

DePaul Migration Collaborative

Advocating for Justice, Educating for the Future

DMC

Monthly Newsletter

WHO WE ARE: The DePaul Migration Collaborative engages scholars, practitioners, students and alumni to find solutions to society's most pressing problems in the areas of migration, mobility and human rights.

If you would like to continue to receive this [newsletter](#), please [subscribe!](#)

Events

DMC Events

Feb. 20th, 2025 @ 9:30am- Amplifying Migrant Voices: Insights from Participatory Evaluations on Immigrant Legal Services in Chicago

RSVP: [HERE](#)

Location: Loop Campus, DePaul Center 5901

Feb. 25th, 2025 @ 12pm- Who Belongs? Birthright Citizenship, Immigration Raids, and Sanctuary Cities

Location: Loop Campus, Lewis 805

Non-DMC Events

Feb. 20th, 2025 @6pm- Errol Morris Separated (2024) By Errol Morris Screening & Discussion with Dr. Susana Martinez

RSVP: [HERE](#)

Feb. 26th, 2025 @6pm - Sanctuary for None: Border Violence Against Migrants and Nature in the Sonoran Desert with Dr. Naomi Paik

RSVP: [HERE](#)

Location: Arts and Letters 103

Amplifying Migrant Voices: Insights from Participatory Evaluations on Immigrant Legal Services in Chicago

DMC

Speaker: Ellen Miller, DMC Practitioner In Residence
Date: February 20, 2025, 9:30am to 11am
Location: 1 E. Jackson, DePaul Center, Room 5901



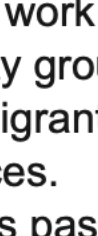
Join DMC Practitioner in Residence Ellen Miller for an Insightful Research Presentation



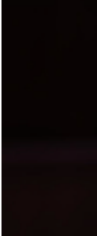
On February 20th, Ellen Miller, DMC Practitioner in Residence, will present her recent research on the experiences of new neighbors in accessing legal services in Chicago. Over the past few months, Ellen and her team have conducted focus groups and interviews with migrants and asylum seekers who arrived from the U.S. southern border between Fall 2022 and Fall 2024 and accessed legal services in Chicago.

This presentation will showcase key findings from these participatory evaluations. The overall goal of the project is to elevate the voices of migrants as key community members and encourage service providers to incorporate inclusive programmatic decision making processes.

What to Expect:



Findings from focus groups and interviews with asylum seekers



Learn about challenges faced in accessing immigration legal services



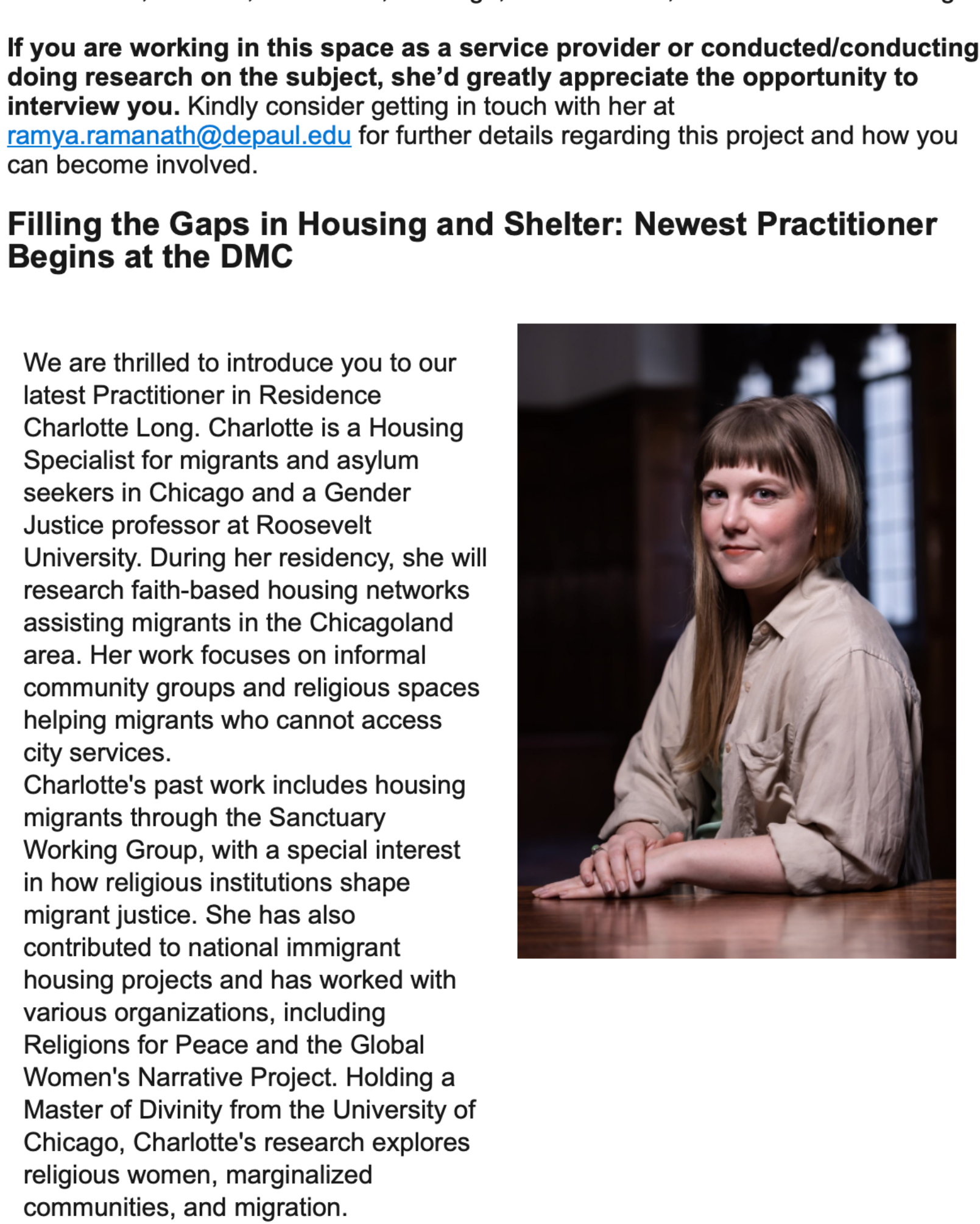
Discussion on the importance of coordination and communication in emergency humanitarian response



