

Sociology 574
Introduction to Demography
Spring 2006 (First seven weeks of semester)
Tuesday 9:50-12:30
Lucy Stone Hall A256

Professor: Deborah Carr
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Office Hours: Tuesday 1:30-3 p.m.

Course Description: This seven-week course will provide an overview of the core concepts of demography (mortality, fertility, and migration) and their implications for social life. The course will begin with an overview of the methods, measures, and theoretical frameworks used to study historical patterns and subgroup differentials in mortality, fertility, and migration. We will identify and discuss the social, economic, cultural, and technological forces driving these demographic patterns. Throughout the course, we will discuss the implications of fertility and mortality patterns for important aspects of social life, including gender and family roles, intergenerational and intergroup relations, social stratification, and health. The final week of the course is devoted to public policies that affect population size, distribution, and composition.

Prerequisites:

Graduate standing or permission of the instructor is required. Some familiarity with quantitative research methods is also highly recommended. A handout distributed on the first day of class provides a basic review of statistical methodologies; students with limited backgrounds in statistics should familiarize themselves with this information.

Readings:

All required and recommended readings will be distributed as PDF files on a CD-Rom on the first day of class. Students are strongly encouraged to read the recommended readings.

Course Requirements:

The course is organized as a seminar, and will blend lecture and discussion. During the first half of class, I will provide a lecture clarifying key concepts and an overview of the week's readings. The remaining time will be dedicated to in-depth discussion of the week's readings, and a discussion of questions that students introduce. Each week a student (or pair of students) will lead and moderate discussion. A core component of the discussion will be addressing questions raised by students prior to the start of class. The discussion leader(s) should receive each class participant's questions via email, by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to each Tuesday class.

Course grades are based on three components: leading a class discussion; serving as discussion leader; and completion of four discussion papers.

(1) Leading a discussion section (10 percent of class grade).

Each week, a student or pair of students will be responsible for leading discussion. The student leader(s) may base the discussion on the questions submitted by class participants, or may design a discussion that incorporates both assigned readings and his/her own research interests. Each week, all class members will email 2-3 discussion questions to the discussion leader and professor, no later than 5 p.m. Monday on the day prior to class.

(2) Participation in weekly discussion (10 percent of class grade).

This grade reflects one's class attendance, participation in discussion, and the quality of the questions submitted each week. All seminar participants are responsible for all of the assigned readings. Students should read carefully so that they come to class with both insightful comments and questions. Students who read materials that are not on the syllabus but that are germane to the discussion should feel free to contribute this knowledge to the discussion; the class as a whole will benefit from the specialized knowledge of all participants.

(3) Discussion papers (80 percent of class grade).

The main course requirement is the preparation of four short discussion papers (about 6-8 pages, double spaced). Each discussion paper is worth 20 percent of the overall course grade. The purpose of these papers is to help students integrate the assigned readings and to critically evaluate the arguments surrounding important issues in demography. A secondary goal is to teach students how to evaluate and interpret demographic data. *At least one of the discussion papers will be based on a student's independent research, and the reading and integration of materials not included in the required reading list.* Five paper topics will be distributed throughout the course of the semester; students should hand in four of the five papers. Each paper is due two weeks following the date that the assignment is distributed. I will not accept late assignments.

NO INCOMPLETES WILL BE GIVEN.

READING SCHEDULE

January 17: What is Demography? Concepts, Measures, and Methods.

Haupt, Arthur and Thomas T. Kane. 2004. *Population Reference Bureau's Population Handbook, 5th edition*. Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

McFalls, Joseph A., Jr. 2003. *Population: A Lively Introduction, 4th edition*. Population Bulletin 58(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Prewitt, Kenneth. 2000. "The U.S. Decennial Census: Political Questions, Scientific Answers." *Population and Development Review* 26: 1-16.

Symposium on Qualitative Methods in Population Studies:

Fricke, Tom. 1997. "The Uses of Culture in Demographic Research: A Continuing Place for Community Studies." *Population and Development Review* 23: 825-32.

Greenhalgh, Susan. 1997. "Methods and Meanings: Reflections on Disciplinary Difference." *Population and Development Review* 23: 819-824.

Knodel, John. 1997. "A Case of Nonanthropological Qualitative Methods for Demographers." *Population and Development Review* 23: 847-53.

Obermeyer, Carla Mahklouf. 1997. "Qualitative Methods: A Key to Better Understanding of Demographic Behavior?" *Population and Development Review* 23: 813-818.

Recommended:

Kent, Mary M. and Mark Mather. 2002. *What Drives U.S. Population Growth?* Population Reference Bureau 57(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

January 24: Demographic Transition and Population Change

Caldwell, John C. 1976. "Toward a Restatement of Demographic Transition Theory." *Population and Development Review* 2:321-366.

