

Course Syllabus – Population and Development

Course Information

Course number –GEOG - 3372

Course title – **Population and Development**

Term – Spring 2011

Section – 001

Classroom – GR 3.606

Time –Monday/Wednesday 1:30 am-2:45 pm

Professor Contact Information

Name – Dr. Irina Vakulenko

Phone number – 972-883-6718

Email – ivakulenko@utdallas.edu (best way to contact me)

Office location – GR 3.213

Office hours – Monday/Wednesday 10:15 am -11:15 am; by appointment

Other information: I do not read e-learning email or use it until further notice. Please send email directly to the address above.

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

There are no formal prerequisites for this course. General academic skills of analytical thinking, comparison, essay writing, working with statistical material, map and graph reading will be helpful. Ability to find and use Internet resources.

Course Description

This course introduces you to population issues, concepts, theories and methods by encompassing the entire field of demography, including principle and practice. It offers an overview of various aspects of demographic growth and transition relating to changes in health and mortality, fertility, migration, age structure, urbanization, family and household structure. This course also examines the relations between population and development and their potential consequences from a sociological, economic and geographical perspective. Other topics include global variation in population size and growth, various demographic perspectives and their modern implications, environmental impacts, and population policy.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will learn fundamentals regarding the key components of demography: fertility, mortality and migration and their societal implications; understand the mechanisms underlying the demographic transition theory; be able to identify and manipulate key demographic components that range from the local to the global spatial scales and for different population segments. The students will get an opportunity to learn how these demographic trends of growth and transition affect their life in small and large ways. This course is intended to sharpen students' perception of population growth and change and increase their awareness of what is happening and why and to help prepare them to cope with a future that will be shared with billions more people than there are today.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Weeks, John R. (2005). *Population. An Introduction to Concepts and Issues*. 10th edition. Thomson Wadsworth. ISBN-13: 978-0-495-09637-5.

Suggested Course Materials

Students are expected to take notes during PowerPoint presentations and complete assignments before due dates. Lecture material shall be complimented by reading the appropriate chapters in the book. It is suggested that students make it a daily habit to read a reputable daily newspaper online or in print.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

#	Class Date	Topic	Chapter
1	1/10/11	Introduction to Demography.	Chapter 1
2	1/12/11	Demographic of Politics, Social Planning and Business.	Chapter 1
3	1/19/11	History of Population Growth.	Chapter 2
4	1/24/11	Geographic Distribution of World Population and Global Variations in Population Size and Growth.	Chapter 2 Countries choice is due.
5	1/26/11	Demographic Perspectives. Pre-modern Population Doctrines.	Chapter 3
6	1/31/11	Demographic Transition Theory and its Components.	Chapter 3
7	2/2/11	Sources of Demographic Data.	Chapter 4
8	2/7/11	Combining the Census and Vital Statistics.	Chapter 4
9	2/9/11	Test 1- 15% of the Final Grade	
10	2/14/11	Transition 1. Health and Mortality. Causes of Poor Health and Death.	Chapter 5
11	2/16/11	Measuring Mortality. Mortality and Inequality.	Chapter 5
12	2/21/11	Transition 2. Components of Fertility. Levels of Fertility.	<u>Paper Draft:</u> 3-4 pages of theoretical considerations for the NDP paper and mortality (1) tables, graphs, and analysis are due – 5%. Chapter 6
13	2/23/11	Fertility Control and Measures. Geographic Variability.	Chapter 6
14	2/28/11	Transition 3. Internal Migration.	<u>Paper Draft:</u> fertility (2) characteristics tables, graphs and analysis are due- 5%. Chapter 7
15	3/2/11	Migration between Countries. Discussion.	Chapter 7
16	3/7/11	Test 2 – 15 % of the Final Grade	
17	3/9/11	Transition 4. The Concepts of Age and Sex. Impact of Mortality and Fertility on Age.	Chapter 8
18	3/21/11	Age Transitions at Work. Look into the future.	Chapter 8
19	3/23/11	Transition 5. Defining Urban Places. Urban	<u>Paper Draft:</u> age and sex (4)

		Hierarchy and City Systems.	characteristics tables, graphs and analysis are due- 5%. Chapter 9
20	3/28/11	Determinant of Urban Transition	Chapter 9
21	3/30/11	Urban Transition and Urban Evolution.	Chapter 9
22	4/4/11	Transition 6. Household Composition and Family Structure.	Chapter 10
23	4/6/11	Changing Life Chances.	Chapter 10
24	4/11/11	Test 3 – 15 % of the Final Grade	
25	4/13/11	Use and Abuse of Resources by Growing Population	Chapter 11
26	4/18/11	Population and Food	Chapter 11
27	4/20/11	Human Impact on the Environment	Chapter 11
28	4/25/11	Managing the Transitions in the 21 st Century	Chapter 12
29	4/27/11	Population Policy in the USA	Chapter 12
30	5/2/11	Review. National Demographic Profiles Paper. Check your attendance record. <i>Class notes for students eligible for a bonus point are due. Max – 2 bonus pts. are possible.</i>	Research Paper is due- 20% of the Final Grade.
31	5/6/11	Final Exam is on <u>Friday, May 6 at 11 am</u> - 20% of final grade.	

Grading Policy

You are required to complete all the assignments. All three tests are assigned 15% of total grade value each. A Research Paper on a National Demographic Profile Comparison* of a developed and underdeveloped country is due on May 2, 2011 (20% of final grade). *Failure to present draft writings of research paper for grading on a due date will result in 50% penalty (10% penalty if e-mailed later in the day).* Average of Tests 1 and two draft writings of your research paper will make your Midterm Grade to be posted on March 4, 2011. The Final Exam on May 6, 2011 will make other 20% of your grade. *No makeup tests are allowed.* Individual consideration may be given in case of overwhelming circumstances. All graded material will be assigned a numerical value on a scale of 100. Letter Grades are given as follows: 97% and over A+; 93% to 96% A ; 90% to 92% A- ; 87% to 89% B+; 83% to 86% B; 80% to 82% B- ; 77% to 79% C+; 73% to 76% C ; 70% to 72% C- ; 67% to 69% D+ ; 63% to 66% D ; 60% to 62% D; Less than 60% F.

*Research paper is an on-going project during the semester. Guidelines with reference websites for statistical information will be provided on e-learning. Every student will need to choose two countries for comparative analysis: one – developed, and the other one – developing. As we study population concepts chapter after chapter so should research progress reinforcing your practical skills working with data and information in a certain aspect of population analysis. Research consultations are available during office hours and by appointment.

Course & Instructor Policies

Attendance is crucial for the successful learning and will be taken each class. Many of my lectures and our discussions will include materials not found in the text. As a result a good set of class notes will be extremely helpful if plan excelling in this course. To claim **a bonus point** for classroom work you need to

have missed no more than 2 classes and have a perfect set of notes covering every topic discussed. If you missed a class the notes should be made as you read the assigned chapter in the book. Class participation by offering productive comments and knowledgeable insights is encouraged by **1 bonus point**. No makeup tests. (Individual consideration may be given in case of overwhelming circumstances). Although extra help may be provided to students, the professor will not hold alternate lectures or release lecture notes to students. Respectful discussions of the topics being studied are encouraged.

If you wish to look at the ancillary syllabus material, a link to that material is as follows
<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.