

Anthropology 333: Culture and Population

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. C. Riley Augé
Office: SS 224
Office Hours: M/F 9:30-11:00 or by appointment
Contact: cynthiariley.auge@mso.umt.edu

Fall Semester 2016
Room: SS 254
Time: MWF 11—11:50
University of Montana, Department of Anthropology

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the links between culture and population. The course will begin with basic demographic facts, terms, and concepts necessary for the understanding of population patterns and the decipherment of demographic data derived from different societies. We will also explore various complex determinants of population patterns across cultures, including: variations in fertility, marriage practices, religious beliefs, sociopolitical issues, pandemic disease, gender constructs, environmental disasters, and special populations like refugees and emigrants. We will consider how these and other forces affect local and global population patterns and contemplate the questions: Can our planet continue to support our massive and ever growing population? What can be done to positively change this trajectory?

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In this course students will acquire:

- ◆ A basic understanding of demography and the major foci of demographic studies in a cross-cultural context
- ◆ A basic understanding of the derivation and interpretation of core measures in the study of population trends (e.g., various fertility and mortality rates)
- ◆ An understanding of how demographic anthropology fits into the larger field of anthropology and how it supplements other social sciences concerned with population studies
- ◆ A knowledge of various studies of population patterns seen in different types of societies, both historical and contemporary

COURSE MATERIALS

- ◆ Greenhalgh, S., 1995. *Situating Fertility: Anthropology and Demographic Inquiry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- ◆ McFalls, J., 2007. *Population: A Lively Introduction*. 5th edition. Vol. 62, No. 1. Washington, D.C.: Population Reference Bureau. (available for download at: www.prb.org).
- ◆ Krause, E., 2005. *A Crisis of Births: Population Politics and Family-Making in Italy*. Belmont: Wadsworth Press.
- ◆ Additional readings posted on Moodle, emailed, or available at Mansfield Library or online

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course meets for 50 minutes, three days a week, throughout the semester. Class meetings will include lectures, films, in-class activities/discussions, writing assignments, and exams geared toward students' understanding of the cultural factors impacting and/or shaping human populations. Readings are to be read prior to the class for which they are assigned.

Students should be prepared to critically discuss the readings in class and in short writing critiques. Students can expect to participate in class—and earn participation points—by sharing their ideas with the rest of the class in informal discussions and by using what they learn as a backdrop for articulating the ways in which human behavior and cultural ideas are critical elements in the global network of complex and interdependent factors affecting population patterns.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken each class period. There will be some in-class projects and participation exercises that require attendance to get full points.

GRADES

Writing exercises	100 points	Four exercises, 25 points each
Exams *	150 points	Three exams, 50 points each
Participation	25 points	Must be present in class to get these points

Total Points **275 points**

The plus/minus system will be used and will be based upon the following average scores: A (100-95%), A- (94-90%), B+ (89-88%), B (87-84%), B- (83-80%), C+ (79-78%), C (77-74%), C- (73-70%), D+ (69-68%), D (67-64%), D- (63-60%), F (59% or less).

Students opting for a pass/fail grade need a minimum grade of 60% to pass.

*Make-up **exams** will be given ONLY in cases of verified and unavoidable emergencies. You must notify me IN ADVANCE if you are unable to take the regularly scheduled exam.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Department of Anthropology is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with documented physical disabilities or documented learning disabilities. University policy states that it is the responsibility of students with documented disabilities to contact instructors DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THE SEMESTER to discuss appropriate accommodations to ensure equity in grading, classroom experiences, and outside assignments. The instructor will meet with the student and the staff of the Disability Services for Students (DSS) to make accommodations. Please contact DSS (243.2373, Lommasson Center 154) for more information.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND STUDENT CONDUCT

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University of Montana. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code, which can be reviewed and/or downloaded online at: http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week Of	Topic	Readings/Assignments	Notes
Aug. 29	Introduction to Class Why study population? Basic Issues in the study of population	McFalls, pp3-4 <i>Paul Erlich and the Population Bomb</i> (in-class film)	
Sept. 5	World population growth; what is happening; why variations	McFalls, pp25-26, note figure 10 Weeks, chpt 2 Childs, Own-Child Method	NO CLASS MONDAY LABOR DAY
Sept. 12	Sources of demographic data Basic concepts: <i>Period vs. cohort rates, Lexis diagrams, e₀, geographical presentation of demographic data, the Balancing Equation, doubling time, natural increase, etc.</i>	McFalls, pp4-8 Wachter, pp5-7, 20-26 Axinn et al, Microdemographic Survey Data <i>It's a Girl</i> (In-class film)	
Sept. 19	Fertility: How and why does it vary? Recent patterns: <i>Broad overview of varying fertility regimes and introduction of demographic transition</i>	Weeks, chpt 6 McFalls, pp27-29 Greenhalgh, chpt 1 <i>Population Transition in Italy</i> (in-class film)	
Sept. 26	Demographic anthropology of a low fertility population: Italy	Krause, chpts. 1-8	1ST EXAM WEDNESDAY
Oct. 3	Demographic anthropology of high fertility populations: Patterns across cultures in developing countries; Variations on the nuclear family	Greenhalgh, chpts 3 and 6	
Oct. 10	Power and Fertility: "Empowering" women—what does this mean? Family systems and fertility: A society without marriage	Greenhalgh, chpt 7 Larsen et al , Women's Empowerment <i>A World without Fathers or Husbands</i> (in-class film)	*****TBA
Oct. 17	Family Systems and Fertility: Polygynous pastoralists; Polyandry	Cronk, Low Socioeconomic status Goldstein, Fraternal Polyandry Childs, Old-Age Security... <i>Maasai Women</i> (in-class film)	*****TBA

Week Of	Topic	Readings/Assignments	Notes
Oct. 24	Mortality and Migration: Cultural determinants and diseases of development	McFalls, pp9-12 (mortality section)	2nd EXAM WEDNESDAY
Oct. 31	Demographic Anth of Conflict: Refugees Population policies: How do they vary: and what do they accomplish? The case of China	Weeks, chpt 14 Attane, China's Family Planning	
Nov. 7	National Level population policies: China in recent years Population projections: Where are we headed?	Chinese White Paper on Family Planning Fong, China's One-Child Policy	NO CLASS FRIDAY VETERAN'S DAY
Nov. 14	Population and HIV/AIDS, Ebola, Zika	<i>Population 6 Billion</i> (in-class film) UN Population Division: Demographic impact of HIV/AIDS	
Nov. 21	Debate on population control		NO CLASSES WED. AND FRI.
Nov. 28	Population and the environment: Environmental impacts of human population	Weeks, chpt 13 <i>Population and the Environment</i> (in-class film)	
Dec. 5	Monday exam Course wrap up, review exams, course evaluations		3rd EXAM MONDAY
Dec.12			FINAL 12/14 8:00—10:00am