

Sociology 389k.1 - General Approaches to the Study of Population

Spring, 2011 Semester
Unique Number: 46270
Meeting Time: 3-6 T
Meeting Place: BUR 480

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Course web page is available through the UT blackboard (courses.utexas.edu).

GENERAL STATEMENT

The purpose of this course is to provide an overview of the field of demography. We cover the basic processes of the field--mortality, fertility, migration, and population distribution, along with several sub-fields. The two main goals of this course are to 1) introduce students to both classic and current literature in the field of social demography, 2) teach students to critically assess the major theories associated with population change. By the end of the semester, students should also know general trends in global population development and have an appreciation of the inter-related nature of migration, fertility, mortality, and age structure. Note that, for those of you who plan a career in social demography, this course provides only a starting point. Students should keep abreast of developments in the literature by reading the leading journals (*Demography*, *Population and Development Review*, *Population Studies*, *Population Bulletin*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, and *Demographic Research*).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The course meets once a week (Tuesday afternoons), and attendance is expected. I also expect that you will have read the assigned reading for that week and will **actively participate** in class discussions. Note that I may slightly change the reading list for some section of the course later. You will know the required readings no later than a week before the class they will be discussed.

There will be a mid-term exam administered in class on Tuesday **March 22** and a take home, cumulative final due at noon on Wednesday **May 11**. Grades are calculated by the following formula: an in class midterm exam – 30%; class participation - 40 %; take-home cumulative final 30 - %.

Class participation is a core portion of the course. Attendance is mandatory, but not sufficient. Each class session we will discuss 4-6 related readings on a core topic. This discussion will begin with a summary by a student discussion leader. For the discussion leaders and the rest of the class it is a good idea to take notes while you read so that you are prepared for this discussion. After identifying the main points of each article, class members should discuss its strengths, weaknesses, and contributions – and discuss ways in which it may or may not stimulate further research. Again, student preparation and active contribution will be the key to making this work. It is not simply the discussion leader's responsibility to do all the talking. The class participation portion of your grade will be determined by attendance, the sessions you lead, and your participation in the discussion during sessions you do not lead.

Examinations will have you answer several questions that ask you to synthesize literature in the area, as well as summarize and evaluate some of the key theories/findings of the field. These exams will also aid in your preparation for the comprehensive examination in demography, if that is your specialization. For the take-home final, your answers must be word-processed. Late examinations will result in a one-letter-grade penalty for each day beyond the due date.

Notes on UT Policies

Note on Students with Disabilities. The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information, please visit the Student Judicial Services website at:

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs>

COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS

INTRODUCTION

January 18: Introduction to the course

January 25: An Introductory Overview of Demography

I.J. McFalls, Jr, 2007. A Population: A Lively Introduction. Population Bulletin, Vol. 53, No.3 (Washington D.C.: Population Reference Bureau, Inc, March 2007)
<http://www.prb.org/pdf07/62.1LivelyIntroduction.pdf>

*Population Reference Bureau's World Population Data Sheet:
http://www.prb.org/pdf09/09wpds_eng.pdf

Micklin, Michael, and Dudley L. Poston. 2006. "Prologue; The Demographer's Ken: 50 Years of Growth and Change." Pp. 1-15 in The Handbook of Population, edited by D.L. Poston and M. Micklin. Springer. (Google Books)

*Yu Xie. 2000. "Demography: past, present, and future," *Journal of the American Statistical Association* 95 (450): 670-673.

*Duncan, G.J. 2008. "When to Promote, and When to Avoid, a Population Perspective." Demography, 45 (4): 763-784.

*D. Kirk, 1996."The Demographic Transition" Population Studies 50: 361-388.

*Greenhalgh, S. 1996. "The Social Construction of Population Science: An Intellectual, Institutional, and Political History of Twentieth Century Demography." Comparative Studies in Society and History 38 (1): 26-66.

**Preston, Samuel H. "Children and the Elderly – Divergent Paths for Americas Dependents." Demography 21: 435-457.

! This is a handy overview of population trends that may be especially useful for those new to population research.

* indicates required reading

** Assignment: Everyone prepares a 1-page single-space summary of Preston to submit by email prior to class January 25th.

February 1: Basic Demographic Data and Techniques.

*Weeks, John R. 2002. "Demographic Data." Pp. 41-77 in Population: An Introduction to Concepts and Issues, 8th edition. Wadsworth.