Breakfast Included! RSVP with QR Code
Questions, Contact: migration@depaul.edu

News

Call To Participate in Global Homelessness Research



Solution's Lab Grantee Dr. Ramya Ramanath is conducting research on the work of governmental and nongovernmental organizations working to tackle housing/homelessness concerns among migrants. Dr. Ramanath will be tackling this work in several different cities across the globe including Glasgow, Greater Manchester, Pretoria, Sao Paulo, Santiago, Buenos Aires, Montevideo and Chicago.

If you are working in this space as a service provider or conducted/conducting doing research on the subject, she'd greatly appreciate the opportunity to interview you. Kindly consider getting in touch with her at ramya.ramanath@depaul.edu for further details regarding this project and how you can become involved.

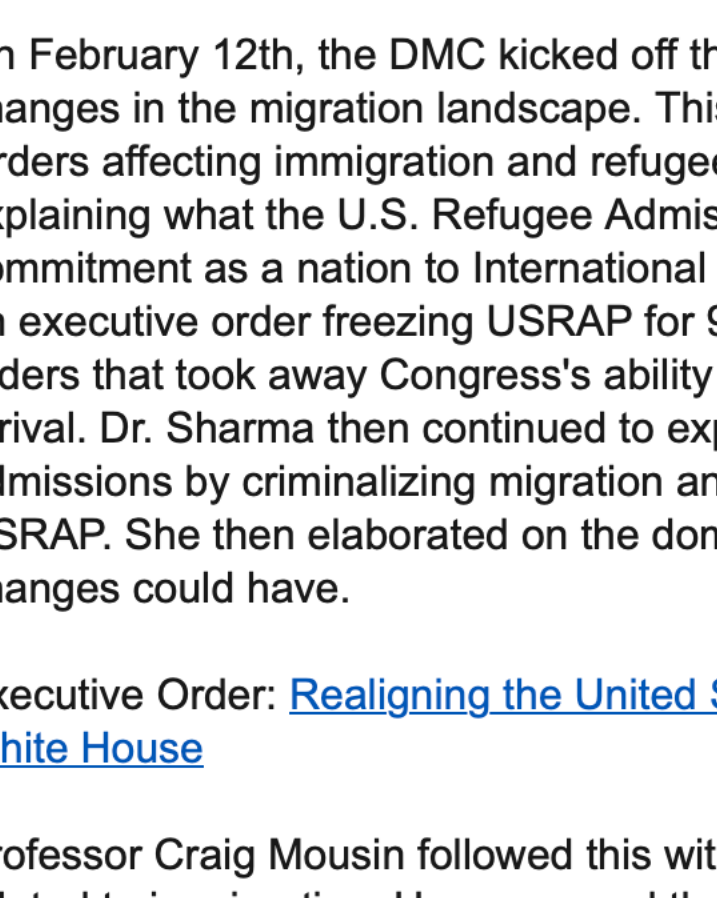
Filling the Gaps in Housing and Shelter: Newest Practitioner Begins at the DMC