Davis, Kingsley. 1963. "The Theory of Change and Response in Modern Demographic History." *Population Index* 29: 345-66.

Kirk, Dudley. 1996. "Demographic Transition Theory." *Population Studies* 50: 361-387.

O'Neill, Brian and Deborah Balk. 2001. *World Population Futures*. Population Bulletin 56(3). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Preston, Samuel H. 1975. "The Changing Relation between Mortality and Level of Economic Development." *Population Studies* 29: 231-248.

Watkins, Susan Cotts. 1987. "The Fertility Transition: Europe and Third World Compared." *Sociological Forum* 2:645-673.

Recommended:

Malthus, Thomas R. 1798. *An Essay on the Principle of Population*, Chapters 1 and 2.

McLanahan, Sara. 2004. "Diverging Destinies: How Children are Faring under the Second Demographic Transition." *Demography* 41(4): 607-627.

Population Reference Bureau. 2004. *Transitions in World Population*. Population Bulletin 59(1): Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

January 31: Fertility

Bongaarts John. 1978. "A Framework for Analyzing the Proximate Determinants of Fertility." *Population and Development Review* 14: 105-32

Caldwell, John. 1980. "Mass Education as a Determinant of the Timing of Fertility Decline." *Population and Development Review* 6(2):225-255.

Forste, Renata and Marta Tienda. 1996. "What's Behind Racial and Ethnic Fertility Differentials?" *Population and Development Review* 22 (Supl.): 109-133.

Lloyd, Cynthia. 1991. "The Contribution of World Fertility Surveys to an Understanding of the Relationship between Women's Work and Fertility." *Studies in Family Planning* 22: 144-161.

Mason, Karen Oppenheim. 1997. "Explaining Fertility Transitions." *Demography* 34(4): 443-454.

Morgan, S. Philip. 2003. "Is Low Fertility a 21st Century Demographic Crisis?" *Demography* 40(4): 589-603.

Rindfuss, Ronald and Karin Brewster. 1996. "Childrearing and Fertility." *Population and Development Review* 22(Supl.): 258-289.

Schoen, Robert. Young J. Kim. Constance Nathanson, Jason Fields, Nan Marie Astone. 1997. "Why Do Americans Want Children?" *Population and Development Review* 23: 333-58.

Recommended:

Bumpass, Larry L. and R. Kelly Raley. 1995. "Redefining Single-Parent Families: Cohabitation and Changing Family Realities." *Demography* 32:97-109

Connelly, Rachel. 1996. "Comments on Fertility/Employment Interaction." *Population and Development Review* 22 (Supl). 290-294.

Martin, Steven P. 2000. "Diverging Fertility Among U.S. Women Who Delay Childbearing Past Age 30." *Demography* 37: 523-533.

McDaniel, Antonio. 1996. "Fertility and Racial Stratification." *Population and Development Review* 22 (Suppl.): 134-150.

Presser, Harriet. 2001. "Comment: A Gender Perspective for Understanding Low Fertility in Post-Transitional Societies." *Population and Development Review* 27 (Suppl.): 177-183.

February 7: Marriage, Cohabitation, and Divorce

Bianchi, Suzanne. 1995. "The Changing Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics of Single-Parent Families." *Marriage and Family Review* 20(1-2): 71-97.

Bianchi, Suzanne and Lynn M. Casper. 2000. *American Families*. Population Bulletin 55(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Bumpass, Larry. 1990. "What's Happening to the Family? Interactions between Demographic and Institutional Change." *Demography* 27 (November): 483-93

Cherlin, Andrew. 1978. "Remarriage as an Incomplete Institution." *American Journal of Sociology* 84(3): 634-50.

Goldstein, Joshua R. and Catherine T. Kenney. 2001. "Marriage Delayed or Marriage Foregone? New Cohort Forecasts of First Marriage for U.S. Women." *American Sociological Review* 66(4): 506-519.

Ruggles, Steven. 1997. "The Rise of Divorce and Separation in the United States, 1880-1990." *Demography* 34: 455-466.

See also:

Oppenheimer, Valerie K. 1997. "Comment." *Demography* 34: 467-72.

Preston, Samuel. 1997. "Comment." *Demography* 34: 473-4.

Ruggles, Steven. 1997. "Reply." *Demography* 34: 475-79.

Smock, Pamela. 2000. "Cohabitation in the United States: An Appraisal of Research Themes, Findings, and Implications." *Annual Review of Sociology* 26: 1-20.

Recommended:

Teachman, Jay. 2002. "Stability across Cohorts in Divorce Risk Factors." *Demography* 39(2): 331-351.