Newell, Colin. 1988. Methods and Models of Demography, Chapters 2, 4, and 5.

*Palmore, James A. and Robert W. Gardner. 1996. Measuring Fertility, Mortality, and Natural Increase. Honolulu: East-West Center, pp. 1-34. (Through standardization).

How is the 2010 Census Different? <http://www.prb.org/Topics/Census2010.aspx>

!Moffitt R 2005. Remarks on the analysis of causal relationships in population research
Demography 42 (1): 91-108

** Martin, Molly A. 2006. "Family Structure and Income Inequality in Families with Children, 1976 to 2000. Demography, 43: 421-445.

** Bean, Frank D., Corona, R, Tuiran, R et al. 2001. "Circular, invisible, and ambiguous migrants: Components of difference in estimates of the number of unauthorized Mexican migrants in the United States. Demography 38: 411-422.

* Required Reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

! This is a good article, containing essential knowledge for those anticipating a career in population research, but requires a solid background in statistical analysis.

Assignment: Prepare and submit answers to this week's study questions prior to class meeting February 1.

MORTALITY (and Health)

February 8: Epidemiological Transition

!Olshansky et al. (1997): "Infectious Diseases -- New and Ancient Threats to World Health."
Population Bulletin 52(2).

**Martin, L. G. et al (2010). "Trends in Health of Older Adults in the United States: Past, Present, Future." Demography 47: S17-S40.

*Colgrove J. (2002). The McKeown thesis: A historical controversy and its enduring influence.
American Journal of Public Health 92 (5): 725-729

*Link B. G. , Phelan J. C. (2002). McKeown and the idea that social conditions are fundamental causes of disease. American Journal of Public Health. 92 (5): 730-732 MAY 2002

**Cutler D, and G. Miller . (2005). The role of public health improvements in health advances: The twentieth-century United States Demography 42 (1): 1-22.

**Soares, R. (2007). "On the Determinants of Mortality Reductions in the Developing World."
Population and Development Review 33: 247-287.

**Heuveline, P. et al. (2002). "The uneven tides of the health transition" pp. 313-322. *Social Science and Medicine*.

Cameron, L. and J. Williams. (2009). "Is the Relationship Between Socioeconomic Status and Health Stronger for Older Children in Developing Countries?" Demography, 46 (2): 303-324.

Bongaarts, J. 2006. "How Long Will We Live?" Population and Development Review 32(4): 605-628.

! Necessary background for those new to the study of population trends in Health and Mortality

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

February 15: Racial and Ethnic Variation in Birth Outcomes

- **Pampel, Fred C., Jr. and Vijayan Pillai. (1986). "Patterns and Determinants of Infant Mortality in Developed Nations, 1950-1975." Demography. 23 (Nov.): 525-42.
- *Gortmaker, Stephen L. and Paul H. Wise. (1997). "The First Injustice: Socioeconomic Disparities, Health Services Technology, and Infant Mortality." Annual Review of Sociology 23: 147-170.
- **Frisbie WP, Song SE, Powers DA, Street JA.(2004). The increasing racial disparity in infant mortality: Respiratory distress syndrome and other causes. Demography 41 (4): 773-800
- *Scribner, R. (1996). "Editorial: Paradox as Paradigm - The Health Outcomes of Mexican Americans." American Journal of Public Health 86: 303-305.
- Hummer, Robert A, Monique Biegler, Peter B. de Turk, Douglas Forbes, W. Parker Frisbie, Ying Hong, and Starling Pullum. 1999. "Race/Ethnicity, Nativity, and Infant Mortality in the United States." Social Forces. 77 (3): 1083-1118.
- **Hamilton, E. R., Villareal, A. and R. A. Hummer. 2009. "Mother's, Household, and Community US Migration Experience and Infant Mortality in Rural and Urban Mexico" Population research and policy review 28:123 -142
- **Landale NS, Oropesa RS, Gorman BK 2000. "Migration and infant death: Assimilation or selective migration among Puerto Ricans?"American Sociological Review. 65 (6): 888-909.

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

February 22: Race, Gender and Marital Status Differences in morbidity and life expectancy

Preston, S.H. and I.T. Elo. 1996. "Educational differentials in mortality: United States, 1979-85." Social Science & Medicine 42 (1): 47-57

**Palloni A and Arias E. 2005. Paradox lost: Explaining the Hispanic adult mortality advantage. Demography 41 (3): 385-415.

