

Urban Studies and Planning 521
Applied Demographic Methods II: Modern Population Concepts and Challenges
Portland State University

Course Syllabus
Spring Term, 2023

Course Information:

Instructor:

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Office Hours: by appointment.

Course Description

This graduate-level course is the second part of the two-course sequence on demographic methods. As such, this course will cover fundamental concepts, measures and methods of demographic analysis. In addition to addressing the theoretical background of population research, the course introduces students to basic demographic concepts, components of population change, demographic data sources, and techniques of population analysis – including population estimates, forecasts, and projections. As a vehicle to learn these methods, this course will focus on big-picture population challenges faced by society, such as the perils of low and high fertility, climate change, population aging, migration, and economic-demographic interactions, among others.

Course Materials

Each week there will be two 45-minute lectures, as well as other possible assigned readings. The textbook for this course is Rowland, Donald T. (2003) *Demographic Methods and Concepts*. New York, NY. Oxford University Press. Additional required and suggested readings will be posted on Canvas.

Evaluation and Grading

Your grade for the course will be based on 10 assignments, each consisting of 10% of your final grade. All materials will be posted on **Wednesday** of each week, and due the following **Tuesday at 11:59 pm**. Assignments are submitted to my email joshuaw@pdx.edu.

Weekly Schedule for Spring Term, 2023

Week 1. April 3-7	Introduction to Population Analysis and Demographic Research
Week 2. April 10-14	Measuring Populations
Week 3. April 17-21	Population Projections
Week 4. April 24-28	Demographics and the Economy
Week 5. May 1-5	Global Challenge: The Push and Pull of Migration
Week 6. May 8-12	Global Challenge: Maternal Health and Demographic Processes
Week 7. May 15-19	Global Challenge: Population Health and Demographic Processes in Low-Income Countries
Week 8. May 22-26	Global Challenge: Low Fertility and Population Aging
Week 9. May 29-2	Global Challenge: High Fertility and The Demographic Dividend
Week 10. June 5-9	Global Challenge: Climate Change and Population

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to be ethical not only in the classroom, but also out of the classroom. It is in all students' interest to avoid committing acts of academic dishonesty and to discourage others from committing such acts. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: engages in any form of academic deceit; refers to materials or sources or uses devices not authorized by the instructor for use during any assignment; provides inappropriate aid to another person in connection with any assignment; engages in Plagiarism.

Plagiarism is the act of claiming someone's work as your own through copying it without giving the creator of the work credit. Plagiarism can also include using another person's theories, ideas, or phrases without proper attribution. The simplest way to avoid plagiarizing is to always cite the sources from which you gather information or develop arguments. Plagiarism is a serious issue and is a violation of the PSU's Code of Student Conduct. University policy requires instructors to report all instances of plagiarism and penalize the perpetrator(s) according to guidelines set. Please see me if you ever have any questions about how to cite your work and see PSU's guide for avoiding plagiarism.

Access and Inclusion for Students with Disabilities

PSU values diversity and inclusion. We are committed to fostering mutual respect and full participation for all students and to create a learning environment that is equitable, useable, inclusive, and welcoming. If any aspects of instruction or course design result in barriers to your inclusion or learning, please notify me. If you have, or think you may have, a disability or condition that may affect your work in this class and feel you need accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (503-725-4150 or drc@pdx.edu) to schedule an appointment and initiate a conversation about reasonable accommodations. If you already have accommodations, and I have not yet contacted you about accommodations, please contact me to make sure that I have received your faculty notification letter from the DRC so we can discuss your accommodations.

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Policy

PSU is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and harassment. If you have experienced any form of discrimination or harassment, there are several resources available for you on campus. Please review PSU's Interim Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Policy for details. Discriminatory harassment includes sexual harassment; further information, including reporting options, can be found on PSU's Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response website. If you have not already done so, please complete the student module Creating a Safe Campus on D2L. Please be aware that as a faculty member, I have the responsibility to report any instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination to PSU's Title IX Coordinator, the Office of Equity and Compliance or the Dean of Student Life and cannot keep information confidential. You may report any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, to either the Office of Equity and Compliance or the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Please be aware that PSU's policies require faculty members to report instances of sexual harassment, sexual violence and/or other forms of prohibited discrimination.