



**Stockholm  
University**

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

## **Course Syllabus: Population Development and Social Change (2019)**

### **Coordinators**

Gunnar Anderssona and Eleonora Mussino

### **1. General information**

The course consists of 7.5 ECTS credits and is at advanced level in Demography.

### **2. Decision**

The syllabus is approved by the head of Department on behalf of the board of the Department of Sociology at Stockholm University as of May 2007.

### **3. Entrance qualifications**

Course applicants should have completed 90 ECTS credits in the social sciences, gender studies, or history.

### **4. Course organization**

The course is provided at full time during 4-5 weeks. Course participants meet around three times per week. Two half-week periods are devoted to independent examination work.

### **5. Course contents**

The course offers an introduction to demography, i.e., to the field of population studies. It introduces students to the discipline and its theory, methods, and sources of data. Important societal issues related to population development, population structure (including population ageing), and population policy are studied both from a historical and a contemporary perspective. The course covers international issues in demography (relevant to rich and poor countries) as well as issues that are specific to Sweden.

### **6. Learning outcome**

After accomplishing this course, participants are expected to be able to:

In terms of knowledge and understanding:

- Describe and explain basic demographic terms.
- Provide an overview of main issues of population developments in Sweden.

- Describe and explain the most common demographic methods and identify data sources that demographers commonly use. The student should also be able to discuss the advantages and shortcomings of different data sources.
- Compare different demographic perspectives as they appear in the literature and describe how they have been applied in demographic studies.
- Provide an overview of global population developments in historical and contemporary perspectives and discuss main forces behind these developments.
- Identify and discuss problems arising from population ageing.
- Provide an overview of Swedish population policies and analyze different approaches to population issues that exist internationally.

In terms of accomplishment and competence:

- Write and present shorter scientific texts with demographic contents and policy relevance.

In terms of values and evaluation:

- Critically review demographic data and literature relevant for a particular research question.

## **7. Instruction and examination**

The course is given by means of lectures and seminars, with scope for interaction and student presentations. Examination contains a written and an oral part. The oral part comprises participation in general discussions as well as participation and presentation at two course seminars. Grades are “pass” and “not pass”. The latter grade can be upgraded by means of delivery of an acceptable written presentation. The course is completed by means of written home exam, amounting to independent work on essays on a set of six demographic questions. Questions are addressed with written text of around 1,000 words per question and the purpose to demonstrate that the course participant has fulfilled learning outcomes under point 6 above. The texts are graded as Good, Sufficient or Not sufficient.

In combination with “pass” on the oral part of the examination, the overall grade for the course is produced according to the following criteria:

- A - Excellent: Good on 6 questions, Sufficient on all others
- B - Very good: Good on 5 questions, Sufficient on all others
- C - Good: Good on 3 or 4 of the 6 questions, Sufficient on all others
- D - Satisfactory: Good on 2 of the 6 questions, Sufficient on all others
- E - Sufficient: Good on one or none questions, Sufficient on all others
- Fx - Not sufficient: Not sufficient on 1 question
- F - Fail: Not sufficient on more than 2 questions

The grade can be upgraded by means of exceptional deliveries during classes and seminars.

E is needed to pass the course. Fx indicates that the student is offered the opportunity to upgrade his or her exam. Students with grade F or Fx are entitled to take another exam as long as the course is provided in order to achieve grade E at least. A student with E is not entitled to another examination to raise his or her grade.

## **8. Literature:** Appendix 1. Teaching schedule in Appendix 2.

## APPENDIX 1

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

### Population Development and Social Change (7.5 ECTS credits)

#### *Course book*

Livi-Bacci, Massimo. *A Concise History of World Population*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

#### *Sweden-specific literature*

Hofsten, Erland. 1982. *Demografins grunder*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. (Only mandatory for Swedish-speaking students who need to be introduced to Swedish demographic terminology. Off-prints for sale.)

#### *Re-prints* (Sold at Akademibokhandeln.)

Bengtsson, Tommy and Rolf Ohlsson. 1994. The demographic transition revised. Pp. 13, 17-24, and 28-33. In T. Bengtsson (ed): *Population, Economy and Welfare in Sweden*. Berlin: Springer Verlag.

Boserup, Ester. 1981. *Population and Technological Change*. Pp 3-7. The University of Chicago Press.

Malthus, T. 1992/1803. *An Essay on the Principles of Population*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp 13-19 and 21-28.

