Case Study #2: Buddhism and Immigration Reform

Read the sections on Buddhism in our text, the electronic essays provided on Buddhism, and the attached articles from The White House, ABC News and the thought piece from Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University. Once you have gotten sufficient background, answer the following questions.

The completed assignment should be three pages long, using one inch margins, 12 pt. fonts and single spacing. This study is worth a total of 105 points. Your completed assignment is due on the 26th of November.

Please refer to the revised grading rubrics at the end of this assignment and to the general suggestions attached to the first assignment!

Answer the following questions thoughtfully and as completely as space allows:

1. What further research information would assist you in formulating a response to the issues surrounding immigration reform? Pose in question form. This should be a bulleted list. For this assignment, you do not have to do the research but you need to raise the kind of questions that would drive such a project. These should be research questions and as such should be concrete and answerable. Think about facts and data that, if known might help determine how one should or could respond to the issues identified. (20 points)

2. Briefly explain the Buddhist concept of causality in terms of pratitya samutpada/interdependent arising. (15 pts.)

3. How would a Buddhist argue that this complex web of causality affects the responsibility of the currently legal United States citizens in resolving the issue of immigration? (30 pts.) Defend your answer. Be sure to consider how (ordinary citizens including yourself) or generally accepted social practices might further complicate or contribute to immigration issues.

3b. Provide & cite a supporting quote from a primary Buddhist text to support your answer. (5 pts.)

4. Given what you’ve discussed above and thinking about pratitya samutpada, the importance of karuna/compassion and the concept of sangha/community, evaluate from a Buddhist standpoint the proposal for immigration reform that has been proposed by the White House and passed by the Senate. Defend your answer. In developing your answer, you may also make reference to the outline of various alternatives articulated by the Watson Institute of Brown University that is attached. (30 pts.)

4b. Provide & cite a supporting quote from a primary Buddhist text to support your answer. (5 pts.)
Immigration

America’s immigration system is broken. Too many employers game the system by hiring undocumented workers and there are 11 million people living in the shadows. Neither is good for the economy or the country.

Together we can build a fair, effective and common sense immigration system that lives up to our heritage as a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants.

The President’s plan builds a smart, effective immigration system that continues efforts to secure our borders and cracks down on employers who hire undocumented immigrants. It’s a plan that requires anyone who’s undocumented to get right with the law by paying their taxes and a penalty, learning English, and undergoing background checks before they can be eligible to earn citizenship. It requires every business and every worker to play by the same set of rules.

There are four principles to the President’s common sense proposal:

CONTINUING TO STRENGTHEN BORDER SECURITY
The President’s proposal gives law enforcement the tools they need to make our communities safer from crime, enhances our infrastructure and technology, and strengthens our ability to remove criminals and apprehend and prosecute threats to our national security.

STREAMLINING LEGAL IMMIGRATION
Legal immigration should be simple and efficient. The President’s proposal provides visas to foreign entrepreneurs looking to start businesses here, helps the most promising foreign graduate students in science and math stay in this country after graduation, and reunites families in a timely and humane manner.

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1 [http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/immigration](http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/immigration)
EARNED CITIZENSHIP

The President’s proposal provides undocumented immigrants with a legal way to earn citizenship so they can come out of the shadows. It holds them accountable by requiring they pass background checks, pay taxes and a penalty, go to the back of the line, and learn English. It requires everyone to play by the same rules.

CRACKING DOWN ON EMPLOYERS HIRING UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS

The President’s proposal is designed to stop businesses from exploiting the system by knowingly hiring undocumented workers. It holds these companies accountable, and gives employers who want to play by the rules a reliable way to verify that their employees are here legally.

To learn more about the President’s efforts to advance immigration reform, read the Immigration Blueprint [PDF].
President Obama Rallies Supporters of Immigration Reform

President says the current bill before Congress resembles one originally proposed by George W. Bush.

24:13 | 10/24/2013

Transcript for President Obama Rallies Supporters of Immigration Reform

Go to the link below to listen to the President’s speech and commentary which followed – below is the automatically generated transcript:

This is a special room. Good morning I’m Ti Hernandez in New York with an ABC news digital special report. Immigration battle heating up again today in the nation's capital President Obama turning his attention from the obamacare web -- debacle.

To another top issue of his presidency immigration reform. President about to give -- speech and we have ABC's Jim obelisk standing by live. At the white house with more Jim what we expect the president -- saying his address.

-- this is a very. Almost -- in the east room is right about here -- few minutes. What is -- the two minute warning nearly getting ready room he's -- his supporters here to hear another prodding congress to move on immigration.

