

University of Calgary
Department of Sociology
Sociology 355, Population and Society
Fall, 2011

Instructor:	Dr. Jenny Godley	Class Hours: T, Th 12:30-13:45
Office:	SS922	Class Location: CHC 105
Office Hours:	T, Th 11:00-12:00, or by appt.	
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Emergency evacuation:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom, please proceed to the assembly point at the Professional Faculties Food Court. (Alternate assembly point: Education Block Food Court). <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/75>

* Please use email for administrative concerns only. Substantive issues should be addressed in person, either in class, during office hours, or during an appointment time.

NOTE: this course outline is subject to revision. All changes will be announced in class.
Last revised 7 September, 2012

Overview:

This course is an introduction to the study of population structure (size, composition and distribution) and processes (fertility, mortality, migration). You will become familiar with the field of social demography and the relationship between population change and social problems. You will develop expertise on the demography of a specific country, and on a current demographic issue. By the end of the course you should be able to read and interpret demographic statistics and reports.

Objectives:

1. To familiarize you with the study of population structure and processes.
2. To expose you to theoretical and empirical work in social demography.
3. To teach you to read and interpret demographic statistics and reports.
4. To provide you with the opportunity to conduct your own demographic analysis of a problem of social inequality.
5. To provide you with the opportunity to become an expert on the demography of a specific country.

Text:

Population: An introduction to concepts and issues. (Eleventh Edition). (2012). By John R. Weeks. Wadsworth.

** Available for purchase at the U of C bookstore.

** Other readings will be made available during class, online, and on reserve at the library.

NOTE: You also need to purchase an account on the Peer Scholar website. You can do this at the bookstore, or online: <http://www.pearsoned.ca/highered/peerscholar/index.html>

Requirements:

A. Reading:

Readings are assigned for each day of class. Please come to class every day having read the materials. Bring any questions or comments you have about the readings with you to share with your classmates. Please bring your texts to class, as we will refer to them often.

B. In-Class Participation (Oral and Written):

You are encouraged to participate as fully as possible in classroom activities. Each class period may include numerous activities such as discussions, debates, presentations, and various forms of writing. Please take classroom participation seriously; respect your peers' contributions, and provide feedback as constructively as possible.

C. Exams:

You will have two mid terms and one final examination. The midterms will each be worth 15% of your final grade, and the final will be worth 40% of your final grade. The mid-terms will be held in class on Thursday 11 October and Thursday 15 November. The final will take place during the final examination period, and will be scheduled by the Registrar. The exams will contain both multiple choice and short answer questions. There may be some mathematical calculations required, and you are allowed to use calculators in the exams. Exams are mandatory. If you fail to take any of the exams without documentation, you will automatically fail the course.

NOTE: The only acceptable reasons for missing an examination in this class, as listed in the Deferral of Final Examinations section of the University of Calgary Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>), are illness, domestic affliction, or religious conviction. If you miss a mid-term examination, and you provide me with the appropriate documentation, the weight of the midterm exam will be added to your final examination. There are NO MAKE UP exams in this class. If you miss the final examination, you must contact the Registrar's Office immediately.

D. Assignments:

There are two mandatory assignments, each of which will be worth 20% of your grade, for a total of 40%. The assignments will be handled through the Peer Scholar website (<http://www.pearsoned.ca/highered/peerscholar/index.html>). Assignments will be distributed two weeks before the due date. After you submit your own assignment through the Peer Scholar website, you will have one week to evaluate the assignments of 5 of your colleagues in class. You are required BOTH to submit your own assignment AND to evaluate 5 other assignments to receive a grade.

Your grade on each assignment will be calculated based on a combination of your colleagues' assessments of your work and my assessment of your evaluations of others' work.

The dates for the 2 assignments are as follows:

Assignment 1: Distributed:	4 October
Due:	18 October
Evaluations Due:	25 October

Assignment 2: Distributed:	8 November
Due:	22 November
Evaluations Due:	29 November

The first assignment will be a country report. You will each write a short research report examining demographic issues in a specific country. Your country report should be 3-4 pages long (typed, double spaced, in 12-point font). More detailed information on this assignment will be distributed in class.

The second assignment will be an assessment of an issue of social inequality and how it is related to population. This assignment should be 3-4 pages long (typed, double-spaced, in 12-point font). More detailed information on this assignment will be distributed in class.

NOTE: No late assignments or peer evaluations will be accepted.

Grades:

Your final grade will be computed as follow:

- Mid Term One	15%
- Mid Term Two	15%
- Assignments	40%
- Final Examination	30%

I will use the following scale to convert percentage grades to letter grades for this class.

A+ = 95-100	A = 90-94	A- = 85-89
B+ = 80-84	B = 75-79	B- = 70-74
C+ = 65-69	C = 60-64	C- = 55-59
D+ = 50-54	D = 45-49	
F = below 45		

The following description of letter grades comes from the University of Calgary Calendar.

