

GEOG435 Population Geography Spring Semester 2008
TTH 2-3:15 Room 2166 Lefrak Hall

Instructors:

Dr. Martha E. Geores, mgeores@umd.edu, 1135 Lefrak, X54064

Office Hours: Tuesday 1-2; Wed 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

Timothy Heleniak, heleniak@umd.edu 1113 Lefrak

Office Hours: T1-2 and by appointment

This team is team taught. Mr. Heleniak will be teaching the first section of the class. He will cover the basic principles of demographic variables in the geographic context. This foundation is crucial to your understanding of population geography.

Dr. Geores will teach the remainder, relying on your foundation in demography.

Goals of the course

The basic demographic variables are fertility, mortality, and migration. In this course you will learn the spatial distribution of trends in these variables and why those trends occur. We will be looking at differences within and between countries. Many of the topics we will be studying are current issues in the world. Through your work in this class, you will be able to better understand why population is such an important issue.

Accommodations, university rules, and classroom rules

Students are expected to **attend** every class and **complete all assigned work**.

If you have **disabilities**, learning or otherwise, you should visit the Disability Support Office to fill out appropriate forms that will tell me what accommodations to make.

These may include testing formats, class participation difficulties, and paper writing.

Since you know now when papers are due for the semester, I will expect everyone to turn them in on time on the same day. Please let me know what arrangements are necessary.

Academic honesty

Plagiarism is the use of another person's work as if it were your own and will not be tolerated. If I believe that there has been plagiarism on an assignment, I will inform you of my determination and you will receive a zero for the assignment. Cases will be referred to the Student Conduct Office. Remember that on each assignment you must write and sign the **honor pledge**. "I have neither given nor received any unauthorized help on this assignment."

University rules

The University requires that all work must be **completed** in order for you to pass the course.

Classroom rules

This is an upper level class and I expect that there will be no classroom decorum issues, however, just in case, you should know my policy. **Cell phones, pagers, instant messaging, IPODS, Blackberries, laptops, alarm clocks, cd/tapes (does anyone use tapes?), DVDs** – must all be in their **off** positions. These devices are annoying, rude and make me lose my train of thought – and you don't want to do that!

Many of the issues we will be discussing are "**politically charged**." All views are welcome and should be freely expressed; that is what classroom discussion is all about.

Voicing different opinions is part of class participation, and please, do not be silent if you

have a view or an opinion that will challenge others. There are no right or wrong answers.

Speak up! I'm deaf, no kidding. I have also found that when I can't hear there are others in the class who also cannot hear because you speak too softly, mumble, cover your mouth, or do not face the class when you talk. You get 2 chances to be heard, then you get placed on my "do not call" list – not a good thing.

Textbooks: The required textbooks are:

Weeks, **Population: an introduction to concepts and issues** 10th edition (8th and 9th are also acceptable). ISBN-13 978-0-495-09637-5

Castles and Miller, **The Age of Migration** 3rd edition ISBN 1-57230-900-8

Population Reference Bureau World Population Data Sheet, www.prb.org

Class Schedule

Jan 29 Introduction to the Course

SECTION I - THE BASIC CONCEPTS

Jan 31 The Demographic Perspective

Weeks: Chapters 1, 2, 89-104

February 5 Mortality

Weeks Chapter 6

February 7 Mortality

Weeks Chapter 5

Feb. 12 Migration

Weeks Chapter 7

Feb. 14 Demographic Data

Weeks Chapter 4

Feb. 19 Exam

SECTION II - THE THRESHOLD CONCEPTS

SCALE

Feb 21 and 26

GENDER

Weeks Chapter 10

Feb 28, March 4

AGE

Weeks Chapter 8

March 6

POPULATION WARS

Castles Chapter 2, 10

March 11

EXAM #2 March 13

Spring Break March 17- 21

WEALTH

***Castles Chapter 4, 8
March 25, 27, April 1***

LOCATION

***Weeks Chapter 9
April 3
Book/Film Review Due April 3***

ENVIRONMENT

***Weeks Chapter 11
April 8, 10***

SECTION III

Population Politics

***World Policy Conferences
Weeks 12
April 15***

Fertility and Mortality Rates

***What are the disparities?
April 17***

TERM PAPER DUE APRIL 17

Migration Flows

***What is the migration process?
Castles 5, 6,7,9
April 22,24, 29***

Student Presentations

***May 1, May 6, 8,13
May 13 News Journal Due***

Final Exam

Course requirements:

***100 points Class Participation
100 points Exam #1 February 19
100 points Exam #2 March 13
125 points Book/Film Review April 3
250 points Term Paper April 17
100 News Journal May 13
125 points Class Presentations May 1,6,13
150 points Final Exam Monday May 19, 2008 12:30***