This is sort of a ceremony type of event. The president expected to give a speech telling -- supporters why he believes that comprehensive immigration reform. Should be acted on by the congress immediately.

It is to give it kind of a state of play right now time. Here's what's happening in congress the senate of course has passed the comfort and -- of immigration reform bill an -- on. To the house the house run by the Republicans -- so they're not gonna consider that comprehensive bill -- Instead with -- doing.

His they've kind of divided up all the little issues and they plan on voting on -- -- But the problem is that they at this point do not have a bill in front of them the talks about a pathway to citizenship which of course is sort of the the -- the most important part. For President Obama and for the supporters of comprehensive immigration reform so -- at an impasse is what's happening now. Is the president is trying to turn the attention.

But the country back on this issue after the shutdown after the problems with the obamacare he wants to get this part of the agenda up -- front center. Seems like a herculean task -- terms that get and it Republicans on board. What is the administration saying their chances are.

Well they believe that they do have a chance to -- and here's the reason why comprehensive immigration reform. Is in fact broadly supported. In the country.

And not just by Latino groups Hispanic groups but in this room alone. -- -- behind comprehensive immigration reform. -- members of labor.

Business. Liberal and conservative in fact conservative churches. Have come out in favor of comprehensive immigration reform.

Everybody has their own reasons labor of course. Is behind comprehensive immigration reform. Because.

2 http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/video/president-obama-immigration-reform-speech-obama-rallies-supporters-20671021
They want the more jobs. And they hope to unionize some people. Also a big business and and small business want to make it easier to bring in labor from Mexico.

To handle some of the jobs that that many here in this country don't want to hand. Very physical jobs. Such as in the fields or carpentry.

Those type of construction jobs so there -- so -- support from both sides. Evangelicals. Are now in favor of comprehensive immigration reform.

And that's the changing position from from conservatives. From -- from before and the reason why they -- is because their churches. Are growing largely.

Through Hispanics -- -- that's who are going to their church is now. Of course the Catholic Church has long been in favor of comprehensive immigration reform so there is support among the -- there's still a problem. In the house.

Four. 200 congress people. Who do not have large numbers of minorities in their districts because of the way the districts have been forward in the in the house.

And so that's where the problem it's. That nagging you talked about the house wanting to sort of take on these issues and and morbid piecemeal approach than in one solid bill. Is the Obama administration open to that.

No they're not they want a comprehensive immigration reform bill and what they're hoping will happen is that the house will indeed. Passed some of these individual bills and their effect is. Right now being drafted a a bill which would an individual bill which would it would create a difficult long fifteen year path to citizenship.

That is being drafted in the house that -- with the White House is hoping and with supporters of immigration reform hoping. Is that those individual bills will be passed in the house. Then we'll be sent to what's called a conference committee and this -- -- long -- but that's where.

Members of the house and the senate get together and -- in a room and they hammer out the differences between their two packages. In and out of that conference. Would come.

01 comprehensive immigration reform bill which would have. Parts of both what happened in the house what happened in the senate. And that bill would then be voted on in both the senate and house and that finished bill comprehensive immigration reform bill would get to them.

Would get to the president for signing but it would have to include. Many of the things that are in the senate in order for the president to sign the president has said he won't sign an an individual border security bill without. Another president is coming into the room and local.

Thank you very much -- police have cedar -- Good morning. And welcome to the White House. Today I'm here -- leaders from business from labor.

From faith communities. Who are united around one goal. Finishing the job -- fixing a broken.

Immigration system. This -- not just an idea whose time has come this is an idea whose time has been around for. Years now.

Leaders like all of you have worked together -- -- Republicans and Democrats in this town in good faith. For years to try to get this not and this is the moment when we should be able to finally get the job. That's no secret that the American people haven't.

Seen. Much shuttle washing them a bit like these days. The shut down.

And the threat of the first default. In more than 200 years inflicted real pain on our businesses. And on families across the country and it was a completely unnecessary self inflicted wound would -- -- to real people.

And it can never happen again. But even with the -- over. And the threat of default eliminated.

Democrats and Republicans still have some really big disagreements there are some just fundamentally. Different views about. How we should move forward on certain issues.

On the other hand as I said today after the shutdown ended. That's no reason that we should be able to work together on the things that we do -- Which -- don't work together. On a responsible budget that
invests in the things that we need to grow our economy and create jobs even while we maintain fiscal discipline.

We should be El -- farm bill that helps rural communities growing protects vulnerable Americans in hard times. And we should pass immigration reform. It's good for our economy.

