

Sociology 574
Introduction to Demography
Spring 2010 (First seven weeks of semester)
Monday 1:10-3:50 p.m.
Lucy Stone Hall A256

Professor: Deborah Carr
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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30 - 4:30, and by appointment.

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 posted on the course Sakai website. 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 Sunday prior to each Monday 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. Sunday 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 required 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 expertise 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.* 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 25: What is Demography? Concepts, Measures, and Methods.

McFalls, Joseph A., Jr. 2007. *Population: A Lively Introduction, 5th edition*. Population Bulletin 58(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

Population Reference Bureau. 2009. *The U.S. Census Tradition*. Washington, DC: 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:

Haupt, Arthur and Thomas T. Kane. 2004. *Population Reference Bureau's Population Handbook, 5th edition*. Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau. [A very valuable reference source]

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

February 1: 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.

Kent, Mary M. and Carl Haub. 2005. *Global Demographic Divide*. Population Reference Bureau 60(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

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

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.

February 8: Fertility [Class session to be held 9:10-11:50 a.m., Friday 2/12]

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 (Suppl.): 109-133.

McLanahan, Sara and Christine Percheski 2008. “Family Structure and the Reproduction of Inequalities.” *Annual Review of Sociology* 34: 257-276.

Morgan, S. Philip and Miles Taylor. 2006. “Low Fertility in the 21st Century.” *Annual Review of Sociology*. 32:375-400.

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.

Wu, Lawrence L. 2008. “Cohort Estimates of Nonmarital Fertility for U.S. Women.” *Demography* 45: 193-207.

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 (Suppl). 290-294.

Hayford, Sarah R. 2009. “The Evolution of Fertility Expectations over the Life Course.” *Demography* 46: 765-783.

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

Parrado, Emilio A. and S. Philips Morgan. 2008. "Intergenerational Fertility among Hispanic Women; New Evidence of Immigrant Assimilation." *Demography* 45: 651-671.

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

February 15: 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 Forgone? New Cohort Forecasts of First Marriage for U.S. Women." *American Sociological Review* 66:506-519.

Rosenfield, Michael J. 2006. "Young Adulthood as a Factor in Social Change in the United States." *Population and Development Review* 32: 27-51.

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.

Watkins, Susan Cotts, Jane A. Menken, and John Bongaarts. 1987. "Demographic Foundations of Family Change." *American Sociological Review* 52:346-358.

Recommended:

Carlson, Marcia J., Sara S. McLanahan, and Jeanne Brooks-Gunn. 2008. "Coparenting and Nonresident Fathers' Involvement with Young Children after a Nonmarital Birth." *Demography* 45: 461-488.

Carpenter, Christopher and Gary J. Gates. 2008. "Gay and Lesbian Partnerships: Evidence from California." *Demography* 45: 573-590.

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.

Vaaler, Margaret L., Christopher G. Ellison, and Daniel A. Powers. 2009. "Religious Influences on the Risk of Marital Dissolution." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 71: 917-934.

February 22: Mortality

Elo, Irma T. 2009. "Social Class Differentials in Health and Mortality: Patterns and Explanations in Comparative Perspective." *Annual Review of Sociology* 35: 553-72.

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.

Preston, Samuel H., and Irma T. Elo. 2006. "Black Mortality at Very Old Ages in Official U.S. Life Tables: A Skeptical Appraisal." *Population and Development Review* 32: 557-565.

Sanderson, Warren and Sergei Scherbov. 2008. *Rethinking Age and Aging*. Population Reference Bureau 63(4). Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau.

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

Recommended:

Liu, Hui. 2009. "Till Death Do Us Part: Marital Status and U.S. Mortality Trends, 1986-1990." *Journal of Marriage and Family* 71: 1158-1173.

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.

March 1: Migration

Coleman, David. 2006. "Immigration and Ethnic Change in Low-Fertility Countries: A Third Demographic Transition." *Population and Development Review* 32: 401-446.

Martin, Philip and Elizabeth Midgely. 2006. *Immigration: Shaping and Reshaping America*. Population Bulletin 61(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.

Van Dalen, Hendrik and Kene Henkens. 2007. "Longing for the Good Life: Understanding Emigration from a High-Income Country." *Population and Development Review* 33: 37-65.

March 8: 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.