We are thrilled to introduce you to our latest Practitioner in Residence Charlotte Long. Charlotte is a Housing Specialist for migrants and asylum seekers in Chicago and a Gender Justice professor at Roosevelt University. During her residency, she will research faith-based housing networks assisting migrants in the Chicagoland area. Her work focuses on informal community groups and religious spaces helping migrants who cannot access city services. Charlotte's past work includes housing migrants through the Sanctuary Working Group, with a special interest in how religious institutions shape migrant justice. She has also contributed to national immigrant housing projects and has worked with various organizations, including Religions for Peace and the Global Women's Narrative Project. Holding a Master of Divinity from the University of Chicago, Charlotte's research explores religious women, marginalized communities, and migration.



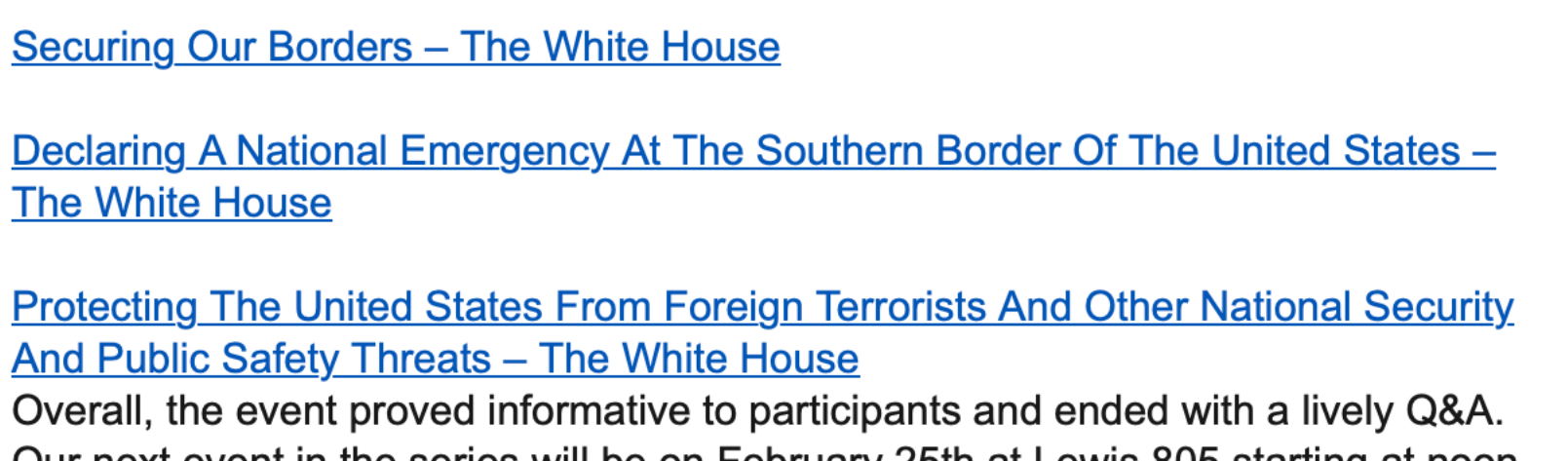
Read Her Full Bio: [HERE](#)

Dr. Ramya Ramanath Presents at International Journal on Homelessness Conference in Chile



At the International Journal on Homelessness Conference in Santiago, Chile (January 20-22, 2025), Solutions Lab Grantee Dr. Ramya Ramanath presented their paper titled *"Dynamics of Care and Control that Precipitate (and Preclude) Homelessness Among Migrants."* The presentation explored how various actors, such as NGOs, community networks, private landlords, and broader structural issues like housing markets and migrant reception systems, impact housing outcomes for those forcibly displaced. At the Conference Dr. Ramanath also shared her ongoing research globally. The talk highlighted both the challenges and opportunities in supporting migrant housing stability. Dr. Ramanath expressed a personal highlight of the conference was meeting research participants in person and visiting their workplaces, offering a unique, hands-on understanding of the challenges in this important field.