It's good -- our national security. It's good for our people. And we should do -- this year.

Everybody knows that our current immigration system is broken. Across the political spectrum people understand that. We notable for years.

It's not Smart to invite some of the brightest. Minds from around the world to study here. And then not. Let them start businesses here we send them back to their home countries to start businesses and create jobs. And invent new products someplace else. It's not fair to businesses.

And middle class families who play by the rules. When we allow companies that are trying to undercut the rules. Work in the shadow economy.

To hire folks at. Lower wages -- no benefits. -- over time.

So that somehow they get a competitive edge for breaking the rules that doesn't make sense. It doesn't make sense to have eleven million people. Who are in this country.

Illegal. Without any of the senate. Or any way for them to come out of the shadows.

Get right with the -- Meet their responsibilities. And permit their families -- to move ahead. It's not Smart its not fair.

It doesn't make sense. -- kicked this particular can down the road for too long. Not the good -- this year the senate has already passed.

An immigration reform bill by a wide bipartisan as the majority. That addressed all of these issues. It's a bill that would continue to strengthen our borders.

It would level the playing field by holding unscrupulous employers accountable. If they knowingly hire undocumented workers. You would modernize our legal immigration system.

So -- even as we train American workers for the jobs of the future were also attracting highly skilled. -- north from beyond our borders to join with us to -- -- jobs here in the United States. It would make sure that everybody plays by the same rules by providing a pathway to earned citizenship.

For those were here illegally. One that includes passing a background check learning English paying taxes. Paying a penalty.

Getting in line behind everyone. Who is trying to come -- the right way. So it had all the component parts of -- have everything.

I want to do and have -- -- everything that anybody want but it addressed the court challenges. Of how we create -- immigration system. That is fair.

It's just that is true to our traditions as a nation of laws and a nation reports. And that's passed the senate by a bi partisan majority. Saw.

Here's what we also know. That the bill would grow the economy and shrink our deficits. Independent economists.

Have shown that if the senate bill became law over the next two decades. Our economy would grow by one point four trillion dollars. More than that it would if we don't pass the -- It would reduce our deficits by nearly a trillion dollars.

This is just the right thing to do it's the Smart thing to do. Securing our borders modernizing our legal immigration system providing a pathway to earned legalized citizenship. -- our economy.

Strengthening our middle class reducing our deficits that's what common sense immigration reform will do. Obviously just because something is Smart and fair good for the economy and fiscally responsible and supported by business and labor. The evangelical community and many Democrats and many Republicans.

That does not mean that it will actually get done. This -- Washington after all. So so everything tends to be viewed through -- political prism.
In her ways been looking of the politics of race and I know that there are some folks in this town are -- to think well Obama sport that I'm against. But you know -- remind everybody that my Republican predecessor. Was also four.

When he proposed reforms like this almost a decade ago. And I joined with -- point three senate Republicans. Backed meant to support that reform.

I'd remind you that this reform one more than a dozen Republican votes in the senate in June. I'm not running for office again. I just believe is the right thing to do.

And I also believe the good policy is good politics in this instance. And -- folks are relieved that consumed with the politics of fixing our broken immigration system they should look what -- closer look at the polls.

Because.

The American people support this. It's not something they -- -- they support it. Everybody wins here we work together to get this done.

In fact if there's good reason not to pass this common sense reform I haven't heard. So anyone still standing in the way of this bipartisan reform should -- to explain why. A clear majority of the American people think it's the right thing to do.

How to -- how -- we move forward Democrats. Democratic leaders. Have introduced a bill in the house. That is similar to the bipartisan senate. So now it's up to Republicans in the house to decide whether reform becomes a reality or not. I do know when this is good news that many of them agree that we need to fix our broken.

Immigration system across these areas that we just discussed. And what I've said to them and I'll repeat today is if house Republicans have. New and different additional ideas for how we should move forward.

Now we want to hear. I'll be listening. I know the Democrats and Republicans in the -- those who voted for immigration reform already are eager to hear.

Those additional ideas. What we can't do is just sweep. The problem under the rug -- one more time leave -- for somebody else to solve sometime in the future.

You know rather than create problems let's prove. Through the American people to Washington actually solves some problems. This reform comes as close to anything we've got.

To a -- that will benefit. Everybody now and far into the future. So let's see if we can get this done.

And let's see if we get it done this year. -- the. We've we've got the time.

To do what. Republicans in the house including the speaker. Had said we should act.

So let's not wait. It doesn't get easier. To just put -- -- let's do it now let's not delay.

