



**Stockholm  
University**

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

## **Course Syllabus: Population Development and Social Change (2024)**

### **Coordinators**

Gunnar Andersson 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 April 2023.

### **3. Entrance qualifications**

Course applicants should have completed a Bachelor's degree.

### **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 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. The examination consists of individual home assignments, a peer-review assignment, two group-work assignments (formative assessment), and a final class-room exam (summative assessment).

The individual home assignments, peer-review assignment, and group-work assignments are all graded as “pass” or “not pass”. All need to be graded with a pass to receive a final course grade. The course is completed by means of a written class-room exam to demonstrate that the course participant has fulfilled learning outcomes as specified under point 6 above. The delivery at the class-room exam is evaluated with grades A=Excellent, B=Very good, C=Good, D=Satisfactory, E=Sufficient, Fx=Not sufficient, or F=Fail.

The student’s final grade is also based on student performance in the individual and group-work assignments, so that the final course grade can be upgraded by exceptional deliveries during the course.

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.

## **Plagiarism, cheating, and unauthorized collaboration or use of AI**

Part of your responsibility as a student is to know the rules for examination. Detailed information can be found on Stockholm University's website [here](#). Teachers are obliged to report suspected cheating and plagiarism to the Vice-Chancellor and the Disciplinary Board. Plagiarism and cheating is always a disciplinary matter and can lead to suspension. An example of plagiarism is copying a text verbatim or almost verbatim (including single sentences or lines of programming) and not indicating where it comes from. Always make sure that an acknowledgement and quotation marks are used when you submit text you did not write yourself . This even applies to texts you have written before (self-plagiarism). Cheating also includes, for example, the use of unauthorized aids, such as a mobile phone or generative AI, on a test. Having study groups together is stimulating and time-saving, but when it comes to examination assignments, you must be careful to work on your own (unless clearly stated otherwise), so as not to risk being counted as unauthorized collaboration. Generative AI, including ChatGPT, can be useful, for example in editing your own writing. However, the use of ChatGPT or similar tools in examination assignments without the examiner's explicit permission and without acknowledgement is considered cheating.

**8. Literature:** Appendix 1.

**9. Teaching schedule:** Appendix 2.

## APPENDIX 1

STOCKHOLM UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

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

#### *Course book*

Gould, W.T.S. *Population and Development*. Second edition. Routledge.

#### *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.)

Duvander, Ann-Zofie and Jani Turunen (Eds) with SUDA co-authors: *Demografi, Befolningsperspektiv på samhället*. Lund: Studentlitteratur. Voluntary Swedish-language readings.

#### *Re-prints*

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.

Livi-Bacci, Massimo. *A Concise History of World Population*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. Chapter 2.1-3.

#### *Articles*

Andersson Joona, Pernilla, Alma Wenenmo Landinger and Marianne Sundström. 2016. Reforming the integration of refugees: The Swedish experience. IZA Discussion Paper 10307. Available <https://www.iza.org/publications/dp/10307/>

Andersson, Gunnar. 2020. A review of policies and practices related to the “highest-low” fertility of Sweden. *Stockholm Research Reports in Demography* 2020: 46.

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

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

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.

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.

- Bongaarts, John. 2009. Human population growth and the demographic transition. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B* 364: 2985-2990.
- Demeny, Paul. 2016. Europe's two demographic crises: The visible and the unrecognized. *Population and Development Review* 42(1): 111-120.
- 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.
- 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.
- Kreyenfeld, Michaela. 2021. Causal modelling in fertility research: A review of the literature and an application to a parental leave policy reform. *Comparative Population Studies* 46: 269-302.
- Lee, Ronald. 2003. The demographic transition: Three centuries of fundamental change. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(4): 167-190.
- 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.
- Lutz, Wolfgang. 2014. A population policy rationale for the twenty-first century. *Population and Development Review* 40(3): 527-544.
- Matthews, Stephen and Daniel Parker. 2013. Progress in spatial demography. *Demographic Research* 28(10): 271-312.
- 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.
- Musterd, Sako. 2005. Social and ethnic segregation in Europe: Levels, causes and effects. *Journal of Urban Affairs* 27(3): 331-348.
- Piguat, Etienne. 2019. Climatic statelessness: risk assessment and policy options. *Population and Development Review* 45(4): 865-883.

