GEO 3430: Population Geography

Department of Geography

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, University of Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Aaron R. King	Term:	Fall 2021
Office:	TUR 1215	Class Meeting Days:	M, W, F
Phone:		Class Meeting Hours:	10:40 am – 11:30 am
Email:	aaronrking@ufl.edu	Class Location:	LEI 0142
Office Hours:	Tues. 3 pm – 4 pm or by appointment	Course Credits:	3 hours

I.   Course Overview

This course is a comprehensive national and global survey of population geography concepts, processes, and patterns in which students will learn to work and draw conclusions with actual population data sets. Early in the semester, the course will progress from introductory geographic and historical world population surveys to learning about population data sources and tools, to population distribution and composition concepts, fertility & mortality, internal & international migration patterns, refugees & displaced persons, future population growth, and finally population-related policies.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate basic understanding of key population geography concepts, patterns, and processes
- Demonstrate competency with population geographic and demographic datasets and analysis methods
- Identify and apply theoretical social science concepts to explain past and current population trends in national & global contexts
- Synthesize various theoretical frameworks and constructs in order to interpret principal causes and impacts associated with population change
- Discover and articulate how a geographical perspective provides a unique lens for observing population patterns and processes through focus on spaces, places, and environmental connections.
- Analyze and interpret geographic population data using case studies that represent important recent and ongoing population trends

II.   Student Learning Outcomes

Through the course assignments and exams, students will learn to:

- Identify, describe, and explain key terms, themes, and concepts in population geography and demography
- Analyze population geographic data both within the United States and globally
- Communicate analysis and appraise findings in written, verbal, cartographic, and graphical formats
- Converse intelligently and empathetically about national and international population trends and patterns, recognizing the connections between population geography and the socially and culturally diverse character of the United States.
- Critically evaluate how population trends emerge and contribute to diminished opportunities and the construction of social inequities across different population groups, particularly in the United States.
- Assess potential societal impacts of population policies in the context of diverse cultural issues and contexts, recognizing how varying values and belief systems affect these policy decisions, and how population trends are connected to environmental trends.

III. Materials and Supplies: Laptop Computer

This course will be held in LEI 0142, which is a classroom with no computer terminals. <u>Students must provide their own computer on which to work on assignments and exams during and/or outside of class</u>. Any required software will be available on students' laptops through UF Apps at https://info.apps.ufl.edu or via computers located in computer labs on UF campus.

IV. Required Texts and Useful Online Resources

The required text for this course is *Population Geography: Tools and Issues* by K. Bruce Newbold, published in 2017 (3rd Edition). Other assigned academic readings will be available via Canvas; a tentative list of additional readings is given below:

Milner, George R. 2019. Early agriculture's toll on human health. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116(28):13721-13723.

Langer, William. 1972. Checks on population growth: 1750-1850. *Scientific American*, February:92-99.

Lesthaeghe, R. 2014. The second demographic transition: A concise overview of its development. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 111(51):18112-18115.

Lesthaeghe, R., J. Lopez-Colas, and L. Neidert. 2016. The Social Geography of Unmarried Cohabitation in the USA, 2007-2011. In *Cohabitation and Marriage in the Americas: Geo-historical Legacies and New Trends,* ed. A. Esteve and R.J. Lesthaeghe, 101-131. DOI: 10.1107/978-3-319-31442-6_4.

V. Course Format, Activities, and Basis for Evaluation

The class will meet three times per week for lectures, discussion and group learning activities, and to work on assignments. Lecture presentations will be made available to students via Canvas before class begins. This will give students the opportunity to download the presentation to their own laptop and write notes directly into the file during the presentation. Readings will be assigned from the required textbook and additional scholarly papers. Students are expected to read and study the materials prior to the class period in which they will be discussed. The class participation component is a large portion of the course grade and will consist of attendance and active engagement in discussions and group learning activities. There will be two exams, a midterm and a final exam; they will both be closed book and will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. There will be 6 short, data-driven assignments which will be due every 1-2 weeks, one essay assignment, and a film review class discussion assignment.