Circling Back: Engaging Participants in Report Feedback



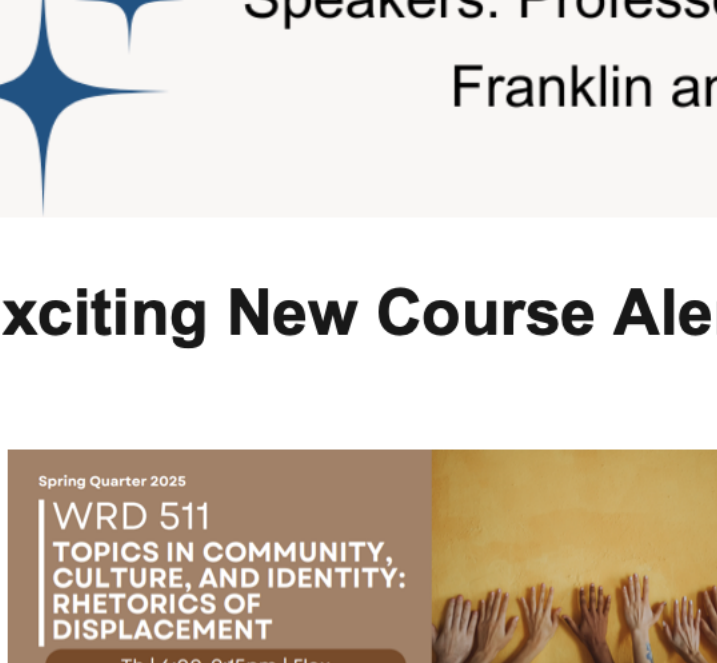
Practitioner Ellen Miller, presented her initial findings from participatory evaluations to the participants involved in her DMC community-based research study.

"I was really looking forward to re-engaging and sharing with the community what their collective voices and experiences can teach programmatic decision makers."

This was a great moment to connect with the voices that made this research possible. If you want to hear Ellen's final findings for yourself and what she has learned about the experiences of those seeking legal support, RSVP to her final findings' presentation on February 20th.

RSVP: [HERE](#)

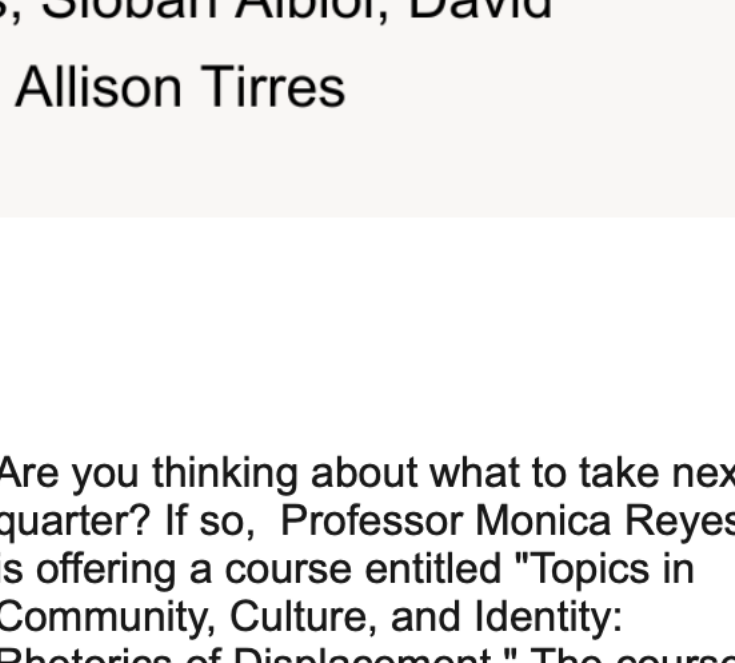
Meet the New DMC Student Researchers!



Mursal is pursuing a Computer Science major with minors in Mathematics and Public Policy. As a Research Assistant, Mursal will be working with our Practitioner-in-Residence, Josh Friedman!

On what excites her about working on this project with Josh, Mursal shared:

"I am super excited for this opportunity to work alongside Josh. His experiences in human rights advocacy, migration management, and program design across various international settings are inspiring. I am looking forward to learning about the migrant challenges both in Chicago and Vienna, Austria. Being part of Josh's team is a great opportunity for me to learn and grow as a student and individual."



Golaleh is a PhD candidate in Value-Creating Education for Global Citizenship! As a Research Assistant, Golaleh will be working with our Practitioner-in-Residence, Josh Friedman!