Let's get this done and let's do it in a bipartisan fashion. To those who vote -- are here today. -- wanted to say one last thing and that is thank you.

I want to thank you for persistence. Want to thank you for your activism. One thank you for your passion and your heart.

When it comes to decision. And Alitalia if you gotta keep it up. -- when the pressure on all of us to get this done.

They're going to be moments and they're always moments like this and in big efforts at reform. Where. You meet resistance.

And it's the press will declare something dead. It's not gonna happen. But.

That can be overcome. And -- to Sergio as I look out of this room these don't look like people who -- easily deterred. They don't look like hopefully going to give up.

Look fired -- to make the next book and -- Republican. Or Democrat. Or an independent.

I want you to keep working and I'm gonna be right next to -- to make sure we get immigration reform done it is time. Let's go get -- god thank you very much. They have President Obama sounding out on immigration reform on these -- for.

Getting the bill that has passed through the senate half in some way shape or form through the house and happy he -- Jordan Fabian with reaction to this speech Jordan. Something like the president said
anything new but what's your take away. Well he did go through the talking points he's used all -- and immigration reform.

But was interesting to me was sort of the politics. Of the issue he said and now it's up to Republicans in the house to pass an immigration reform so if this doesn't get done. Obama is clearly you sort of laying blame at the feet of the Republicans in the house.

For stalling this issue making that very clear. To voters in particular lets you know voters who helped him when the White House back -- points while. All right and let's also bring an ABC's Jim novelist who was sitting in the -- as the president made his speech in your take away.

Well I think -- this was all about this was a pep rally as you can see these -- the supporters of the people who want immigration reform. What the president is trying to do is as you -- get them pumped up and ready to turn their attention again. I'm putting pressure on congress so the president frequently does this kind of thing -- especially when.

He's not getting his way in congress he goes around them over their heads and tries to get. The grass roots movement that he built during his election campaigns. To get on board and that's what's going on now.

He is trying to rally them trying to get -- to put pressure and it is as we talked about it very broad broad. Coalition. Who does support who do support.

Comprehensive immigration reform from labor. To business churches. He's an end and across all parties so this is not name but the White House believes it is this is not something that should be -- Bi partisan battle like the shutdown was.

There are Republicans who want to do on the conference immigration reform. The president needs at this point to link with the and to get them to move forward and that's what apparently is an attempt to you do. At the same time Jordan we've -- Republicans walk away from the shut down feeling is if they didn't get anything -- given all the political capital that they spent on that battle aren't they in a position to want to negotiate now after that.

What some are calling defeat. All the signals we're hearing from Republicans in congress is that they're very reluctant to negotiate with President Obama over immigration reform. We've had a several members come out and say there's a lack of trust between.

Republicans in congress in the White House and that's -- really. Squander any chance remaining this year to get immigration reform done. And we heard President Obama address those fears of Republicans during his speech today when he said.

Look I'm not running for office again I just want to get this time try to extend an olive branch to the Republican Party to try to accomplish this bill by the end of this year. And we see that it -- the calling to serve a pep rally the president preaching to the choir here trying to. Exert pressure in terms of pushing public support for this issue but we -- that tactic failed time and again with the president specifically on gun control.

-- why does the White House feel as if this is gonna work this time around. Well I think. They feel that there is a better chance four form because of everything that -- Jim mentioned in particular the broad support from your Republican lawmakers.

Is this and labor groups religious groups this is really the only issue that on paper really has bipartisan support the only major issue left. -- president Obama's agenda and there was momentum earlier this year and they're hoping that they can recapture that if they can restore some the energy that was. Are behind the reform movement back during the summer.

And yet you still have some Republicans calling. The path to citizenship amnesty. For lawbreakers still a lot of resistance at least among some Republicans -- house.

Absolutely and that's going to be one of the major obstacles to getting this done. House speaker John Boehner has said he won't bring any measure before the house without a majority support. Of Republicans in his conference and bill with a path to citizenship.

Doesn't appear it has that so if this is gonna happen -- might need to. Break that break that promise in and use Democrats. To try to get this done for the good of his party.
All right the president mentioning some statistics eleven million illegal immigrant immigrants -- no path to citizenship right now living in the quote unquote shadows. He also talked about. This bill not just being four.

Those immigrants that we think about that people who come to this country on visas to study but then have to leave and can't share what they've learned it's. By remaining in this country to work beyond -- -- going to school. Of course and that's why -- business groups support this bill so much is because.