Evaluation and Grading

Class Participation: Class participation will be evaluated on the basis of both attendance and participation in class discussions and group activities. Students may be excused from absences with appropriate documentation according to the university policy (more information provided in Section VIII below). Group learning activities in varying formats will be used to facilitate peer to peer interaction and will complement the lecture materials.

Assignments: There will be 6 assignments which will amount to 40% of the final grade (8% each). The grade will be determined using the best 5 grades out of the 6 assignments, with the lowest grade being dropped. Lab assignments will generally be due 4-7 days after they are assigned. The assignments will typically require students to work with population geography data in the form of maps, graphs, and tables. The assignments will be based upon the sections at the end of each textbook chapter entitled "Methods, Measures, and Tools." Each assignment will require some calculations using data, as well as interpretation and communication of the results in paragraph format.

Country/Region Report Essay: Students will select one developing country (https://icqi.org/developing-countries-list/) or sub-region and write a 1,500-3,000 word paper. The paper should analyze issues related to demographics, migration, population growth, and/or other topics covered in the course and their effects on outcomes related to health, nutrition, life expectancy, economics, education, and areas of interest relevant to your field of study. Select a few key issues to discuss and justify your selection of issues. Finally, propose policy recommendations that address your key issues or assess the suitability of policy recommendations you find in the literature. Be sure to provide sufficient evidence and data – papers need to be properly

referenced and cited throughout with academic, peer-reviewed articles. Credible news reports and investigative journalism pieces are acceptable sources as well but must supplement your academic sources.

Film Review & Discussion: The instructor will choose a film to review as a class that relates closely to population geography topics covered in the course. After watching the film, students will submit a brief discussion post (no more than 300 words) in Canvas sharing their reflections, critiques, and analysis. Students will also be required to submit at least one response to a classmate's post. One class period (Monday, Nov. 15) will be dedicated to student discussion of the film's themes in which each student will be expected to engage classmates in discussion. Additional details and instructions will be provided during the semester.

Exams: In total, the two exams will account for 30% of the final grade, 15% each for the Midterm and Final exams. The exams will be administered in class and will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. The exams will be closed book/notes, and the Final will only include topics from the second half of the course.

Assignments and Exams	Percent of Final Grade
Class Participation & Attendance	5%
Assignments	40%
Country/Region Report	15%
Film Review & Discussion	10%
Exam #1: Midterm	15%
Exam #2: Final (not cumulative)	15%

Grading Scale (%)	
92.5 – 100	A
89.5 – 92.4	A-
86.5 – 89.4	B+
82.5 – 86.4	B
79.5 – 82.4	B-
76.5 – 79.4	C+
72.5 – 76.4	C
69.5 – 72.5	C-
66.5 – 69.4	D+
62.5 – 66.4	D
59.5 – 62.4	D-
< 59.5	E

VI. Important Dates to Remember: The due dates below are tentative and can be changed at the discretion of the instructor.

Semester Begins	Mon, Aug 23rd 2021
First Day of Class	Mon, Aug 23rd 2021
Drop/Add Ends	Fri, Aug 27th 2021
No Class, Labor Day*	Mon, Sep 6th 2021
No Class, Homecoming*	Fri, Oct 8th 2021
Midterm Exam	**Mon, Oct 18th 2021**
Film Reviews Due	**Mon, Nov 15th 2021**
Withdraw Deadline	Mon, Nov 22nd 2021
Country/Region Report Essay Due, No Class	**Mon, Nov 22nd 2021**
No Class, Thanksgiving Break*	Wed-Fri, Nov 24-26th 2021
No Class, Reading Days*	Thurs-Fri, Dec 9-10th 2021
Final Exam	**Wed, Dec 8th 2021**
Fall 2021 Grades Visible on https://one.uf.edu/	Wed, Dec 22nd 2021