When asked why she wants to be involved with migration, and what motivates her in this field, Golaleh shared:

"As an artist and educator, I am deeply motivated by the intersections of migration, identity, and education. My own work often explores themes of translation—what it means to translate and adapt when far removed from the geography of one's origins. This personal lens fuels my commitment to creating spaces where migration is not only acknowledged but celebrated as a source of wisdom, courage, and resilience. I see this field as an opportunity to contribute to the global dialogue on how we can cultivate empathy, compassion, and inclusivity in the face of ongoing displacement and globalization. Working in this space aligns with my belief in education as a transformative force for individuals and communities alike."

Asylum Through the Looking Glass: Executive Orders and the Future of Refuge

On February 12th, the DMC kicked off their series responding to the immediate changes in the migration landscape. This first event examined recent U.S. Executive Orders affecting immigration and refugee policies. Professor Sharma opened with explaining what the U.S. Refugee Admission Program (USRAP) is and our commitment as a nation to International Humanitarian Law. President Trump signed an executive order freezing USRAP for 90 days and this was followed by a set of orders that took away Congress's ability to regulate refugee and asylum seeker's arrival. Dr. Sharma then continued to explain how these orders change refugee admissions by criminalizing migration and institutional subverting the purpose of USRAP. She then elaborated on the domestic and international impact these changes could have.

Executive Order: [Realigning the United States Refugee Admissions Program – The White House](#)

Professor Craig Mousin followed this with an in depth look at other Executive Orders related to immigration. He expressed that some of these executive orders are not aligned with the constitution and legal processes. He also highlighted dangerous and misleading rhetoric surrounding the executive orders. Dr. Mousin then contextualized how other executive orders will have an impact on immigration, the economy, the legal process, and the threats to our morals as a people.

Executive Orders

[Initial Rescissions Of Harmful Executive Orders And Actions – The White House](#)

[Protecting The Meaning And Value Of American Citizenship – The White House](#)

[Protecting The American People Against Invasion – The White House](#)

[Securing Our Borders – The White House](#)

[Declaring A National Emergency At The Southern Border Of The United States – The White House](#)

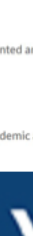
[Protecting The United States From Foreign Terrorists And Other National Security And Public Safety Threats – The White House](#)

Overall, the event provided informative to participants and ended with a lively Q&A. Our next event in the series will be on February 25th at Lewis 805 starting at noon.