It expands the number of visas available for workers both which you know lower -- workers who -- gonna perform. In a manual labor but also high -- workers who can -- work in the tech sector Mark Zuckerberg the founder FaceBook is a major proponent of immigration reform. Just for that reason so that's something we don't we hear about too often but it's a major can be -- component of the bill to pass out the senate.

Pressure is there on the president to get this done there are a lot of groups that backed him specifically because of his promise to pass immigration reform. How are they sounding off right now. Well I think some of the skeptics say.

Look there's not a lot of pressure on President Obama here it's a win win for him. If this you know this passes he's a hero facility -- community but if it fails Democrats can use it as a political issue in future elections. But I think that if you look in that Hispanic media in the way this issue is portrayed.

President Obama gets a lot of heat for the amount of immigrants who've been deported during his presidency and maybe he doesn't want to leave office with that stain on his record. Among Latino voters to get -- vote deferment two consecutive presidential election so. I think part of him said part of him believes that yet there is a lot of -- for him here in getting this done.

Tried to bottom line going forward we have the house which is passed comprehensive version of an immigration reform bill the house saying they'd rather. Take these bills -- Parton and passed them piecemeal. Where do we stand right now is there any action in the near future that we can mention.

Well we are hearing some reports that Republicans are working on -- bill in the house. To provide legal status to undocumented immigrants now. The shape and form of that legal status is sort of yet to be determined.

This transcript has been automatically generated and may not be 100% accurate.
Since the first European settlers set foot in North America, immigration has suffused the American experience. Indeed, many of the values that unite Americans as a nation are tied to immigration. Immigration has not only framed our vision of the U.S. role in the world, but has seeped into our view of human nature. Ralph Waldo Emerson, for example, saw in immigration a phenomenon that “will construct a new race, a new religion, a new state, a new literature” in the United States. The idealism surrounding immigration explains in large part the deep feelings it evokes in the public policy arena. These sentiments have jostled with concerns about the economy, ethnic relations, social services, the environment, and other issues. In recent years, the debate over immigration has expanded to incorporate a broad range of foreign policy issues. The discussion now features arguments on U.S. relations with Latin America, human rights, international trade, the worldwide refugee crisis, and our national security.

As Congressional representatives debate proposals for reform of current immigration law, it is important for Americans to understand these issues within the wider context of our long-term goals for immigration policy. Current proposals focus primarily on ways to resolve issues related to border control, undocumented workers, and law enforcement. The proposed legislative policies raise additional questions about human rights, the economy, the environment, security, and other issues.

What follows are four policy “Options” that frame this question. They are designed to help you think about a range of possible policy directions and the ramifications of each. The four options are put in stark terms to highlight very different approaches. Each option includes some policies, lessons from history, and underlying beliefs. Each also includes a set of criticisms designed to help you think carefully about the trade-offs involved. It is important to understand that the options here do not reflect the views of any one political party or organization. It is your job to sort through the four options presented, deliberate with your peers on the strengths and challenges of each, think about your own concerns and values, and then frame an “Option 5” that reflects your views.

**Option 1: Open Ourselves to the World**

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the forces of globalization are rapidly creating a new world. International trade is steadily expanding, while national borders are losing their significance. People, ideas, and goods traverse the globe at an ever-accelerating pace. In the world of the future, the United States will stand out as a shining example. While rigid nationalism continues to hold back many countries, Americans can take pride in a heritage that promotes openness, tolerance, and diversity. Compared to our chief economic rivals in Japan and Western Europe, the United States is poised to compete in the international marketplace. American movies, music, fashion, and brand names are attractive to people throughout the world because they symbolize a culture that embraces and celebrates many cultures. Immigration puts our country in touch with the tastes and preferences of consumers worldwide, and gives U.S. companies an edge in opening export markets. From its earliest days, the United States has been a land of opportunity for people outside our borders. Each wave of immigrants has contributed to the United States’ greatness and enriched our society. Today, immigrants are still coming. This latest generation of immigrants contains the best and brightest from a rich variety of cultures and regions. Even those lacking a formal education are driven by a strong sense of initiative and an unshakable work ethic. They have come because they believe the United States is the land of opportunity. They recognize that the United States rewards hard work and ability like no other country in the world. In the end, the talents, ambitions, and dreams they bring will benefit all Americans. Keeping our doors open lets the world know that the United States remains a country that looks forward to tomorrow.

**What policies should we pursue?**

- Remove bureaucratic obstacles in the immigration process that keep family members apart.
- Allow people worldwide with a legitimate fear of persecution the full protection of U.S. refugee
and asylum laws.
• Adjust immigration laws to permit greater immigration from countries such as China and Mexico that have been the victims of unfair restrictions in the past.
• Provide immigrants with more opportunities, job training, and English-language instruction to speed their adjustment to American life.
• Ensure that everyone in the United States, including illegal immigrants, has access to education, basic health care, and other essential services.

