**FILMS related to IMMIGRATION:**

**El Norte** (English: The North) is a 1983 British-American independent drama film, directed by Gregory Nava. The screenplay was written by Gregory Nava and Anna Thomas, based on Nava's story. After their family is killed in a government massacre, brother and sister, Enrique and Rosa, flee Guatemala and embark on a perilous journey to "El Norte": the United States. Parts of **El Norte** provide an example of how Latin American magical realism is depicted in a theatrical film.

**A Better Life** is a 2011 Mexican-American drama film directed by Chris Weitz and written by Eric Eason. It is based on Roger L. Simon's story and follows an undocumented immigrant gardener and his son trying to find their stolen rent-to-own truck. The thief is another immigrant from El Salvador who sells the truck in order to send money to his family. The movie dramatizes that people will do almost anything and take almost any risk for the sake of their children.

**The Namesake** is a 2006 drama film directed by Mira Nair and written by Sooni Taraporevala based on the novel **The Namesake** by Jhumpa Lahiri. The film depicts the struggles of first-generation immigrants from the East Indian state of West Bengal to the United States, and their American-born children. The tension in the film between immigrants and their children raised in the U.S. mirrors the lives of many families that play out daily across America.

**Under the Same Moon** is a 2007 film about a child who emigrates from Mexico to the United States by himself to rejoin his mother. Along the way, he encounters both people who seek to take advantage of him and people who seek to help him. While told from the perspective of a child, this film deals with some heavier themes and is more appropriate for older kids.

**The Joy Luck Club** is a 1993 filmbased on the book of the same name by Amy Tan. It traces the lives of four women who have immigrated from China and their daughters. By interweaving flashbacks to the lives of the women before they came to the U.S., the movie helps the viewer understand the push and pull factors that lead to immigration, as well as the challenges that are faced by people after they arrive.

**Sin Nombre** is a 2009 drama by Cary Fukunaga. It is a visceral look at young individuals trying to live amongst the gangs of Mexico and/or make the harrowing journey to America. Staying in one’s native community or attempting to sneak into the country illegally is rendered extremely life threatening, giving its main characters almost no option for survival. The outlook for these immigrants is bleak, for there is nowhere to run.

**Man Push Cart** is a 2005 film by Rahmin Bahrani. A Pakistani immigrant struggles to make a living from a food cart in post-9/11 New York City. In Pakistan he was a rock star and In America, he sells coffee on street corners, pushing a heavy cart to carve out a meager living. The cart is a boulder in an unforgiving, supposed land of opportunity, even for those willing to start over at the bottom and work their way back up.

**Brooklyn** is a 2015 film written by Nick Hornby, based on the 2009 novel of the same name by Colm Tóibín. Set in 1951, the plot follows young woman from Ireland who emigrates to Brooklyn to find employment. There she marries an Italian plumber, before being forced to choose between her home town of Enniscorthy or her new life in Brooklyn.

**The Sun Is Also a Star** is a 2019 American teen drama film written by Tracy Oliver and based on the young adult novel of the same name by Nicola Yoon. The story revolves around a family all of whom are illegally in the country and are about to be deported back to Jamaica. At the same time, the daughter meets a young man and their lives become intertwined, even as the family is facing deportation and trying frantically to prevent it.