Brief Description of the Course
This course is an introduction to demography and population studies. Demography concerns itself with the formal (quantitative) analysis of population size, distribution, structure, and change, whereas population studies deals with the sociological determinants (broadly speaking) and consequences of demographic phenomena. Students in this course will learn the basic concepts, methods and theories of these two interrelated aspects of the study of population. Some topics include: Population History, Population Age-Sex Structure, Fertility, Mortality and Population Health, Migration, Explanations of Nuptiality Change and Canadian Nuptiality Trends, Urbanization, Population and Resources, and Population Change and Policy Concerns.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify and apply the major theoretical perspectives in Sociology, and assess the conceptual differences among them.
- Understand the implications of theory and sociological research for interpreting social events and practices.
- Demonstrate knowledge of social institutions, social processes, social relations, and various dimensions of social experience, and assess them from a critical sociological perspective.
- Understand and demonstrate the appropriate use of quantitative methodologies (demographic techniques).
- Interpret the results of descriptive and basic inferential data analyses.
- Write theoretically informed papers that make sustained, evidence-based, sociological arguments, and present ideas clearly.
- Communicate core issues clearly and articulately.
Antirequisite(s): Sociology 2232.
Prerequisite(s): Sociology 1020 or 1021E.
Corequisite(s):
Pre-or Corequisite(s):
Extra Information: 3 hours, 0.5 course.

Course Requirements
A mid-term exam, a final exam, and a paper (5-7 pages plus references, tables).

Textbook

Grade Components and Weights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final exam TBA</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term exam 1 <em>October 23</em></td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay (due last lecture in December)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams

Mid-Term Exams
The mid-term exam will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer type questions, calculations based on concepts and other material covered in class and the assigned readings.

Final Exam
Although it will cover the whole course, much of the emphasis on the final exam will be placed on the material covered after the first mid-term exam. The structure of the final exam will be similar to that of the mid-term exam; however it will be longer and will include questions that require computations and interpretation, long answer type questions based on material covered in class throughout the term and the term assignment. Students must bring their own calculators to the final examination (calculators must not be pre-programmed; they will be checked).

Note: Mid-term and final exams will not be returned to students. If you want to go over your exam or assignment you must make an appointment with the professor. Lecture notes and/or any other materials used in class (e.g., Powerpoints) will not be made available on any other venue. You should “buddy up” with someone in class to share missed/lost lecture notes and as someone to study with. Note that I do not get into lengthy discussions regarding the course material, midterm or the final exam or essay on email. You are encouraged to make an appointment with the professor if you have any concerns regarding the course material.
**Correspondence**
Replies to students’ emails or telephone calls are made within 48 hours Monday to Friday 9:00AM to 5:00PM.

**E-mail**
You must provide your full name and the purpose of your email. If these are not included, I will not respond. Your emails to your professor is a formal correspondence and not to be written as a text/facebook/twitter message.

Please note: I do not respond to emails such as ‘*what did I miss in yesterday’s lecture?’*; If you missed any classes it is your responsibility to come and speak to me in person during my office hours and obtain the lecture notes from your classmates.

**Academic Offences**
Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

**Plagiarism**
Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage, from another author they must acknowledge their debt both by quotation marks and in footnotes. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (www.turnitin.com).

**Missed Exams and Late Assignments**
Make-up exams will be granted with approved documentation only. If you have a conflict with one of the exam dates, it is your responsibility to discuss it with the Academic Counseling office at least one week before the regularly scheduled exam and provide documentation of the conflict. If approved, you will be allowed to schedule a make-up exam. If you miss an exam date or the due date for an assignment due to illness or for any other unforeseen reason, you must provide notification of and documentation for the reasons for your circumstances to your Academic Counselor within 48 hours. If your problem is medical in nature, you should be seen by your doctor on the date of the exam or on the date the assignment is due. If your Academic Counselor agrees that your reasons are legitimate and are supported by your medical doctor’s documentation, you will be allowed to write a makeup exam or hand in your assignment at a later date.
Compassionate Grounds: Serious Illness of a Family Member: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a medical certificate from the family member's physician to your home faculty’s Academic Counselling office.
In Case of a Death: Inform your instructor as soon as possible and submit a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director to your home faculty’s Academic Counselling office.

SUPPORT SERVICES
Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western [http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/](http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Late essays will be penalized 5% per day (including weekends) except in the case of extreme and serious documented circumstances, discussed with me in advance and following the same procedures describe above related to missed exams. Please note that computer problems are not an excused circumstance. You are expected to follow good computer practices, including backing up your work.