Thornton, Arland and Linda Young-DeMarco. 2001. "Four Decades of Trends in Attitudes Toward Family Issues in the United States: The 1960s through the 1990s." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 63: 1009-1037.

February 14: Mortality

Hummer, Robert A., Richard G. Rogers, and Isaac W. Eberstein. 1998. "Socioeconomic Differences in Adult Mortality: A Review of Analytic Approaches." *Population and Development Review* 24: 553-578.

Kinsella, Kevin and Yvonne J. Gist. 1998. *Gender and Aging*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Lynch, Scott M., J. Scott Brown, and Katherine G. Harmsen. 2003. "Black-White Differences in Mortality Compression and Deceleration and the Mortality Crossover Reconsidered." *Research on Aging* 25(5): 456-483.

Olshansky, S. Jay, Bruce A. Carnes, and Christine Cassel. 1990. "In Search of Methuselah: Estimating the Upper Limits to Human Longevity." *Science* 250(8): 634-40.

Omran, Abdel R. 1971 (2005). "The Epidemiologic Transition: A Theory of the Epidemiology of Population Change." *The Milbank Quarterly* 49(4): 509-38.

Preston, Samuel H. 1977. "Mortality Trends." *Annual Review of Sociology* 3: 167-178.

Recommended:

Frisbie, W. Parker, Seung-Eun Song, Daniel A. Powers, and Julie A. Street. 2004. "The Increasing Racial Disparity in Infant Mortality: Respiratory Distress Syndrome and other Causes." *Demography* 41(4): 773-800.

Palloni, Alberto and Elizabeth Arias. 2004. "Paradox Lost: Explaining the Hispanic Adult Mortality Disadvantage." *Demography* 41(3): 385-416.

Perrott, George St. J., and Dorothy F. Holland. 1940 (2005). "Population Trends and Problems of Public Health." *Milbank Quarterly* 18(4): 359-92.

February 21: Migration

Epsenshade, Thomas J., Jessica L. Baraka, and Gregory A. Huber. 1997. "Implications of the 1996 Welfare and Immigration Reform Acts for U.S. Immigration." *Population and Development Review* 23(4): 769-801.

Martin, Philip and Elizabeth Midgely. 2003. *Immigration to the United States*. Population Bulletin 58(2). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Martin, Philip and Jonas Widgren. 2002. *International Migration: Facing the Challenge*. Population Bulletin 55(1). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Massey, Douglas S. 1999. "International Migration at the Dawn of the 21st Century: The Role of the State." *Population and Development Review* 25: 303-322.

Tolnay, Stewart E. 2003. "The African American 'Great Migration' and Beyond. *Annual Review of Sociology* 29: 209-232.

Recommended:

Jasso, Guillermina, Douglas S. Massey, Mark Rosenweig, and James P. Smith. 2000. "The New Immigrant Survey Pilot (NIS-P): Overview and New Findings about U.S. Legal Immigrants at Admission." *Demography* 37: 127-138.

Kritz, Mary M. and Douglas T. Gurak. 2001. "The Impact of Immigration on the Internal Migration of Natives and Immigrants." *Demography* 38(1): 133-45.

Ravenstein, E.G. 1885. "The Laws of Migration." *Journal of the Statistical Society* 48: 167-235.

February 28: Population Policy

Barrett, Deborah & Tsui, Amy O. 1999. "Policy as Symbolic Statement: International Response to National Population Policies." *Social Forces*. 79(1):213-233.

Basu, Alaka. 1997. "The 'Politicization' of Fertility to Achieve Non-demographic Objectives." *Population Studies* 51: 5-20.

Demeny, Paul. 1988. "Social Science and Population Policy." *Population and Development Review* 14: 451-479.

King, Leslie and Madonna Harrington Meyer. 1997. "The Politics of Reproductive Benefits: U.S. Insurance Coverage of Contraceptive and Infertility Treatments." *Gender and Society* 11(1):8-30.

Pritchett, Lant 1994. "Desired Fertility and the Impact of Population Policies." *Population and Development Review* 20: 1-55.

See also:

Knowles, J.C. et al. 1994. "Comment." *Population and Development Review* 20: 611-15.

Bongaarts, J. 1994. "Comment." *Population and Development Review* 20: 616-20.

Pritchett, L. 1994. "Reply." *Population and Development Review* 20: 621-30.

Recommended:

Greenhalgh, Susan 1994. "Controlling Births and Bodies in Village China." *American Ethnologist* 21: 3-30

Hardee-Cleveland K, and Judith Banister. 1988. "Fertility Policy and Implementation in China, 1986-88". *Population and Development Review* 14: 245-86.