

# Population and Development – syllabus

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

Course code: 1027841

Course title: Population and Development

N. of credits: 9

Term: Second Semester 2021

Modality: online

Virtual class: <https://meet.google.com/ktq-takk-jur>

Class schedule: Thursday 6-8 pm; Friday 3-7 pm

Professor (name, surname): Marina Zannella

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Moodle password: Pop&Dev21

## **OVERVIEW**

The main aim of the course is to overview the causes and consequences of population change in historical and comparative perspective and to gain an understanding of their interrelation with the main underlying economic and social dynamics.

**Prerequisites** - There are no formal prerequisites for this course, except for an adequate knowledge of written and spoken English. Knowledge of the main demographic concepts, measures and methods is beneficial.

**Target** - The course is intended for students enrolled in the Master's Programme in Development and International Cooperation Sciences (LM 81 Scienze dello Sviluppo e della Cooperazione Internazionale).

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Introduction** - In 2015 world population reached 7.3 billion by adding approximately one billion people in the last twelve years. Despite the pace of growth is slowing down, global population is projected to increase by more than one billion people within the next 15 years. Globally, life expectancy rose by 3 years between 2000 to 2015, that is from 67 to 70 years. The literacy rate among youth aged 15 to 24 has increased globally from 83 per cent to 91 per cent between 1990 and 2015. Although significant achievements have been made, progress has been uneven: the world is still demographically divided and major gaps exist also at the country-level between people belonging to different sex, income groups and ethnicities.

**Contents** - This course offers an overview of population and development studies and their interplay. The main focus of the course is on causes and consequences of population change. After discussing the internationalization of population and development policies during XX and XXI century, the course focuses on key demographic topics including: history of global population change, demographic perspectives and

theories, demographic processes (mortality, fertility, migration), human capital and future of the world population.

### **List of topics**

1. Internationalization of population and development policies during XX and XXI century
2. Demographic history of world population
3. Demographic perspectives and theories on population growth
4. Demographic transition(s)
5. Mortality, health and development
6. Fertility, determinants and patterns
7. Migration, theories and trends
8. Changing population age structures
9. Global population futures

**Objectives** - At the end of the course, students are expected to:

1. Gain a critical knowledge of international population and development policies
2. Describe and explain basic demographic concepts and measures
3. Provide an overview of the demographic change of global population in historical and comparative perspective and discuss the main mechanisms behind
4. Discuss demographic processes (mortality, fertility, migration) and their recent trends
5. Critically discuss the 21st century main population questions and challenges
6. Improve skills in presenting and discussing population topics

**Evaluation** - Written exam

**Thesis** - Contact with the professor at least six months in advance.

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS and READINGS

### (ALL READINGS ARE COMPULSORY)

AUTHOR: R.J. Weeks

TITLE: *Population an introduction to concepts and issues*

PUBLISHER: Routledge

Chapters from I to XII

OR

AUTHOR: D. L. Poston, Jr, L. F. Bouvier

TITLE: *Population and Society* (Second Edition)

PUBLISHER: Cambridge University Press

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AUTHOR: M. Livi-Bacci

TITLE: *A Concise History of World Population*

PUBLISHER: Wiley-Blackwell

Chapters II, IV and V

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- Kingsbury, D., Remenyi, J., McKay, J., & Hunt, J. (2004). *Key issues in development*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan. Chapter 2, pp 47-66
  - Yamin, A. E., & Boulanger, V. M. (2014). *Why global goals and indicators matter: the experience of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Millennium Development Goals*. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*, 15(2-3), 218-231.
  - W.T.S. Gould. (2000). *Population and development*. Chapter II *How population affects development: Malthus and Boserup* p. 59-74
  - Van de Kaa, D. J. (2002). The idea of a second demographic transition in industrialized countries. *Birth*, vol 35 n. 45
  - Caselli (2015). Mortality, Epidemiological, and Health Transitions. In: James D. Wright International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences
  - Castles, S., De Haas, H., & Miller, M. J. 2013. *The age of migration: International population movements in the modern world*. Macmillan International Higher Education. Chapter 2 "Theories of Migration"