VII. Weekly Topic Schedule, Assignments, and Exams (Schedule is provisional and subject to change)

Date	Day	Class Topics & Assignments	Read Before Class
Aug 23	M	Course Introduction	None
Aug 25	W	Population Geography: An Introduction	Newbold 2017, pp 1-13
Aug 27	F	World Population: Historical Trends & Demographic Transition Theory	Newbold 2017, pp 15-25
Aug 30	M	World Population: Historical Snapshots	Milner 2019, pp 13721-13723 Langer 1972, pp 93-99
Sep 1	W	World Population: Future Scenarios	Newbold 2017, pp 25-36
Sep 3	F	World Population: Estimates & Projections; Assignment #1	Newbold 2017, pp 36-39
Sep 6	M	*Labor Day; No Class*	
Sep 8	W	Population Data: Types & Sources	Newbold 2017, pp 41-48
Sep 10	F	Population Data: Working with Data; Assignment #2	Newbold 2017, pp 48-55
Sep 13	M	Population Data: US Census & American Community Survey	Newbold 2017, pp 55-58
Sep 15	W	Population Distribution & Composition: Density, Gender, & Age	Newbold 2017, pp 59-66
Sep 17	F	Population Distribution & Composition: Case Studies	Newbold 2017, pp 66-76
Sep 20	M	Population Distribution & Composition: Population Pyramids; Assignment #3	Newbold 2017, pp 76-79
Sep 22	W	Fertility: Patterns & Future Implications	Newbold 2017, pp 81-93
Sep 24	F	Fertility: Case Studies	Newbold 2017, pp 93-101
Sep 27	M	Fertility: Measures of Population Fertility; Assignment #4	Newbold 2017, pp 101-102
Sep 29	W	Fertility: Case Studies	TBA
Oct 1	F	Unions & Households: Second Demographic Transition	Lesthaeghe 2014
Oct 4	M	Unions & Households: Trends in the USA	Lesthaeghe et al. 2016
Oct 6	W	Mortality: Population Segment Differences	Newbold 2017, pp 103-116
Oct 8	F	*Fall Break & Homecoming; No Class*	
Oct 11	M	Mortality: Diseases & Morbidity	Newbold 2017, pp 116-130
Oct 13	W	Mortality: Measuring Mortality; Assignment #5	Newbold 2017, pp 131-132
Oct 15	F	*Exam review; No Class*	
Oct 18	M	***Midterm Exam***	
Oct 20	W	Internal Migration: Why Do People Migrate?	Newbold 2017, pp 133-145
Oct 22	F	Internal Migration: Migration Within the USA	Newbold 2017, pp 145-153
Oct 25	M	Internal Migration: Measuring Migration; Assignment #6	Newbold 2017, pp 154-155
Oct 27	W	International Migration Flows: Theories & Impacts	Newbold 2017, pp 157-170
Oct 29	F	International Migration Flows: Undocumented Immigration; ***Country/Region Report Topic Due***	Newbold 2017, pp 170-185
Nov 1	M	International Migration Flows: Counting Immigrants & Emigrants	Newbold 2017, pp 185-187
Nov 3	W	Refugees & Internally Displaced Persons: Definitions	Newbold 2017, pp 189-198
Nov 5	F	Refugees & Internally Displaced Persons: Current & Future Crises	Newbold 2017, pp 198-211
Nov 8	M	Refugees & Internally Displaced Persons: Counting Refugees & IDPs	Newbold 2017, pp 211-212
Nov 10	W	Cities: Defining Urban & Brief History	Newbold 2017, pp 213-221
Nov 12	F	Cities: Planning for Future Growth	Newbold 2017, pp 221-231
Nov 15	M	***Film Reviews Due*** Class Film Discussion	