Lutz, Wolfgang et al. 2004. *The End of World Population Growth*. Earthscan: pp 3-9 and 28-35.

Weeks, John. 2012. *An Introduction to Population*. Belmont CA: Wadsworth. Pp 100-03, 176-77, 233-34, 317-18, 323-25, 349-50 of 11<sup>th</sup> international edition.

#### *Articles*

Andersson, Gunnar. 2007. A review of policies and practices related to the “highest-low” fertility of Sweden. *Stockholm Research Reports in Demography, SRRD* 2007:1. Available [www.suda.su.se](http://www.suda.su.se)

Basten, Stuart and Quanbao Jiang. 2015. Fertility in China: An uncertain future. *Population Studies* 69(sup1): S97-S105.

Behr, Michelle. 2006. An American in Berlin: reflections on the German demographic challenge, immigration, and national identity. *Population Research and Policy Review* 25(5-6): 465-477.

Becker, Stan and David Lam. 2013. Has the World really survived the Population Bomb? *Demography* 50(6): 2173-2186.

Bengtsson, Tommy and Kirk Scott. 2010. The ageing population. In: Bengtsson, T. (ed.), *Population Ageing - A Threat to the Welfare State*. Berlin: Springer Verlag [available online].

- Bengtsson, Tommy and Kirk Scott. 2011. Population aging and the future of the welfare state: The example of Sweden. *Population and Development Review* 37 (Supplement): 158-170.
- Bledsoe, Caroline. 2004. Reproduction at the margins: migration and legitimacy in the New Europe. *Demographic Research*, Special Collection 3(4).
- Bloom, David and Alfonso Sousa-Poza. 2013. Aging and productivity: Introduction. *Labour Economics* 2013, 3pp.
- Bloom, David and David Canning. 2003. How demographic change can bolster economic performance in developing countries. *World Economics* 4(4): 1-14.
- Demeny, Paul. 2011. Population policy and the demographic transition: Performance, prospects and options. *Population and Development Review* 37(supplement): 249-274.
- Drefahl, Sven; Anders, Ahlbom and Karin Modig. 2014. Losing ground - Swedish life expectancy in a comparative perspective. *PLOS ONE* 9(2): 1-10.
- Coleman, David and Stuart Basten. 2015. The death of the West: An alternative view. *Population Studies* 69(sup1): S107-S118.
- Cooke, Thomas. 2011. It is not just the economy: Declining migration and the rise of secular rootedness. *Population, Space and Place* 17(3): 193-203.
- Ehrlich, Paul and Anne Ehrlich. 2012. Solving the human predicament. *International Journal of Environmental Studies* 69(4): 557-565.
- Finkle, Jason and Alison McIntosh. 2002. United Nations Population Conferences: Shaping the policy agenda for the twenty-first century. *Studies in Family Planning* 33(1): 11-23.
- Goldscheider, Frances. 1990. The aging of the gender revolution: What do we know and what do we need to know? *Research on Aging* 12(4): 531-545.
- Hagestad, G. and P. Uhlenberg. 2006. Should we be concerned about age segregation? Some theoretical and empirical explorations. *Research on Aging* 28(6): 638-653.
- Hesketh, Therese and Zhu Wei Xing. 2006. Abnormal sex ratios in human populations: Causes and consequences. *PNAS* 103(36): 13271-13275.
- Kain, John. 1968. Housing segregation, negro employment, and metropolitan decentralization. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 82(2): 175-197.
- Kinsella, Kevin and David Phillips. 2005. The challenge of global aging. *Population Bulletin* 60(1).
- Lee, Ron. 1994. The formal demography of population ageing, transfers, and the economic life cycle. In: Martin and Preston (eds.), *Demography of Ageing*. Washington: National Academy Press, pp 8-49.
- McDonald, Peter. 2006. Low fertility and the state: the efficacy of policy. *Population and Development Review* 32(3): 485-510.
- McNeill, J.R. 2006. Population and natural environment: Trends and challenges. *Population and Development Review* 32(1): 183-201.
- McNicoll, Geoffrey. 2006. Policy lessons of the East Asian demographic transition. *Population and Development Review* 32(1): 1-25.