**Hummer et al 2007. Paradox Found (again): Infant mortality among the Mexican-origin population in the United States. Demography. 44:441-457.

Antecol, Heather and Bedard, Kelly. 2006 Unhealthy Assimilation: Why Do Immigrants Converge to American Health Status Levels? Demography. 43 (2): 337-360

**Case A and Paxson C. 2005. *Gender and Marital Status Differences in morbidity and life expectancy: Sex differences in morbidity and mortality.* Demography 42 (2): 189-214.

** Rogers, Richard G. et al. 2010. " Social, Behavioral, and Biological Factors and Sex Differences in Mortality. " Demography. 47: 555-578.

* Umberson, D. et al. (2006). You make me sick: Marital quality and health over the life course. Journal of Health and Social Behavior. 47: 1-16

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

March 1: Review

March 8: Mid Term

March 15: Spring Break

FERTILITY

March 22: The Fertility Transition: Theory and History

- *Mason, K. O. 1997. "Explaining fertility transitions." Demography 34(4): 443-54.
- **Cleland, John and Christopher Wilson. 1987. "Demand theories of the fertility transition: An iconoclastic view." Population Studies 41:5-30.
- **Bongaarts, John and Watkins, Susan C. 1996. Social interactions and contemporary fertility transitions. Population and Development Review, Vol. 22, No. 4, Dec. pp. 639-82
- Pollak, Robert A. and Watkins, Susan Cotts. 1993. "Cultural and economic approaches to fertility: Proper marriage or mesalliance?" Population and Development review. 19: 467-496.
- Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer. 2006. "What kind of theory for anthropological demography?" Demographic Research. 16(1): 1-26.
<http://www.demographic-research.org/volumes/vol16/1/>
- **Potter, Joseph E. Carl P. Schmertmann, and Suzana M. Cavenaghi. (2002). "Fertility and Development in Brazil." Demography 39(4): 739-762.
- *Cai, Y. (2010). "China's Below-Replacement Fertility: Government Policy or Socioeconomic Development?" Population and development review. 36:419-
- Tsui, A. O. 2001. "Population Policies, Family Planning Programs and Fertility: The Record," Population and Development Review 27 (Suppl): 184-204.

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

March 29: Fertility Transitions in Developing Countries and Low Fertility Regimes

- *John Bongaarts. 2006. "The Causes of Stalling Fertility Transitions." *Studies in Family Planning*. 37(1): 1-16.
- *Bledsoe, Caroline, Fatoumatta Banja, and Allan G. Hill. 1998. Reproductive mishaps and western contraception: An African challenge to fertility theory." Population and Development Review. 24: 15-57.
- Knodel, John, N. Havanon, and A. Pramualratana. 1984. "Fertility transition in Thailand: A qualitative analysis". Population and Development Review 10(2): 297-328.
- **Axinn, William G. and Jennifer S. Barber 2001. "Mass education and fertility transition." American Sociological Review, 66(4): 481-505.
- **Bongaarts, J. 2000. "Fertility and Reproductive Preferences in Post-Transitional Societies." In Bulatao and Casterline (eds) Global Fertility Transition. .
- *Morgan, S. Philip. 2003. "Is Low Fertility a Twenty-First-Century Demographic Crisis?" Demography 40:589-603
- *McDonald, Peter. 2006. Low fertility and the state: The efficacy of policy. Population and Development Review, 32(3)

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

April 5: Families and Fertility

!Morgan, S. Philip. (1996). "Characteristic Features of Modern American Fertility" Population and Development Review. 22(Supplement): 19-63.

**Bumpass, Larry L. (1990). "What's Happening to the Family?" Demography, 27: 483-498.

Thornton A. (2001). "The developmental paradigm, reading history sideways, and family change." Demography, 38 (4): 449-465.

** Lesthaeghe, R and Neidert. (2006). "The Second Demographic Transition in the United States: Exception or Textbook Example? Population and Development Review 32(4): 485-510.

Wu, L. L. (2008). "Cohort Estimates of Nonmarital Fertility of U.S. Women." Demography 45:193-207.

**Musick, K. et al. (2009). "Education Differences in Intended and Unintended Fertility" Social Forces, 88: 543-572.

**Sweeney, M. (2008). "The Reproductive Context of Cohabitation in the United States: Historical Change and Variation in Contraceptive Use" Journal of Marriage and Family. 72: 1155-1170.