Nov 17	W	Population Policies: Immigration, Migration, & Fertility	Newbold 2017, pp 233-242
Nov 19	F	Population Policies: Case Studies	Newbold 2017, pp 242-253
Nov 22	M	***Country/Region Reports Due*** No Class	
Nov 24	W	*Thanksgiving Break; No Class*	
Nov 26	F	*Thanksgiving Break; No Class*	
Nov 29	M	Population Growth: Resource Scarcity	Newbold 2017, pp 255-267
Dec 1	W	Population Growth: Conflict & Geography's Contribution	Newbold 2017, pp 267-282
Dec 3	F	Population and Conflict	TBA
Dec 6	M	Course Review and Final Exam Prep	Review final material
Dec 8	W	***Final Exam***	
Dec 9-10	R-F	*Reading Days; No Class or Assignments Due*	
Dec 17	F	*Scheduled Final Exam Time: 7:30am-9:30am*	

VIII.   Course Policies: Attendance, Make-Ups, and Grades

Attendance: Students are expected to attend each and every class period. Absences can be excused with proper documentation according to university policy. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

Late Work: All assignments submitted after their respective deadlines will be assessed a penalty: 10 percentage points if one day late, 15 percentage points for 2-3 days late, and 30 percentage points for 4-7 days late. Assignments will not be accepted if overdue by more than seven days.

Examination Policies and Reading Days: Course policies are consistent with University policies on during-term exams, final exams, reading days, and make-up exams. Students must notify the instructor as soon as possible in case of absence during an exam and provide documentation as to the reason for the absence. If deemed an excused absence, the student will be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the missed exam. More details can be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/examination-policies-reading-days/.

Grade Dissemination: You can access your scores at any time using the Grade function in Canvas. The instructor will post grades within about one week of the due date of each assignment and the mid-term exam.

Grading Policies for Assigning Grade Points: Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points may be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx.

Grades of "Incomplete": The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. An incomplete grade may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor as an interim grade for a course in which you have completed a major portion of the course with a passing grade, been unable to complete course requirements before the end of the term because of extenuating circumstances and obtained agreement from the instructor and arranged for resolution of the incomplete grade. Instructors are not required to assign incomplete grades.

IX.   Course Policies: Technology and Media

Email: Each of you has a UF email address. It is vital that you maintain an active UF email account and that you **check it often**. This tentative syllabus is **subject to change**, and any changes will be transmitted to you via your UF email account and Canvas (see below). Students should email the instructor if they have questions about any of the lectures, readings, assignments, or exams. You should expect a response within about 24 hours during weekdays. On holidays or weekends, expect a response on the next business day. The instructor will reasonably expect similar time frames for responses to emails sent to students.

Canvas: Course materials such as lectures, readings, the syllabus, and assignment instructions will be available through Canvas (https://elearning.ufl.edu). You will also find all due dates and grades on Canvas. Students must activate their UF GatorLink account in order to use Canvas. If you need help learning how to perform various tasks related to this course or other courses that utilize Canvas, please consult the above webpage. You may also contact the UF Computing Help Desk at (352) 392-HELP(4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Online Course Evaluation: Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Recordings and Notes: It is not permitted to sell notes or recordings from this class without written consent of the instructor. Nor are students permitted to disseminate recordings of the instructor lecturing or post copies of assignments or exams on the internet.

X.   Course Policies: Student Expectations

Disabilities Statement:
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Conduct Policy: As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity*." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "*On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment*." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php.

XI.   Campus Resources for Students:

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or email to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. http://www.crc.ufl.edu

Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Student Complaints, https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

Health and Wellness Resources

U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352-392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Sexual Assault Recovery Servies (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 352-392-1161. More information on resources to help students with sexual violence issues at www.umatter.ufl.edu/sexual_violence

Sexual Harassment, Information on UF policies, awareness, reporting, and counseling at www.hr.ufl.edu/manager-resources/policies-2/sexual-harassment/

Counseling and Wellness Center, http://counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 352-392-1575;

University Police Department, 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/