Who Belongs? Birthright Citizenship, Immigration Raids and Sanctuary Cities



Date: February 25, 2025

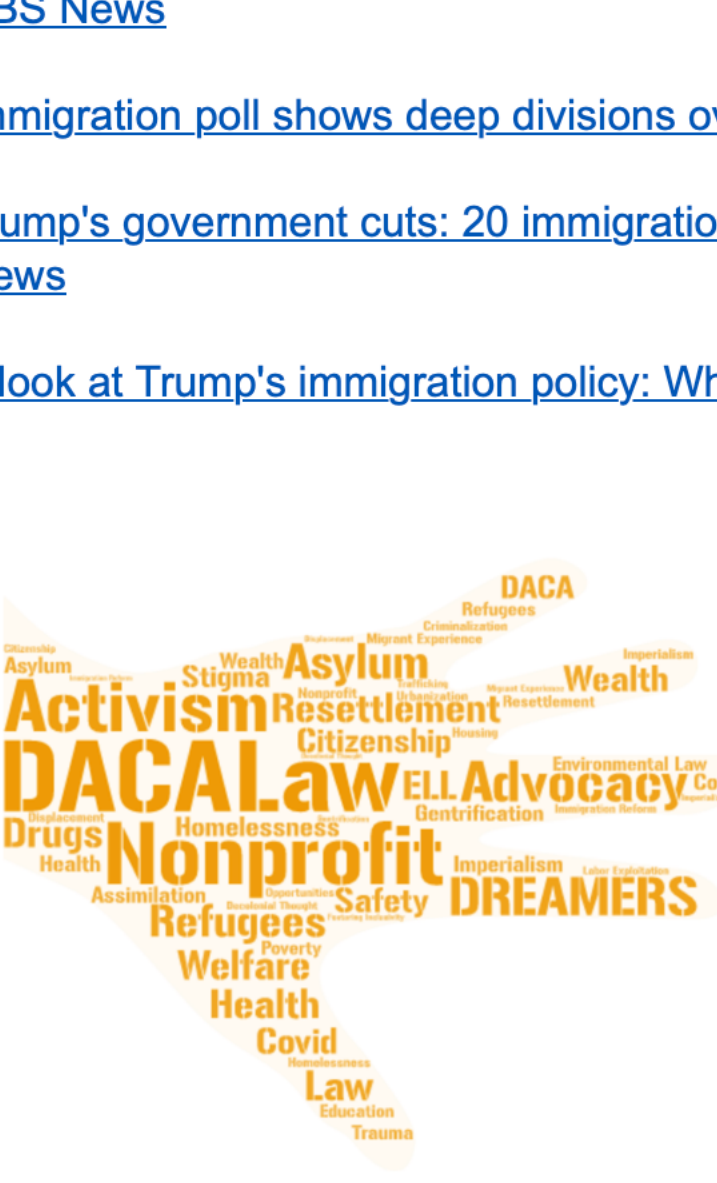


Location: Lewis 805

Time: 12 PM

Speakers: Professors, Sioban Albiol, David Franklin and Allison Tirres

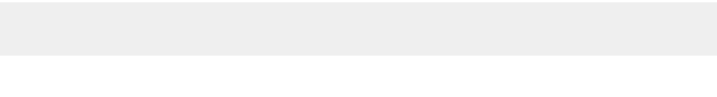
Exciting New Course Alert



Are you thinking about what to take next quarter? If so, Professor Monica Reyes is offering a course entitled "Topics in Community, Culture, and Identity: Rhetorics of Displacement." The course will be focused on exploring counter stories and how, as rhetors, students can shift their perspective from harmful narratives. With a focus on the stories of immigrants and refugees, WRD 511: Rhetorics of Displacement focuses on pushing back against stereotypical, limiting language surrounding these communities. While learning how to move away from the 'helpless' immigrant and refugee narrative, students will discover how to critically and empathetically amplify the true experiences of these groups.

More Information: [HERE](#)

DMC Immigration Resource Page



The DMC has created an immigration resource page to reference with Know Your Rights materials, links to low-cost legal aid and more.

Check it Out: [HERE](#)

In Case You Missed It

Migration News

With Paywalls

[Chicago advocates urge immigrants to attend ICE and court dates-](#) Chicago Tribune

Without Paywalls

[Amid ICE Enforcement, Immigration Courts Face Estimated Backlog of 3.7 Million Cases-](#) NBC Chicago

[Amid deportation fears, hundreds of patients skip appointments at one Chicago health clinic -](#) WBEZ Chicago

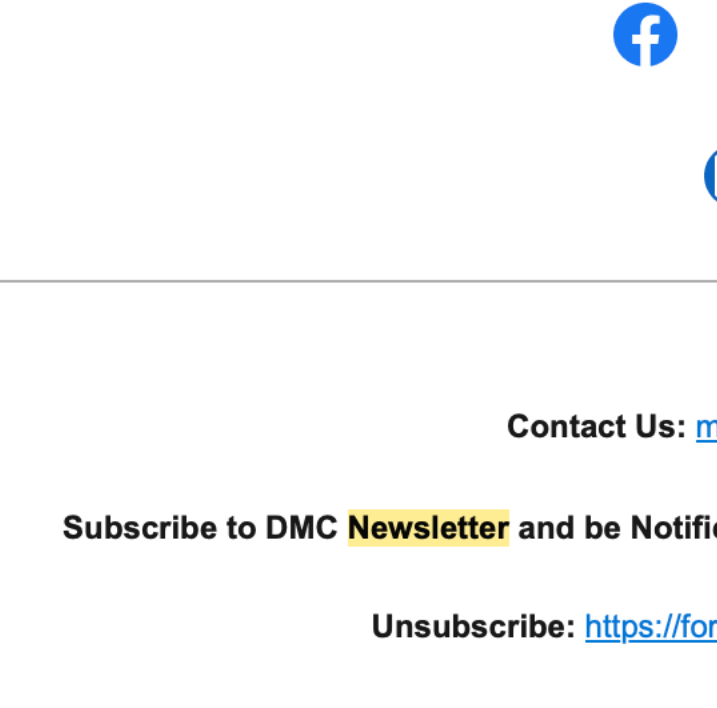
['Fear hasn't paralyzed us': anxiety and action in Chicago amid immigration raids | US immigration | The Guardian](#)

[Trump Justice Department sues Illinois and city of Chicago over immigration laws -](#) CBS News

[Immigration poll shows deep divisions over Trump's crackdown- NPR](#)

[Trump's government cuts: 20 immigration judges fired from backlogged courts - AP News](#)

[A look at Trump's immigration policy: What has changed under Trump- AP News](#)



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