Course web site  [http://depts.washington.edu/soc513/](http://depts.washington.edu/soc513/)  The website contains a course syllabus, a list of suggested paper topics, a list of recommended books for review, links to course readings, and other information. To enter part of the site you will need a login ID and password which will be announced in class.

Objectives  This course is a graduate level introduction to the fields of social demography and human ecology with a survey of major issues, theories, and research exemplars. It is primarily designed for CSDE Fellows and for Sociology graduate students who plan to take the certification examination in demography and ecology. Students who take this class should also consider taking three additional courses: Soc 430 (Urbanism and Urbanization), Soc 431 (Fertility and Mortality), and Soc 433 (Research Methods in Demography). There are also population-related courses offered in Geography, Anthropology and Economics.

The aim of this survey course is to help you acquire a basic "literacy" of the leading ideas and research directions in the field of population studies. A survey course, no matter how intensive, can cover only a small fraction of important topics in a field. This course concentrates on the traditional core subjects of population growth, fertility, mortality, migration, and urbanization. Demographic methods and measures are only covered to the extent necessary to understand substantive issues.

The course will be a mix of lectures and discussion. In order to fully participate in the discussion, you will need to keep up-to-date with the readings. Lectures will highlight important issues and explicate demographic evidence and problems of measurement. The course will emphasize the development of skills in understanding and interpreting research findings. Questions are always welcome. Ideally, the class will be an interactive experience.

Course Readings  Class readings roughly follow the Soc 513 course developed by Professor Charles Hirschman, who has taught the course for many years, most recently in winter 2003. This continuity reflects a broadly shared frame of reference in the field of population studies, and a conscious effort to provide a common core of knowledge across graduate student cohorts.


This is not a course on demographic methods, but some understanding of basic demographic measures is necessary for a full comprehension of the readings. One week of the class will be devoted to a

The required readings for the course consist of significant articles and book chapters from the research literature. There is a mix of older “classics” and more recent studies. Most of the readings were originally published in the three major journals in the field: *Demography, Population Studies*, and *Population and Development Review*. Regular reading of these three journals is essential for those who wish to advance in the field. The supplementary readings are included here for your future reference. You are not expected to read them for this course, but they may be referred to in lecture.

The required course readings are available online. Many of the required course readings and supplementary readings are also available from JSTOR (http://www.jstor.org). Some readings and reference materials are available on reserve in the CSDE Library.

**Course requirements and grading:** *Examinations*. There will be two take-home examinations. The first, the midterm exam, will be distributed on February 1 and is due on February 8. The final exam is cumulative over the term and will be distributed on March 8 (the last day of class) and will be due at the scheduled time for the final examination, Monday March 13 at 2:30. Final exam papers should be provided in digital format (MS-Word, PDF, or RTF) and sent to lavely@u.washington.edu.

*Essay*. Students must also write one essays, either a book review or a review essay on a specific topic. Each essay should be about 5 (double-spaced) pages and should critically review a book or an important research question. A list of suggested books and ideas for review essays will be distributed in class. The essay or review is due in class on February 22.

*In-class reports*. Each student will make two in-class reports of approximately 10 minutes each. The reports will relate to the subject matter on the class schedule for that day. Reports will be scheduled in advance, and a maximum of two reports will be scheduled for one class period. A report will consist of three parts: (1) a brief (one paragraph) introduction to the subject matter, explaining the significance of the topic; (2) a brief description or abstract of two (or three) *recent* (published 1999 or later) articles on the subject; and (3) a brief commentary or summary of conclusions. The oral report may be illustrated using overheads or handouts (for Powerpoint presentations students must make their own arrangements for equipment). Apart from the oral report, a 1-2-page summary (single-spaced, 11-point type) must be distributed before the talk (bring 12 copies). The subject matter of one of the reports may coincide with the subject matter of your essay. I suggest that one of the reports be in an area of your interest and expertise, while the other on a topic that is new to you. Topics may be broad or highly specialized, but they should fit under the general topic of the day.

*Grading*. The final course grade will be a weighted average of the midterm (25%), final exam (40%), the review (15%), and the two in-class reports (10% each).
Class Schedule

January 4  Introduction: Demography as a Field of Study

Suggested Readings and References on the Fundamentals of Demographic Science


January 9  Mortality Measures; Sources of Demographic Data: Censuses, Vital Statistics, and Surveys

Read:

January 11  Fertility Measures; Problems of Coverage, Errors, and Uncertainty in Demographic Data

Read:

Suggested Reading and References on Demographic Data and Measurement


January 16 No class: Martin Luther King Holiday

January 18 Demographic Transition Theory: Classical and Contemporary Statements

Read:


Suggested Reading on Demographic Theories


January 23 Introduction to Mortality and the Human Life Span

Read:

January 25 Mortality Trends in Historical Perspective

Read:

January 30 Health and Mortality Patterns in Developed Countries

Read:


February 1 Health and Mortality Patterns in Developing Countries

The midterm examination will be distributed February 1 and is due on February 8. It will cover course material up to and including February 1.

Read:


Suggested Readings and References on Mortality:


for forecasting population, health care costs and pension costs. Demography 34: 49-66


February 6    Bio-social Models of Fertility

Read:


Suggested Readings


February 8    Fertility Transitions: Past and Present

Read:


February 13    The Future of Fertility in Industrial Societies

Read:


Suggested Readings and References on Fertility

February 15  Fertility Trends in Developing Countries
Read:
Kingsley Davis. 1955. Institutional patterns favoring high fertility in underdeveloped areas. Eugenics


February 20 No Class—President’s Day Holiday

February 22 The Impact of Family Planning and Public Policy on Fertility

Essays due

Read:


Supplementary Reading on Fertility and Population Policy in Developing Countries:


**February 27**  
**Marriage and Family Change in Industrial Societies**

**Read:**


**March 1**  
**Marriage and Family Change in Developing Countries**

**Read:**


Suggested Reading and References on Marriage and Family:


March 6 The Urban and Metropolitan Revolutions in Human History
Read:

March 8  Migration and Cities in Developing Counties
The final exam will be distributed on Wednesday March 8 and will be due at 2:30 PM on Monday, March 13. Answers should be provided in digital format (MS-Word, PDF, or RTF) and sent to lavely@u.washington.edu.

Read:

Suggested Readings and References on Migration and Urbanization:
Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton. 1987. Trends in the residential segregation of Blacks, Hispanics, and


Ellis, Mark and Richard Wright (1999) “The Industrial Division of Labor among Immigrants and Internal Migrants to the Los Angeles Economy”. International Migration Review 33: 26-54