly intimate and ingenious storytelling that is "visual poetry on the run" (Newsday), Becker has created a film that is as urgent as today's headlines and as timelessly lyrical and beautiful as the music, land, and faith that are Carmelo's joy and salvation. 2005. A film by Mark Becker. Spanish with English Subtitles. 2008.

MUSIC

Alien Hold onto your Dreams

Discusses ways in which undocumented workers are smuggled into the US. The interviews are with smugglers and the smuggled, community workers, immigration attorneys, and border patrol. Pacifica Radio Archive. English. 21 minutes.

PRINT RESOURCES

Illegal Aliens

Tracing the history of undocumented immigration to the U.S., this book explores the hardships endured by illegal aliens, their motives for immigrating, and recent efforts at immigration reform. From the Peoples of North America series. 1990. English. 127 pages.



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Mexican Americans

Portrays the past and present of Mexican-Americans. Discusses immigration, community-building, Mexican-Americans of accomplishment, and more. Junior and high school level. 1988. English. 89 pages.

Migration Policy Institute Resources for Educators

The Migration Policy Institute (MPI) is an independent, nonpartisan think tank in Washington, DC, dedicated to analysis of the movement of people worldwide. The booklet details resources that the MPI offers for journalists, policymakers and academics. It includes information on the Migration Policy Institute and Migration Information Source, Internships for Students, and Recent Publications on European Migration, US Borders and Security, Immigration Integration, and Refugees and Humanitarian Assistance. English. 20 pages.

Sylvia and Aki

A Commended title of the 2012 Américas Award. This is a remarkable story based on true events of Sylvia Mendez and Aki Munemitsu, two ordinary girls living in extraordinary times. When Sylvia and her brothers are not allowed to register at the same school Aki attended and are instead sent to a "Mexican" school, the stage is set for Sylvia's father to challenge in court the separation of races in California's schools. Ultimately, *Mendez vs. Westminster School District* led to the desegregation of California schools and helped build the case that would end school segregation nationally. Through extensive interviews with Sylvia and Aki - still good friends to this day - Winifred Conkling brings to life two stories of persistent courage in the face of tremendous odds. Winifred Conkling. 2011. English. 151 pages.

Under the Mesquite

An Honorable Mention of the 2012 Américas Book Award. Lupita, the oldest of eight siblings, is used to taking the lead - and staying busy behind the scenes to help keep everyone together. But when she discovers Mami has been diagnosed with cancer, Lupita is terrified by the possibility of losing her mother, the anchor of their close-knit Mexican-American family. Suddenly Lupita must face a whole new set of challenges, with new roles to play, and no one is handing her the script. In the midst of juggling high school classes, finding her voice as an actress, and dealing with friends who don't always understand, Lupita desperately wants to support Mami in whatever way she can. While Papi is preoccupied with caring for Mami, Lupita takes charge of her siblings. As Lupita struggles to keep the family afloat, she escapes the chaos at home by writing in the shade of a mesquite tree. Overwhelmed by change, she seeks refuge in the healing power of words. Told with honest emotion in evocative free verse, Lupita's journey is both heart-wrenching and hopeful. *Under the Mesquite* is an empowering story about the testing of family bonds, the strength of a teenage girl navigating pain and hardship with surprising resilience, and the kind of love that cannot be uprooted. Guadalupe Garcia McCall 2011. English. 224 pages.

CURRICULUM UNITS

Border Crossing: A Look at Migration through Music and Video

This unit comes from a Teacher's Workshop on immigration in Latin America and focuses on the migration of communities as witnessed through music and film. The unit includes information on music and culture in the Americas and the current immigration debate. English.



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Jewish Latin America

This curriculum contains the presentations and documents associated with the K-12 teacher workshop, Jewish Latin America, which was held at Tulane University on January 14, 2012. The workshop explored the diversity of the Latin American experience by looking at the impact of Jewish immigrants on the social, economic, political, and especially, the intellectual and cultural life of Latin America. Participants received resources and lesson ideas for working into their classroom to address the following issues: the role of Jews in the formation of Latin American countries, acknowledging their presence and participation in the very enterprise of colonization; the participation of crypto-Jews in the economy and society of colonial Latin America; Latin American historians' treatment of the relationship between crypto-Jews and the Inquisition; the connections established by Latin American Jewish authors between a Jewish past of expulsion and Inquisition and a Latin American present of immigration and military dictatorships; and how Jewish cultural production is woven into the fabric of national culture in Latin America. Also available for free download on the LARC website:

<http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/pages/detail/202/Curriculum-Units-Online-Media-Resources>