- Qi, Haodong, Kirk Scott and Tommy Bengtsson. 2019. Extending working life: experiences from Sweden, 1981-2011. *Vienna Yearbook for Population Research* 17: 99-120.
- 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 2024 – Population Development and Social Change

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Mon	2 Sep	10-13	F331	Introduction, GA
Tue	3 Sep	10-12	F497	Population developm in Sweden, LSO
Wed	4 Sep	13-15	D315	Intro to demographic methods, GA
Friday	6 Sep	13-15	F299	Demographic data, GA
Mon	9 Sep	13-15	F307	Demographic perspectives, EM
Tue	10 Sep	13-15	D320	Population structure & ageing, SA
Wed	11 Sep	10-12	B487	Population development globally, EM
<i>Tue</i>	<i>17 Sep</i>	-	-	<i>Peer review of independent work</i>
Wed	18 Sep	10-12	C497	Spatial demography/urbanization, KH
Fri	20 Sep	10-12	E413	Population and environment, GN
Mon	23 Sep	09-12	D231	Population ageing, EM (sem Dem)
Mon	23 Sep	13-16	D231	Population ageing, EM (sem PH)
Tue	24 Sep	10-12	F397	Population policy, GN
Wed	25 Sep	13-15	F413	Population policy in Sweden, GA
Thu	26 Sep	09-12	D231	International pop. policy, GN (Dem)
Thu	26 Sep	13-16	D231	International pop. policy, GN (PH)
Tue	1 Oct	14-18	-	Class-room exam

First assignment of individual work is to be submitted Mon 16 Sep before mid-night

## Course Overview

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Literature</b>	<b>Teacher</b>
Population development in Sweden	Statistics Sweden	Livia Oláh
Demographic methods and data	Hofsten, Ch.1 & parts of Ch.2 (40p) Gould Boxes 4.1&5.1&6.1 (4p) Weeks (4p)	Gunnar Andersson
Population structure and ageing	Gould Ch.7 (23p) Bloom&Sousa-Poza (3p) Weeks (7p) Bengtsson&Scott (13p) Lee (40p extra-curricular)	Siddartha Aradhya
Demographic perspectives	Gould Ch.2+3 (43p) Weeks (4p)	Eleonora Mussino
Population development globally	Gould Ch.1 (24p) Bongaarts (5p) Lee (20p) Livi-Bacci Ch.2.1-3. (15p)	Eleonora Mussino
Population and environment	McNeill (18p) Ehrlich&Ehrlich (8p) Smil (37p) Becker&Lam (10p)	Gerda Neyer
Spatial demography & Urbanization	Gould Ch.6: 137-159 (22p) Matthews&Parker (24p) Musterd (15p)	Karen Haandrikman
Seminar: Population ageing	Qi et al. (20p) Bloom&Canning(14) Goldscheider(15) Drefahl et al. (10) Hesketh&Zhu (4) Hagestad&Uhlenberg (12)	Eleonora Mussino
Population policy	Lutz (20p) Coleman&Basten (10p) Basten&Jiang (7p) Gould Ch.9 (20p)	Gerda Neyer
Population policy in Sweden	Andersson Joona (20p) Sjögren (12p) Bengtsson&Scott (15p) Andersson (15p) Kreyenfeld (30p)	Gunnar Andersson
Seminar: International population policy	Finkle (13p) Merrick (5p) McNicoll (25p) McDonald (25p) Demeny (10p) Piguet (20p)	Gerda Neyer