Option 1 is based on the following beliefs
• America is still a young, vigorous country with room to grow.
• America’s strength lies in its diversity, particularly in the fresh ideas and cultures provided by new immigrants.
• Immigration does not unduly threaten our national security.

Arguments for
• Welcoming new immigrants into our country will inject valuable skills into the U.S. economy and enable American culture to maintain the rich diversity that appeals to consumers the world over.
• Renewing the United States’ long tradition of offering opportunity and refuge for immigrants will earn the United States respect and admiration from people throughout the world.
• Immigrants will take advantage of their ties to their native countries to open up new export markets for American products.

Arguments against
• If immigration continues at its current pace, more than fifty million newcomers will flood into the United States in the next half century, overloading our schools, hospitals, and other social services.
• An open immigration policy will inevitably make it easier for would-be terrorists to enter the country undetected.
• High levels of immigration will deprive American workers of jobs while forcing government to spend more on the needs of immigrants.
• Encouraging highly skilled workers to immigrate to the United States robs poor countries of their most valuable human resources.
• Opening our doors to unskilled immigrants at a time when the U.S. economy offers them few opportunities will only add to our society’s problems.
• High levels of immigration will push our country’s population past tolerable limits and inflict still more harm on our country’s environment.
• The continual arrival of large numbers of immigrants, both legal and illegal, will eventually overwhelm American culture and contribute to the fragmentation of our society.

Option 2: Make Emigration Unnecessary

As the new century unfolds, the world is on the move. The population explosion in poor countries, the spread of war and terror, and the age-old curses of hunger and disease are driving increasing numbers to our shores. Emigration from the developing world is at an all time high, and the United States is the destination for the largest percentage of these emigrants. Opening our doors to large-scale immigration resolves no one’s problems. Admitting huge numbers of newcomers into the United States every year not only overburdens our schools and health care system, it drains poor countries of many of their most educated, highly skilled workers. This “brain drain” only adds to the challenge in poor countries of meeting the needs of their own populations. We are a strong country, but we cannot continue to absorb new immigrants into this country at this breakneck pace and without compromising our own economy and social structure. Nonetheless, both for practical and for humanitarian reasons we cannot fence ourselves off from poverty and suffering outside of our borders. As the strongest economic power on earth and the most sought destination of the world’s poor, the burden of international leadership on
this issue rests with the United States. We should join with the international community to provide the development assistance necessary to stabilize the migration of the world’s poor. We should also explore ways to create incentives for the best and brightest in the developing world to stay where they are and contribute their skills to improve conditions in their own countries. By improving life among the world’s poor and disadvantaged, we can get a grip on the forces that drive desperate immigrants to our country’s shores. Ultimately, we will all be better off.

**What policies should we pursue?**

- Expand foreign aid and trade benefits to help governments in the developing world to strengthen their economies and reduce the flow of immigration to the United States.
- Join other developed countries to coordinate the resettlement of existing refugees and prevent future refugee crises.
- Apply consistent, humane standards in granting political asylum to refugees, rather than mold refugee policy to suit political purposes.
- Reduce the number of immigration visas awarded annually to 600,000, including refugees.

**Option 2 is based on the following beliefs**

In today’s interconnected world, we must accept that the problems affecting other countries are America’s problems as well.

- By developing well-crafted programs of foreign aid and trade benefits, the United States can help people in poor countries improve their lives.
- While we have an obligation to reduce suffering wherever possible, we have a primary responsibility to the well-being of those here at home.

**Arguments for**

- Expanding foreign aid programs and trade benefits for the developing world will reduce the drain of highly skilled workers from poor countries and also reduce the anger that fuels terrorism.
- Developing refugee policies that are consistent and humane will bolster the U.S. image throughout the world.
- Reducing the level of immigration to the United States will reduce the drain on our social service resources and allow us to better monitor those who come.

**Arguments against**

- Dumping money into new foreign aid programs will come at the expense of addressing other, more pressing needs.
- Closing our doors to immigrants will increase resentment of the United States.
- Awarding immigration visas on the basis of humanitarian concerns, rather than economic priorities, will not significantly lower U.S. spending on social services for newcomers.
- As past failures show, U.S. assistance cannot overcome the crippling poverty and social chaos plaguing much of the developing world.
- Without high levels of immigration, the United States will lack the talent and energy to strengthen our country and address future problems.
- No matter what we do, people will always want to come to the United States.