! This is a useful article both for its description of long-term fertility trends as well as for its consideration of different ways to analyze fertility trends.

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

April 12: International Migration and Immigrant Adaptation

- !Massey, D. S. 1993. "Theories of International Migration: A review and Appraisal." Population and Development Review 19(3): 431-466.
- *Brown, S.K., and F.D. Bean. 2006. "International Migration." Chapter 12 (Pp. 347-382) in Handbook of Population, edited by D.L. Poston and M. Micklin. Springer.
- *Portes, A. 1997. "Immigration theory for a new century: Some problems and opportunities." International Migration Review. 31 (4): 799-825.
- **Alba, Richard and Victor Nee. 1997. "Rethinking assimilation theory for a new era of immigration" International Migration Review. 31 (4):
- **Zhou, Min. 1997. Growing up American: The Challenge Confronting Immigrant Children and Children of Immigrants." Annual Review of Sociology 23:63-95.
- **Feliciano, C. 2005. Educational selectivity in US immigration: How do immigrants compare to those left behind? Demography, 42 (1): 131-152.
- **Eichenlaub, S. et al (2010). "Moving Out but Not Up: Economic Outcomes in the Great Migration. American Sociological Review 75: 101-125
- Parrado, E.A. and S.P. Morgan. 2008. "Intergenerational fertility among Hispanic women: New evidence of immigrant assimilation." Demography, 45(3): 651-671.
- * Required reading
- ** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

! A good overview, but Brown and Bean provide a more concise review.

April 19: Segregation

Wilson, William J. 1987. The Truly Disadvantaged. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. (Especially Chapter 2).

Massey DS, Eggers M. 1990. The Ecology of Inequality - Minorities and the Concentration of Poverty, 1970-1980." American Journal of Sociology. 95 (5): 1153-1188.

St. John, Craig. 1995. "Interclass Segregation, Poverty, and Poverty Concentration – Comment." American Journal of Sociology. 100 (5): 1325-1333.

Massey DS, Eggers M. 1995. Beyond The Technical Details – Reply. American Journal of Sociology. 100 (5): 1333-1335.

*Quillian L. 1999. "Migration patterns and the growth of high-poverty neighborhoods, 1970-1990. American Journal of Sociology. 105 (1): 1-37.

**Jargowsky PA. 1996. "Take the money and run: Economic segregation in US metropolitan areas." American Sociological Review. 61 (6): 984-998.

Fischer C.S., Stockmayer G, Stiles J, et al. 2004. Distinguishing the geographic levels and social dimensions of US metropolitan segregation, 1960-2000. Demography 41 (1): 37-59

**Logan JR, Stults BJ, Farley R. 2004. Segregation of minorities in the metropolis: Two decades of change. Demography 41 (1): 1-22

**Iceland, J. and M. Scopilliti. 2008. "Immigrant residential segregation in US metropolitan areas, 1990-2000." Demography 45(1):79-94.

Reardon, S. F., S.A. Matthews, and D. O'Sullivan, D; et al. 2008. "The geographic scale of metropolitan racial segregation." Demography 45 (3): 489-514

**South, S. J., K. Crowder and E. Chavez. 2005. "Migration and spatial assimilation among US Latinos: Classical versus segmented trajectories" Demography 45 (1): 1-29

*Sampson, R. J. and P. Sharkey. 2005. "Neighborhood selection and the social reproduction of concentrated racial inequality." Demography, 42 (3): 497-521, 42 (4): 621-646

* Required reading

** Required reading. Discussion leaders should prepare and share a written 1-page summary of these articles

April 26: Poverty & Inequality

*McLanahan, S (2004). Diverging destinies: How children are faring under the second demographic transition. Demography, 41 (4): 607-627.

**Musick, K and Mare, R. D. 2004. Family structure, intergenerational mobility, and the reproduction of poverty: Evidence for increasing polarization? Demography, 41 (4): 629-648.

**Schwartz, C. R. and R. D. Mare. 2005. Trends in educational assortative marriage from 1940 to 2003. Demography

**Torche, F. (2010). Educational Assortative Mating and Economic Inequality: A Comparative Analysis of Three Latin American Countries. Demography 47: 481-502.

**Heuveline, P. and M. Weinshenker, M. (2008). "The international child poverty gap: Does demography matter?" Demography 45(1): 173-191.

May 3: Review