This decision may not be appealed

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sociology 2236 Fall 2013 NB. All dates are approximations and may have to be adjusted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOTE: All readings listed in this outline are from the textbook. The dates indicated may be modified by the instructor, if necessary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Week 1**

*Introduction and Overview*

a. Overview of the Course and Expectations
b. Introduction to the Assignment

*The Study of Population*

a. Definitions and Basic Concepts: Components of Population Change
b. Formal Demography and Population Studies
d. Individual Action and Demographic Processes

Reading: Pp 2-11 (skip Table 1.2)

**Week 2**

*Population Data: Their Sources and Nature*

a. Sources of demographic data
b. Census and Vital Statistics systems
c. The Use of Vital Statistics and Census in Population Analysis

Reading: Pp. 29-33; 36-42; 45-47
Population History
a. Population Growth Models
b. Present Demographic Situation of the World
c. From a Long Period of Slow Growth to Explosive Population Growth
d. The Demographic Transition
e. The Demographic Transition of Industrialized Countries
f. The Demographic Transition of Developing Countries
g. Canada’s Demographic History: An Overview
h. The Future Population of the World: Short Term vs. Long Term

Reading: Pp. 50-55; 55-59; 72-82; skim 82-86

Week 3
Population Age-Sex Structure
a. Principles and Measures of Age-Sex Composition
b. Typology of Age Pyramids
c. Determinants of Age Composition
d. Stable and Stationary Populations
e. Population Momentum
f. Sex Ratio of Population
g. Societal Ramification of Change in Age-Sex Composition
h. Canada’s Changing Age-Sex Composition

Reading: 92-98; (skim pp. 99-109); 109-114; (skim 125-129)

Week 4 Nuptiality
a. Nuptiality as a Social Demographic Process
b. Measures of Nuptiality
c. Nuptiality Trends-Cross-national Overview
d. Explanation of Nuptiality Change
e. Canadian Nuptiality Trends

Reading: Pp. 134-136; 144-155; 155-160; (skim 161-171)

Week 5
Fertility
a. Basic Concepts and Measures of Fertility
b. Society and Fertility: Social-Biological Interactions
c. Proximate Determinants of Fertility
d. Fertility Transition
e. Theories of Fertility Change
f. Canadian Fertility Trends and Patterns

Reading: Pp.176-186; 194-201; 204-223; (skim 227-239)

Week 6 Mortality and Population Health
a. Determinants of Population Health
b. Demographic and Sociological Dimensions of Mortality
c. Measures of Mortality
d. The Life Table
e. Mortality Change Through History—Epidemiological Transition
f. Aging and Health Dynamics in Advanced Societies
g. Health and Mortality Patterns in Low- and Middle-Income Countries
h. Canadian Mortality: Trends, Patterns, and Differentials
i. Health and Mortality Inequalities

Reading: Pp. 244-283; (skim 283-318)

Week 7 Internal Migration
a. Basic Concepts and Measures
b. Explanations of Migration and Models
c. Social Demographic Aspects of Migration
d. Internal Migration Patterns and Differentials in Canada

Reading: Pp. 332-336; 344-366

Week 8 International Migration
a. The Complex Nature of International Migration
b. Basic Concepts, Data Sources and Measures
c. Migration History
d. Theories of International Migration
e. Canadian Immigration History
f. International Migration—The Future

Reading: Pp. 391-398; 401-416; (skim 416-427); 427-429

Week 9

Urbanization
a. Basic Concepts and Measures
b. Urbanization History
c. Urban Systems
d. Canadian Urbanization
e. Urban Change in the Future

Reading: Pp. 436-440; 446-448; (skim 448-459); (skim 459-480); 480- 485

Week 10

Population and Resources
a. Classic Statements
b. Malthusian Theory and the Principle of Population
c. Marxist theory on Population
d. Contemporary Perspectives on Population
Week 11

*Population Change and Policy Concerns*

a. The Interconnectedness of Demography, Policy and Society  
b. Population Policy---Global Perspective  
c. Canadian Population Policy Concerns

Reading: 528-530; 534-540; 545-550

December 1-8

*Open Topics* (if time permits)  
Topics to be announced

Essay due last lecture in December: Worth 25% of final grade  
(2 copies, if you want your paper returned with comments).

The topic must be specific to Canadian context and be supported with Canadian data sources. You can choose to focus on a purely demographic issue on mortality, fertility, or migration or a topic in which demographic issues play a significant role. These substantive topics can be from the realms of migration, population aging, family demography, mortality, urbanization. Your essay must address the demographic relevance of the research question and be able to establish the connection between the demographic context of the problem and the social and policy implications. If you are unsure about your topic you are strongly encouraged to discuss your essay with the professor.

When researching your essay, I strongly advise you to make use of the materials that contain information on population-related questions. These can be obtained (but not exhaustive) from Weldon Library. Given that you will be using Canadian data sources, you are encouraged to begin your research with Statistics Canada publications. You can also use Internet sources but keep in mind that Internet sources are not always reputable. Whenever you use Internet sources you must document fully the source of the material. Note that I will check any site that is listed.

The essay should be about 7 pages double-spaced plus notes, references, tables and graphs. **This essay will be graded on coherency of argument, research and analysis, critical assessment of the subject matter, clarity of expression and overall presentation.** The referencing style of the ASA (American Sociological Association) is to be used. Refer to: http://www.lib.uwo.ca/weldon/services/asastyle.pdf.

**Reference Sources**

Listed below are a number of key reference sources that will provide helpful information in the field of population studies.

Standard Sources  
The following list the important journals in the area of demography. They are specialized research on significant topics in the field, which will be useful for your essay.

Population and Development Review
Demography
Population Studies
Canadian Studies in Population
Canadian Social Trends
Journal of Marriage and the Family

These websites also provide useful information for population-related questions. These include:
United Nations Fund for Population Activities: www.unfpa.org
Statistics Canada: www.statcan.ca
Population Reference Bureau: www.prb.org
Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.