**Option 3: Admit the Talent We Need**

Economic competition among nations in the twenty-first century is set to reach new levels of intensity. In today’s world, the United States must be prepared to compete in an increasingly demanding global marketplace and adapt to the relentless pace of technological change. In the last few years, our country’s economy has been going through a wrenching readjustment. Businesses are cutting jobs. Government programs are being trimmed. Workers are being forced to do more with less. While our economy has emerged from the trials of downsizing leaner and stronger, the economic recession that has hit in the first years of the new century is taking a toll. We must make sure that our country’s immigration policy is in line with our economic
priorities. After calling on working Americans to tighten their belts, we owe them nothing less. Every country has the right to promote its national interests. The United States should be no different. We cannot afford to admit into our country every year hundreds of thousands of newcomers who will be a burden on our society. Immigration policy should be designed first to serve our country’s economic needs, not to solve the world’s problems. A two-pronged approach makes the most sense. To spur American high-tech industries forward, our doors should be open to scientists and engineers from abroad. To help American factories, farms, and service industries hold down costs, we should allow a limited number of foreigners to work temporarily in low-wage jobs. By forging ahead with a realistic, far-sighted strategy, we can make immigration policy work for the United States.

What policies should we pursue?
• Award two hundred thousand immigration visas annually for skilled workers and their families, making the advancement of science and technology the top priority in guiding immigration policy.
• Reduce total annual immigration to five hundred thousand, including refugees, making adjustments to reflect economic conditions. (During an economic downturn, the number of immigration visas should be decreased, while during an economic expansion the number should be increased.)
• Allow a limited number of foreigners to work temporarily in the United States in agriculture and other industries facing labor shortages.
• Offer scholarships to foreign graduate students in science, engineering, and other high-tech fields, provided they will work in the United States for at least five years.
• Deny education, health care, and other social services to illegal aliens, except in cases of emergency.

Option 3 is based on the following beliefs
• Maintaining our economy’s competitive edge is essential to the well-being of Americans.
• Promoting America’s economic strength should be the guiding principle underlying our country’s immigration policy.
• Skilled, well-educated immigrants are most capable of contributing to the betterment of the United States.

Arguments for
• Admitting highly skilled immigrants who are well-suited to the demands of the U.S. economy will help hold down government costs for welfare, health care, and other social services.
• Tailoring U.S. immigration policy to the needs of our economy will attract immigrants who have the most to offer to American industry, especially in high-tech fields.
• Permitting the entry of temporary foreign workers into the labor force will help low-wage industries remain in the United States while competing in the global market.

U.S. Immigration Policy: What should we do?

Arguments against
• Limiting immigration to the well-educated discriminates against worthy applicants who have been deprived of an opportunity to educate themselves.
• Pursuing an immigration policy that overlooks the concerns of other countries will damage U.S. foreign relations, especially with our neighbors to the south.
• Drawing the best and brightest skilled workers from poor countries will undercut economic development in much of the world and harm international stability.
• Admitting foreigners as temporary workers and denying social services to illegal aliens will create a group of second-class citizens with few rights and little stake in American society.
• Reducing the number of immigration visas available for family reunification will leave many close relatives apart.
• Assisting foreign graduate students in science and engineering will deprive Americans of jobs and educational opportunities, and leave many of our most important high-tech industries dominated by foreign-born workers.
Option 4: Restrict Immigration

The world is changing at a breakneck pace. The population explosion, war, terror, hunger, and disease plague an ever-growing portion of humanity. The United States is a strong country, but it cannot solve the world’s problems. As the planet’s population soars from six billion today to an estimated ten billion by the year 2050, we must recognize that Americans can do little to end the misery that haunts much of the world. On the contrary, the forces of economic change have left millions of Americans struggling to keep up. Many of us are working longer hours than ever just to make ends meet. Schools are overcrowded and underfunded, while health care costs have skyrocketed. Simply maintaining our way of life amounts to a major challenge.

The arguments supporting massive immigration in the United States have long since passed into history. At a time when our country is trimming back social services for our own citizens, we can hardly afford to keep the door open every year to roughly one million newcomers from poor nations. The world’s disadvantaged people cannot be blamed for wanting to enter the United States. Many of them lead lives of desperation and hopelessness. But the United States has already given enough. For decades, we have accepted more immigrants than all the other countries of the world combined. Now it is time to say stop. We have the right to preserve the uniquely American culture that has been created over the past two centuries. We have a duty to stop the senseless influx of unskilled immigrants that holds down wages for struggling American workers. We should drastically reduce the number of immigrants we accept and commit the resources necessary to take control of our borders. The threat of runaway change must be brought under control.

