

POPULATION & SOCIETY

SOC 312 (Line #66089) **Spring 2016**

Day & Time: Monday & Wednesday, 11:00-12:15 Room: FRASER HALL 124

Instructor: Victor Agadjanian

Office phone: 785-965-3804

Office: Fraser Hall 722

E-mail: vag@ku.edu

Office hours: M, W 9:45-10:45 or by appointment

Course objectives:

This course provides an introduction to demographic theories, concepts, measures, and processes. It focuses on key aspects of demography – fertility, mortality, migration, urbanization, family and household processes, interaction of population and environment, and population policies. It examines population issues from a comparative cross-national perspective.

Student learning outcomes: Upon completing the course, students will ...

- have a knowledge and understanding of key demographic concepts, issues, and measures.
- know how to access and interpret basic population data and statistics.
- be able to think critically about interconnections between population processes and other aspects of society

Required text:

Poston, Dudley L, Jr., & Leon F. Bouvier. 2010. *Population and Society: An Introduction to Demography*. Cambridge University Press

Recommended/additional materials: There is no list of recommended materials. However, the instructor will provide and use additional printed or electronic materials as needed.

Course requirements:

<i>Requirements</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Maximum points</i>
Exam 1	Feb 22	20
Exam 2, <i>not cumulative</i>	Mar 23	20
Exam 3, <i>not cumulative</i>	May 11	20
In-class exercises (top 5 of 6)	Random	10 (2x5)
Review Paper	May 4	30
TOTAL		100

Grading: This course uses the +/- system of grading: A+ (97-100 points), A (93-96), A- (90-92), B+ (87-89), B (83-86), B- (80-82), C+ (77-79), C (73-76), C- (70-72), D (60-69), F (0-59).

Exams: The three exams will be based on the material covered in the assigned readings and discussed in class. All three exams will include multiple choice and true/false questions. Exams 2 and 3 are not cumulative. Make-up exams will **only** be given in the case of officially documented medical or family emergencies. There will be no final exam, but per KU regulations exam 3 will take place during the finals week.

In-class exercises are designed to enhance students' grasp of the material. There will be a total of 6 exercises during the semester, each worth up to 2 points. The exercises will take place on randomly selected days, without a prior announcement. There will be no make-up exercises. The final score for this grade component (10) will exclude the lowest score on any of the exercises.

Review Paper: The review paper should focus on a demographic topic(s) and should involve a comparison of at least two countries. Rather than conducting original research, students will review the available academic and non-academic literature on the topic(s) and countries of their choice. It is an individual assignment that is due on the last day of class. The topic of the paper must be approved by the instructor prior to submission. Additional guidelines will be provided.

Attendance is expected and encouraged, but no points for attendance will be given.

Students with disabilities will be accommodated to the extent possible. Please identify your needs in the beginning of the semester. Contact the KU Academic Achievement and Access Center (<http://www.access.ku.edu>) for further information.

Academic honesty is expected of all students. For more information about possible sanctions against dishonesty and misconduct, see <http://policy.ku.edu/governance/USRR#art2sect6>.

Main topics and assignments:

Week	Date	Topics	Readings
1	Jan 20	Course overview	None
2	Jan 25	Introduction to demography	Ch.1
2	Jan 27	Sources of demographic information	Ch.2
3	Feb 1	Sources of demographic information (cont.)	Ch.2
3	Feb 3	Fertility: determinants, measures, and trends	Ch.3
4	Feb 8	Fertility (cont.)	Ch.3
4	Feb 10	Fertility regulation: contraception and abortion	Ch.4
5	Feb 15	Mortality: causes, measures, differentials, and trends	Ch.5
5	Feb 17	Mortality: causes, measures, differentials, and trends (cont.)	Ch.5
6	Feb 22	EXAM 1	None
6	Feb 24	Internal migration: determinants, flows, and consequences	Ch.6
7	Feb 29	Internal migration (cont.)	Ch.6
7	Mar 2	International migration: determinants, flows, and consequences	Ch.7
8	Mar 7	International migration (cont.)	Ch.7
8	Mar 9	Population age and sex structure	Ch.8
9	Mar 14, 16	<i>Spring Break: No classes</i>	None
10	Mar 21	Population age and sex structure (cont.)	Ch.8
10	Mar 23	EXAM 2	None
11	Mar 28	Global population growth and change	Ch.9
11	Mar 30	Global population growth and change (cont.)	Ch.9
12	Apr 4	Population change in the U.S.	Ch.10
12	Apr 6	Population distribution	Ch.11
13	Apr 11	Population distribution (cont.)	Ch.11
13	Apr 13	Population composition	Ch.12
14	Apr 18	Population composition (cont.)	Ch.12
14	Apr 20	Population policy	Ch.13
15	Apr 25	Population policy (cont.)	Ch.13
15	Apr 27	Population future	Ch.14
16	May 2	Review Paper progress: questions and answers	None
16	May 4	Catching up, overview and conclusions. <i>Review Paper is due.</i>	None
17	May 11	EXAM 3, 10:30-1	None