

Independent Study: Immigration Policy Communication Study

The Communication, Culture, and Health Research Team seeks independent study students to contribute to the Immigration Policy Communication Study. The study seeks to understand how English and Spanish language media cover immigration policy issues and the impact of this coverage on the media environments in which immigrants live.

Students will gain experience conducting research on media coverage of immigration policy and develop research skills, such as conducting literature reviews, implementing a strategy for systematic searches of media data bases, extraction and management of media data, content analysis of data, and preparing and presenting results. This independent study opportunity is ideal for students with knowledge of immigration policy or communication studies who want to gain professional and research skills.

Tasks:

- a. Conduct literature reviews on immigration policy and communication
- b. Conduct coding of newspaper articles on immigration policy in English and Spanish
- c. Collaborate with team to establish analysis validity and reliability
- d. Conduct analysis of content analysis data
- e. Contribute to writing reports, presentations, and manuscripts from the data.

Responsibilities and course credit:

Students will work in the Communication, Culture, and Health Research, participate in weekly team meetings, and provide weekly and monthly activity reports. Students have the option of 2-4 independent study units (6-12hrs/wk).

Desired qualifications:

Knowledge of immigration policy
Experience with content analysis or other coding methods
Attention to detail.
Strong writing skills.
Internally motivated and can-do attitude.
Ability to speak and read Spanish (Preferred).

Application process:

By December 17, 2018, please send Dr. Maria-Elena Young (myoung38@ucmerced.edu) a resume and cover letter that describes your skills and your interest in participating in the study.