What policies should we pursue?

• Reduce the number of immigration visas awarded annually to the level set in 1965—two hundred ninety thousand—including refugees.
• Strengthen border control by tripling the number of Border Patrol agents, constructing impassable barriers at major crossing points along the U.S.-Mexican border, and swiftly deporting foreigners who overstay their visas.
• Introduce a national identity card that all workers would be required to present when applying for employment and social services.
• Pressure the governments of the Caribbean to take steps to prevent mass movements of refugees to the United States.
• Insist that those seeking political asylum apply at U.S. embassies in foreign countries.
• End the policy of granting automatic citizenship to the children of foreigners born in the United States.

Option 4 is based on the following beliefs

• The United States is one of the few islands of stability and prosperity in a world marked largely by poverty and desperation.
• Continued high levels of immigration would overwhelm America’s unique culture.
• High levels of immigration deprive America’s poor of opportunities for economic advancement.

Arguments for

• Reducing immigration will allow the United States to hold down spending for education, health care, and other social services.
• Restoring firm control over our borders will help us reduce the flow of drugs into the United States and strengthen our defenses against international terrorism.
• Lowering the number of newcomers entering the U.S. labor market will make more jobs available for American workers, especially those with few skills.

Arguments against

• Fencing off our neighbors to the south and restricting immigration from abroad will fuel anti-American sentiment throughout the world, and harm relations with many of our leading trading partners.
• Closing the door on new immigrants will deprive the American work force of skills, talent, and ambition.
• Introducing a national identity card will make foreign-born Americans a target for suspicion and discrimination.
• Drastically reducing immigration will create a society that lacks a solid understanding of the world beyond our borders.
• Without young immigrants entering the country, American workers will face a heavy burden in supporting the steadily increasing elderly population.
• Severely cutting back immigration will leave many recently arrived Americans separated from close family members in their native lands.

Keep scrolling down for specific rubrics
Standards (Rubrics) for Grading Case Study #2

The excellent paper (100-90% of points) will exhibit the following qualities:

Question 1:
- All items are listed as normatively neutral questions. No immediate bias is evidenced.
- All critical questions have been raised given the space allowed.
- Questions are relevant to the case and would be likely to be relevant to the philosophers/theories being applied to the case in the third section.
- Questions are likely to drive effective and informative research. The questions should be answerable (at least in terms of probabilities or projections backed up with historical data).
- Questions are not phrased in terms of what will happen or should happen but what has happened; remember one cannot gather data from events that have yet to occur.
- Questions are grammatically correct and are presented in a bulleted list.

Question 2:
- Theory is explained clearly and as thoroughly as possible given the space allowed.
- Language used is not derivative of the texts, power-points or lectures.
- Response is focused on the question and no irrelevant information is provided.
- Response is texturally correct and consistent with the theory.

Question 3 and 4:
- A clear thesis statement is made at the beginning of the response.
- Responses are sufficiently detailed and focused on the questions raised.
- Responses are consistent with the philosopher referenced.
- Sufficient detail from the philosopher’s theory is provided.
- Responses reflect careful and detailed consideration of background material provided.
- Responses are balanced and include possible counter-considerations. Facile responses have been avoided.
- Responses are well supported with relevant reasons.
- No immediate personal bias is evidenced.

Quotes in 3b and 4b:
- Quote is from philosopher’s primary work & is cited properly.
- Quote is specifically relevant to the issue and is not too general.
- Length of quote is short and appropriate to the assignment.
- Quote supports the position maintained by the author in the previous section.

Overall Impressions:
- Study presents evidence of a thoughtful and deliberative approach.
• Language is clear and explanations/arguments are original
• Effective use has been made of space allowed – with length of responses proportionate to the number of points for each question.
• Assignment format has been followed.

The Good Paper (89-80% points)
The good paper will demonstrate all the above qualities but perhaps to a lesser degree or, will demonstrate some of the above qualities excellently, but not all of the qualities will be presented at a consistently high level.

The Satisfactory Paper (79-70% points)
The satisfactory paper will present all of the above qualities but not as strongly as the good paper or, some qualities may be stronger with some not as strong. Insight is not usually present.

The Paper that Needs Work (69-60% points)
This paper is weak on many of the desired qualities.

The Paper that Really Needs Work – Pretty Much Unacceptable (59-0% points)
This paper presents few if any of the desired qualities.