

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Population Development and Social Change**  
**Population Development and Social Change**

**7.5 Higher Education**  
**Credits**  
**7.5 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	SO7100
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2015
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2007-05-31
<b>Changed:</b>	2015-05-19
<b>Department</b>	Department of Sociology
<b>Subject</b>	Demography

## Decision

The syllabus is approved by the Board of the Department of Sociology as of May 31 2007, revised May 19 2015.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Bachelor's degree or equivalent

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
1D11	Population Development and Social Change	7.5

## Course content

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.

## Learning outcomes

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.

## Education

Teaching is in the form of lectures and of seminars where students are expected to take an active part.

### Forms of examination

Examination contains a written and an oral part. The oral part comprises participation in general discussions as well as participation and presentation at two course seminars. The course is completed by means of a written home exam, amounting to independent work on essays on a set of demographic questions with the purpose to demonstrate that the course participant has fulfilled learning outcomes. For grading both the oral and written part need to be completed.

The home exam is evaluated according to the following grades:

A = Excellent. This grade is given when the student in his or her work produces innovative ideas to specific questions, synthesizes them to a higher analytical level, and provides a very relevant, critical, well formulated and well connected review of the topic related to his or her specific questions.

B = Very good. This grade is given when the student in his or her work synthesizes ideas at a high analytical level, and provides a relevant, thorough, critical, well formulated and well connected review of the topic related to his or her specific questions.

C = Good. This grade is given when the student in his or her work provides a relevant, thorough, critical, well formulated and well connected review of the topic related to his or her specific questions.

D = Satisfactory. This grade is given when the student in his or her work provides a relevant and accurate review of the topic he or she addresses.

E = Sufficient. This grade is given when the student in his or her work provides an accurately formulated but not entirely relevant review of the topic he or she addresses.

Fx = Insufficient. This grade is given when the student has not addressed all questions or in his or her work provides a limited and/or only partly relevant review of the topic he or she addresses.

F = Fail. This grade is given when the student in his or her work provides a limited and irrelevant review of the topic he or she addresses.

E is the lowest grade needed to pass the course. 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. Students who have been graded Fx or F twice by the same examiner can request to have another examiner at the next occasion. The request should be directed to the Director of Studies. Students can request to be examined in accordance with this syllabus up to three semester after it has ceased to be valid. The request should be directed to the Director of Studies.

### Required reading

Course book

Livi-Bacci, Massimo. 2012. *A Concise History of World Population*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

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.)

Re-prints

Öberg, Sture and Springfield, Peter. 1991. *The Population*. The National Atlas of Sweden. Övrig litteratur:

Andersson, Gunnar. 2005. A study on policies and practices in selected countries that encourage childbirth: The case of Sweden. MPIDR Working Paper, WP 2005-005. Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock. Available [www.demogr.mpg.de](http://www.demogr.mpg.de)

Behr, Michelle. 2006. An American in Berlin: reflections on the German demographic challenge, immigration, and national identity. *Population Research and Policy Review* 25(5-6): 465-477.

Bengtsson, Tommy. 2003. The need for looking far back in time when predicting future mortality trends. pp. 87-97 in Bengtsson, T. and Keilman, N. (Eds), *Perspectives on Mortality Forecasting*.

Social Insurance Studies, No1. Swedish National Social Insurance Board.

<http://www.fk.se/sprak/eng/publications/dokument/sis0312.pdf> Bledsoe, Caroline. 2004. Reproduction at the margins: migration and legitimacy in the New Europe. *Demographic Research*, Special Collection 3(4).

Available at <http://www.demographic-research.org>. Bongaarts, John. 2004. Population aging and the rising cost of public pensions. *Population and Development Review* 30(1): 1-21.

Boserup, Esther. 1965. Conditions of agricultural growth. A review. Available <http://www.eh.net/bookreviews/library/federico.shtml>

De Santis, Gustavo. 2003. The demography of equitable and stable intergenerational transfer system. *Population* 58(6): 587-622.

Duvander, Ann-Zofie et al. 2005. Swedish parental leave and gender equality. *Arbetsrapport* 2005:11. Institutet för framtidsstudier. Available [www.framtidsstudier.se](http://www.framtidsstudier.se)

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. Available [www.pnas.org](http://www.pnas.org)

MacKellar, Landis. 1997. Population and fairness. *Population and Development Review* 23(2): 359-374.

McDonald, Peter. 2006. Low fertility and the state: the efficacy of policy. *Population and Development Review* 32(3):

485-510. 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. Rooth, Dan-Olof, and Jan Ekberg. 2006. Occupational mobility for immigrants in Sweden. *International Migration* 44(2): 57-77. Rydell, Ingrid. 2005. Equity, justice, interdependence: Intergenerational transfers and the ageing population. Institutet för Framtidsstudier, Arbetsrapport 2005:5. Available [www.framtidsstudier.se](http://www.framtidsstudier.se) Vaupel, Jim. 2001. Demographic insights into longevity. *Population* 13(1): 245-259. Re-prints: Bengtsson, Tommy. 1994. The Demographic Transition Revised. Pp. 13, 17-24, and 28-33. In T. Bengtsson (ed): *Population, Economy and Welfare in Sweden*. Berlin: Springer Verlag. Malthus, T. 1992/1803. *An Essay on the Principles of Population*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp 13-19 and 21-28. Lutz, Wolfgang et al. 2004. The End of World Population Growth. *Eartscan*: pp 3-9 and 28-35.