The United States and Canada have taken increasingly divergent paths on immigration policy, with Canada welcoming record numbers of immigrants at a time when the U.S. has grown more restrictive.

This class will explore these divergences and look at what the two countries can learn from each other. It will feature guest speakers from government, law and businesses working on these issues.

The major project will be a class undertaking to write a refugee sponsorship plan for Western Washington University. The U.S. government just launched Welcome Corps, which is closely modeled after Canada’s successful Private Sponsorship of Refugees program.

Under this program, private citizens in schools, churches, and universities work together to help refugee families settle in their communities. Students will develop a blueprint for how WWU can become a leader among U.S. universities in facilitating refugee sponsorship.