POPULATION DYNAMICS AND SOCIAL POLICY

PPOL 8683-001 (& SOCY 6090-001)

FALL 2015

1:00 pm - 3:45 pm Monday Fretwell 480C

Phone: 704 687 7818

Class Website: Moodle2.uncc.edu

Professor Rosemary L. Hopcroft Office: Fretwell 490 B

Office Hours: Wed 12.30 -2.30 pm

and by appointment.

E-mail: rlhopcro@uncc.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

PPOL 8683. Population Dynamics and Public Policy. Basic population characteristics, such as age distribution, life expectancy, fertility, mortality and changes or trends in these characteristics are relevant to nearly all public policy. This class is an introduction to basic concepts and tools of demographic analysis and how they may be applied to the study of social policy including family policy, aging policy, and minority groups' policy.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

From this class, students will learn basic concepts and tools of demographic analysis including demographic projection. They will understand the interplay between economic factors and demographic factors. They will understand applications of demographic methods and concepts to questions of social policy, particularly family policy, aging policy and minority groups policy.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Course readings available on electronic reserve through Moodle.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD:

Classes will be conducted utilizing a combination of lectures, student reports, and class discussions. Questions and class discussion are both highly encouraged. If you are unclear about a lecture, reading assignment, etc., it is expected that you will ask for clarification. You will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings and to actively participate in the discussions.

STUDENT EVALUATION:

There will be both a midterm and a final exam. The exams will require you to apply the material covered in class and the readings. If you cannot be present for an exam, you must notify me prior to the scheduled exam time and have a verifiable excuse.

In addition, you will be responsible for summarizing and leading discussion on an assigned article or chapter several times in the course of the semester. Students will choose their articles the second class meeting.

Finally, you also will complete a research paper on population dynamics and implications in an area of interest. Please see the instructor to discuss and clarify your specific topic. You will be expected to present your findings to the class at the end of the semester. Each presentation should be approximately 15 minutes.

Grading:

Midterm	33%
Final	33%
Paper	24%
Presentations	10%
(including summaries)	

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic dishonesty (cheating) will not be tolerated in this class. Acts of academic dishonesty will be prosecuted to the fullest extent and will be referred to the Academic Integrity Board. Students should be familiar with the "UNC-Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity" outlined at http://www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/ps-105.html. In this class cheating includes but is not limited to intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own work (without proper acknowledgment of the source), intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another commit an act of academic dishonesty, assisting other students or acquiring help on your homework assignments.

DISABILITIES:

If you have a documented disability please see Disability Services in Fretwell 230 (687-4355). If you believe that your disability will affect your performance in this class, you must contact Disability Services in a "timely manner" during the first part of the term and ask that they draw up an accommodation form.

GENERAL COURSE POLICY:

My most general policy is this: if you have a problem with completing the course requirements, see me about it AHEAD of time (before the exam, etc). Call, e-mail, or leave a message. All makeups must be completed within one week of the originally scheduled exam date or assignment due date -- it is *your responsibility* to contact me to arrange for the makeup. Missed makeup exams/assignments will be recorded as a zero.

READING AND CLASS SCHEDULE

Note: All readings available on reserve in the Atkins library.

Week One: Introduction to Class; human demographic history

8/24

Readings: El-Badry, M. A. (1991) "The growth of world population: Past, present

and future," Ch. 1 in UN, Consequences of Rapid Population Growth in

Developing Countries, p.15-40.

Keyfitz, N. (1982) "Population Theory," in J. A. Ross, ed., *International Encyclopedia of Population*, Vol. 2:536-544, Macmillan and Free Press.

Week Two: Population and Economy

8/31

Readings: Ronald D. Lee. 2003. "The Demographic Transition: Three Centuries of

Fundamental Change." Journal of Economic Perspectives 17: 167-190.

Hirschman, Charles. 1994. "Why fertility changes." Annual Review of

Sociology 20: 203-233.

Week Three: No class Labor Day

9/07

Week Week 4: Population and Human Choice

9/14

Readings: Morgan, S. Philip. 1996. "Characteristic Features of Modern American

Fertility." *Population and Development Review* 22: 19-63.

Hannum, Emily. 2005. "Market Transition, Educational Disparities, and Family Strategies in Rural China: New Evidence on Gender Stratification

and Development." *Demography*, Vol. 42, No. 2, pp. 275-299

Read if necessary:

Becker, Gary S. (1979) "The Economic Approach to Human Behavior," Ch. 1 in *The Economic Approach to Human Behavior*, The University of Chicago Press, pp. 3-14.

Lipsey, Richard G., Steiner, Peter O. (1981) "Demand, Supply, and Price," in *Economics* Sixth Edition. New York, Harper and Row

Week Five: Basic Demographic Concepts and Techniques

9/21

Readings: Srinivasan, K. 1998. Basic Demographic Techniques and Applications.

New Delhi, India: Sage. Chs. 3.5, 4, 5, 6.3, 6.4,

Week Six: Public Policy Uses of Demographic Techniques

9/28

Readings: Srinivasan, K. 1998. Basic Demographic Techniques and Applications.

New Delhi, India: Sage. Chs. 8, 11, 12.

Week Seven: Mortality and Social Policy

10/5

Readings: Mokyr, Joel.1993. "Technological Progress and the Decline of European

Mortality" American Economic Review 83 324-329.

