Briefly review ground rules for discussion and remind students to communicate respectfully.

Be sensitive to students’ personal histories related to migration and the feelings that this topic may bring up for them.

Avoid situations where students who have personal experience with immigration are put on the spot and expected to speak for all immigrants or all refugees.

Remind students to use “I statements” and to avoid speaking for another person or community.

Encourage students to critically examine both the topic and their feelings about it.

Be mindful that the notion of the United States as a “nation of immigrants” does not take into account the experience of Native Americans or many African Americans.

Complicate thinking. Immigration is a complex and multi-faceted issue.

Ask students to speak or write about the subject carefully and to be aware of ways that bias shows up in language, e.g. “undocumented immigrant” vs. “illegal alien.”