

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Population Processes

Befolkningsprocesser

7.5 Higher Education

Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

Course code: SO7121
Valid from: Spring 2021
Date of approval: 2016-04-26
Changed: 2020-09-22
Department Department of Sociology

Main field: Demography
Specialisation: A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

The syllabus is approved by the Board of the Department of Sociology 2020-09-22.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree, English 6 or equivalent

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1P12	Population Processes	7.5

Course content

Course at advanced level, aims to familiarize students with the three main population processes -- fertility, mortality and migration -- by focusing on population developments in Sweden and Europe from the end of the 1800s onwards, with some attention to the major population trends and issues in poorer countries. The course is structured in three parts. Family dynamics focuses especially on the links between female employment, family policies and childbearing. The section on migration considers the causes and consequences for individuals and society of international and internal migration. The final section considers both biological and social aspects of morbidity and mortality.

Learning outcomes

Upon the completion of the course the student is expected to be able to:

In terms of knowledge and understanding:

- Analyze population development, historical as well as contemporary patterns, with respect to fertility, mortality and migration in various contexts based on relevant theories as well as empirical data. Discuss probable development in the next few decades based on today's demographic trends
- Describe and discuss changes in the family patterns in the developed world since the 1960s. Explain the connection between these changes, female employment, and various welfare state (family policy) models
- Contrast trends related to different causes of death, describe and explain gender differences and differences across socio-economic groups in mortality as well as the changes over time
- Compare and evaluate different migration theories; identify, describe and analyze the driving forces of migration in Sweden, in Europe and in a global context

In terms of accomplishments and competence:

-Write shorter scientific texts in demography or with demographic content

In terms of attitudes and values:

- Search for, compare and critically review demographic data and literature relevant for a particular research question
- Comment on texts with demographic content

Education

Teaching is conducted through lectures in form of interactive presentation with the students' active participation.

Forms of examination

The form of assessment is a written individual take-home exam of three essay questions. Answers to be provided at a length of about five pages per question, line spacing: 1.5, font: Times New Roman, size: 12). Students are also expected to participate actively in the discussions during the course.

The student's achievement for the take-home exam is evaluated separately for each exam questions based on a criterion-referenced assessment, specified below. In a next step, the evaluations of all exam responses are summed up in a single grade, as follows:

A = Excellent – if the lowest evaluation for at most one question is a B

B = Very good – if the lowest evaluation for at most one question is a C

C = Good – if the lowest evaluation for at most one question is a D

D = Satisfactory – if the lowest evaluation for at most one question is an E

E = Sufficient – if the lowest evaluation for any question is an E, and at least two questions are evaluated with E

Fx = Not sufficient – if one or more questions are evaluated with Fx and none with F

F = Fail - if at least one question is evaluated with F

Responses on each exam questions are assessed based on the following criteria:

A = Excellent. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate in-depth, critical reflections over the relevant demographic literature as well as data of fertility, mortality and migration, both in the discussions in the class and in the home exam. S/he should be able to generalize upon empirical results presented in others' and own works.

B = Very good. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate good ability to identify main perspectives and conflicting viewpoints in the demographic literature relevant for the topics of the course. Her/his work should prove of analytical strength.

C = Good. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the relevant literature. Her/his work should prove of good skills to link theory and empirical material in discussing issues relevant to population processes.

D = Satisfactory. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate good knowledge of the theories and trends covered in the course being able to apply them in discussion on issues where relevant.

E = Sufficient. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate general understanding of the literature as well as basic knowledge of the main topics of the course. Her/his work shows a minimal level of critical approach to demographically relevant texts and data.

Fx = Not sufficient. To achieve this grade, the student needs to demonstrate some understanding of the main topics discussed, along with sporadic gaps in basic knowledge.

F = Fail.

Students with grade Fx or F at an exam 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/her degree.

Students who received grade Fx or F on exams twice from the same examiner can request to be evaluated by another examiner on the next occasion. Such request should be sent to the Director of Studies. The exam must be submitted no later than one week after completion of the course in order to be examined during the current semester. If the examination is submitted later than within the stated deadline, an examination will be conducted in connection with the course being given the next semester or at the time of the reexamination.

Plagiarism, cheating and unauthorized collaboration (collusion)

As a student, you are responsible for knowing the regulations in relation to examinations and similar situations. Extensive information is available at the website of the Department of Sociology as well as the Stockholm University website (www.su.se/rules). Teachers are obliged to report suspected cheating or plagiarism. If suspicions can be confirmed it will be brought before the Disciplinary Committee and may lead to suspension. Example of plagiarism is to copy a text or sentences, word by word or close to, without referring to the source. This applies also to text of your own previous writing. Cheating includes bringing unauthorized aids to a sit-in exam, such as mobile phones. To form study groups together with fellow students is enriching and time saving, but when it comes to examinations you need to be meticulous about working independently (if not otherwise instructed) to avoid collusion.

Interim

Students can request to have examination according to this syllabus up to three semesters after it has stopped to be valid. Such request should be sent to the Director of Studies.

Limitations

No admission to the course is possible for anyone who has passed the course SO7120 Population Processes 7.5 credits or the course unit Population Processes 7.5 credits within the course Demography, Interdisciplinary Magister Course.

Required reading

Current literature list is available no later than two months before the start of the course.