Alan D. Lopez, et al. 2006. "The Global and Regional Burden of Disease

and Risk Factors in 2001: Health Priorities at the Beginning of the

Millennium." Lancet 367: 1747-57

*Midterm Exam

Week Eight: Fall Break UNCC No readings

10/12

Week Nine: Mortality and Social Policy continued

10/19

Readings: Samuel Preston .1996. "American Longevity: Past, Present, and Future."

Syracuse University, Maxwell Center for Policy Research, Policy Brief no.

7.

Crimmins, E.M., & Beltrán-Sánchez, H. .2010. "Mortality and morbidity

trends: is there compression of morbidity?" Journal of Gerontology:

Social Sciences, 66B(1), 75–86.

Keeney, Ralph L. 1995. "Understanding Life Threatening Risks." *Risk*

Analysis 15:627.

Week Ten: Fertility and Social Policy

10/26

Readings: Caldwell, John C., Barkat E-Khuda, Bruce Caldwell, Indrani Pieris, and

Pat Caldwell. 1999. "The Bangladesh Fertility Decline." Population and

Development Review 25:67-84.

Rosenzweig, Mark R. "Population Growth and Human Capital Investments: Theory and Evidence." *Journal of Political Economy* 98(5) S38-S70.

Week Eleven: 11/2

Fertility and Social Policy continued

Readings:

Huber, Suzanne, Fred L. Bookstein and Martin Fieder. 2010. "Socioeconomic Status, Education, and Reproduction in Modern Women: An Evolutionary Perspective." *American Journal of Human Biology* 22:578-587

Kohler, Hans-Peter, J.L. Rodgers, and K. Christensen. 1999. "Is Fertility Behavior in Our Genes? Findings From a Danish Twin Study." *Population and Development Review* 25:253-88.

James Feyrer, Bruce Sacerdote, and Ariel Stern. 2008. "Will the Stork Return to Europe and Japan? Understanding Fertility within Developed Nations." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 22, 3: 3-22.

Week Twelve: 11/9

Population and Family Policy

Readings:

Office, US Census Bureau Public Information. 2012. "US Census Bureau Newsroom: Population: Most Children Younger Than Age 1 Are Minorities, Census Bureau Reports." United States Census Bureau.

http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/population/cb12-90.html.

Meyers, Marcia K., Janet C. Gornick, and Laura R. Peck. 2001. "Packaging Support for Low-Income Families: Policy Variation across the United States." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 20(3):457-483.

Patrick Heuveline, J.M. Timberlake and Frank F. Furstenberg (2003) "Shifting Child Rearing to Single Mothers: Results from 17 Western Nations," *Population and Development Review* 29, 1: 47-71.

Christopher, Karen, Paula England, Timothy M. Smeeding, Katherin Ross Phillips. 2002. "The Gender Gap in Poverty in Modern Nations: Single Motherhood, the Market, and the State." *Sociological Perspectives* 45, 3: 219-242

Week Thirteen 11/16

Population and Aging Policy

Readings:

James C. Riley (2001). *Rising Life Expectancy: A Global History*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge UK. Ch. 1 "A Brief Overview of the Health Transition" and Ch.2 "Public Health" pp. 32-80.

Preston, S. 1984. "Children and the Elderly: Divergent Paths for America's Dependents," *Demography* 21:435-457.

Button, T. 1992. "A Sign of Generational Conflict: The Impact of Florida's Aging Voters on Local School and Tax Referenda," *Social Science Quarterly* 73:786-798.

Congressional Budget Office (2009). The Long-Term Budget Outlook. Chapter 2 "The Long-term Outlook for Medicare, Medicaid, and Total Health Care Spending" (pages 21-36)

Week Fourteen: 11/23

Population and Minority Group Policy

Readings:

Sandefur, Gary D., et al., 2001. "An Overview of Racial and Ethnic Demographic Trends." Pp. 40-102 in Smelser, Wilson and Mitchell, (eds.), *America Becoming: Racial Trends and Their Consequences*. Volume 1. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.

Prewitt, Kenneth. 1987. "Public Statistics and Democratic Politics." Pp. 261-274 in Alonso and Starr, (eds.), *The Politics of Numbers*. New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

Week Fifteen: 11/30

Population and Minority Group Policy continued

Readings:

United Nations Development Programme (2009). Human Development Report 2009. Ch. 2 "People in Motion: Who Moves Where, When, and Why" UN, New York: 21-48.

Jimenez, Tomas R. 2011. "Immigrants in the United States: How Well Are They Integrating into Society? Migration Policy Institute." http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/integration-Jimenez.pdf.

Additional Readings:

Swain, Carol M. 2001. "Affirmative Action: Legislative History, Judicial Interpretations, Public Consensus." Pp. 318-347 in Smelser, Wilson and Mitchell, (eds.), *America Becoming: Racial Trends and Their*

Consequences. Volume 1. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.

Tienda, Marta. 1999. "Immigration, Opportunity and Social Cohesion." Pp. 129-146 in Neil J. Smelser and Jeffrey C. Alexander (eds.) *Diversity and Its Discontents: Cultural Conflict and Common Ground in Contemporary American Society*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Week Sixteen

12/7

Review

*Student paper presentations

Final Exam: .MON......DEC 1411:00 - 1:30 pm

^{*} Outline subject to change at Instructor's discretion with due notice to students