- Merrick, Thomas. 2002. Population and poverty: New views on an old controversy. *International Family Planning Perspectives* 28(1): 41-45.
- Oláh, L. and E. Bernhardt. 2008. Sweden: Combining childbearing and gender equality. *Demographic Research* 19(28): 1105-1144.
- Ravenstein, E.G. 1885. The laws of migration. *Journal of the Statistical Society of London* 48(2): 167-235.
- Schröder, Lena. 2007. From problematic objects to resourceful subjects: An overview of immigrant-native labour market gaps from a policy perspective. *Swedish Economic Policy Review* 14: 7-31.
- Sjögren Lindquist, G. and E. Wadensjö. 2009. Retirement, pensions and work in Sweden. *The Geneva Papers* 34:578-590.
- Smil, Vaclav. 1994. How many people can the Earth feed? *Population and Development Review* 20(2): 255-292.
- Statistics Sweden. 1999. *Befolkningsutvecklingen under 250 år - Historisk statistik för Sverige. / Population changes during 250 years. Historical statistics for Sweden*. Stockholm: Statistiska Centralbyrån. Online pdf: <https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/857>

## APPENDIX 2

### COURSE SCHEDULE FALL 2019 – Population Development and Social Change

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Tuesday	3 Sep	10-13	B315	Introduction, GA SUDA
Tuesday	3 Sep	15-17	B315	Introduction, GA CHESS
Wed	4 Sep	10-12	D416	Population development in Sweden, AZ
Thu	5 Sep	10-12	D499	Intro to demographic methods, GA
Friday	6 Sep	13-15	E306	Demographic data, GA
Monday	9 Sep	13-15	Hörsal 12	Demographic perspectives, EM/SB
Tue	10 Sep	11-13	Hörsal 9	Population structure & ageing, SA
Wed	11 Sep	13-15	D416	Population development globally,
Wed	18 Sep	10-12	Hörsal 11	Population and environment, GN
Thu	19 Sep	13-15	E306	Spatial demography & urbanization, JÖ
Fri	20 Sep	10-13	D231	Population ageing, EM/SB SUDA
Fri	20 Sep	14-17	B487	Population ageing, EM/SB CHESS
Mon	23 Sep	10-12	Hörsal 9	Population policy, GN
Tue	24 Sep	11-13	Hörsal 12	Population policy in Sweden, AZ
Thu	26 Sep	10-13	B307	International pop. policy, GN SUDA
Thu	26 Sep	14-17	B413	International pop. policy, GN CHESS

First part of Exam to be submitted Tue 17 Sep

Second part of Exam to be submitted Thu 3 Oct

## Course Overview

Topic	Literature	Teacher
Population development in Sweden	Statistics Sweden	Ann-Zofie Duvander
Demographic methods and data	Hofsten, Ch.1 and parts of Ch. 2 (40p) Weeks (4p)	Gunnar Andersson
Population structure and ageing	Bloom&Sousa-Poza (3p) Weeks (7p) Bengtsson&Scott2010 (15p) Kinsella&Davis (40p) Lee (40p extra-curricular)	Siddartha Aradhya
Demographic perspectives	Malthus (15p) Boserup (5p) Bengtsson&Ohlsson (15p) Livi-Bacci Ch.3 (30p) Weeks (4p)	Eleonora Mussino
Population development globally	Livi-Bacci: Ch.2 (pp.32-46; 66-72), Ch.3 (pp.82-98; 105-109), Ch.5 (pp.160-194) (79p)	Eleonora Mussino
Population and environment	Lutz (15p) Livi-Bacci Ch.6 (50p) McNeill (18p) Ehrlich&Ehrlich (8p) Smil (37p) Becker&Lam (10p)	Gerda Neyer
Spatial demography / Urbanization	Cooke (10p) Kain (20p) Ravenstein (70p extensively) Livi-Bacci Ch.3 (pp. 98-105) (5p)	John Östh
Seminar: Population ageing	Bengtsson&Scott2011 (15p) Bloom&Canning(14) Goldscheider(15) Drefahl et al. (10) Hesketh&Zhu (4) Hagestad&Uhlenberg (12)	Eleonora Mussino
Population policy	Demeny (25p) Coleman&Basten (10p) Basten&Jiang (7p)	Gerda Neyer
Population policy in Sweden	Schröder (20p) Sjögren (12p) Andersson (15p) Bengtsson&Scott Oláh&Bernhardt (40p)	Ann-Zofie Duvander
Seminar: International population policy	Finkle (13p) Merrick (5p) Behr (12p) McNicoll (25p) Bledsoe (30p) McDonald (25p)	Gerda Neyer