An A indicates superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

A B indicates clearly above average performance, with knowledge of the subject matter generally complete.

A C indicates satisfactory performance, with a basic understanding of the subject matter.

A D indicates marginal performance and generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.

An F indicates unsatisfactory performance, or failure to meet course requirements.

Policies:

- A. You are responsible for all the material covered in the textbook, in supplemental readings, and during lectures.
- B. In the event that you have to miss class, you are responsible for getting the lecture notes from another student in the class.
- C. I will not distribute my personal notes to students under any circumstances.
- D. All submitted work must be **YOUR OWN INDIVIDUAL WORK**. It is your responsibility to make sure you understand the definition of plagiarism, and that you avoid submitting any work which could be considered plagiarized. Students are advised to consult the 2012-2013 University of Calgary Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and

penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct. In particular, please note the following statement on penalties for academic misconduct: (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>)

- E. Cell phones, pagers, blackberries, surfing the internet, checking email, and listening to music are disruptive to other students. **No electronic devices** are allowed during class, with the exception of using a computer to take notes, conduct statistical analysis, or complete lab assignments. If you are caught using electronic devices for any other reason during class, you will be asked to leave the classroom.
- F. There are no re-writes on any assignments or examinations in this class, and no extra credit work will be given.
- G. If you expect to have trouble meeting *any* of the class deadlines, please make sure to discuss your concerns with me *before* the deadline.
- H. If you wish to discuss any grades in the class (on examinations or homework assignments) you must meet with me **IN PERSON**, either during office hours or during an appointment time. I will not discuss grades over email.
- I. The U of C Statement on Principles of Conduct, reproduced in the University of Calgary Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>), applies to all work in this class. Please familiarize yourself with this statement.

Additional Information:

- A. **FOIP:**
The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's office hours; if students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
- B. **Academic Accommodation:**
Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, telephone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.
- C. **Plagiarism:**

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. As a result, cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination are regarded as serious academic offenses. Students are advised to consult the 2011-2012 University of Calgary Calendar, which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with plagiarism, cheating, and other academic misconduct.

D. Safewalk:

The University of Calgary provides a safewalk service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the “Help” phones located around Campus.

E. Sociology Web Page:

<http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

F. USRI: At the completion of this course each student will be asked to complete an online Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) form.

G. Research Ethics:

Students are advised that any research with human subjects--including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation--must have the approval of the Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.

Deferred Final Exam Form:

Please note that requests to defer a Registrar-scheduled final exam are dealt with through the Registrar's Office. Further information about deadlines, and where paperwork should be taken, is available on the form, which can be found at:

http://ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

Deferral of term work past the end of a term also requires a form to be filled out. It's available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Week	Date	Reading	Topic	NOTES
One				
T	11 Sept		Intro. to course, materials, requirements	
Th	13 Sept	Chpt. 1	Intro. To Demography	
Two				
T	18 Sept	Chpt. 2	Global Population Trends	
Th	20 Sept	Chpt. 3	Demographic Perspectives	
Three				
T	25 Sept	Chpt. 3	Demographic Perspectives	
Th	27 Sept	Chpt. 4	Demographic Data	
Four				
T	2 Oct	Chpt. 5	Health and Mortality Transition	
Th	4 Oct	Chpt. 5	Health and Mortality Transition	Assignment 1 Distributed
Five				
T	9 Oct		Review	
Th	11 Oct		First Midterm	Covers Chapters 1-5

Six				
T	16 Oct	Chpt 6	Fertility Transition	
Th	18 Oct	Chpt 6	Fertility Transition	Assignment 1 DUE
Seven				
T	23 Oct	Chpt. 7	Migration Transition	
Th	25 Oct	Chpt. 7	Migration Transition	Peer Evaluations for Assignment 1 DUE
Eight				
T	30 Oct	Chpt. 8	Age Transition	
Th	1 Nov	Chpt. 8	Age Transition	
Nine				
T	6 Nov	Chpt 9	Urban Transition	
Th	8 Nov		Review	Assignment 2 Distributed
Ten				
T	13 Nov		NO CLASS	
Th	15 Nov		Second Midterm	Covers Chapters 1-9
Eleven				
T	20 Nov	Chpt 10	Family and Household Transition	
Th	22 Nov	Chpt 10	Family and Household Transition	Assignment 2 DUE
Twelve				
T	27 Nov	Chpt. 11	Population and the Environment	
Th	29 Nov	Chpt. 11	Population and the Environment	Peer Evaluations for Assignment 2 DUE

Thirteen

T	4 Dec	Chpt. 12	Global Action
Th	6 Dec	Review	

Final Examination (CUMULATIVE – covers the entire course): Registrar Scheduled
