

SOCIOLOGY 520: TECHNIQUES OF DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS 1
SOCIOLOGY 420: INTRODUCTION TO DEMOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES

Professor Kara Joyner (kjoyner@bgsu.edu)

Spring Semester 2017

Lecture: M & W 9:30–10:20 Hayes 114

Computer Lab: F 9:30–10:20 Business Admin Access 4000

Office Hours: TR 11:00-1:00 (or by appointment)

Required Reading for the Course: Students are required to read the assigned chapters and articles listed under scheduled topics (available electronically).

Course Description: This course introduces students to the basic methods of formal demography, the study of population structure and change. These methods have widespread applicability in social science, business, and government research. Topics include sources of demographic data, demographic measurement, construction of life tables, standardization, and decomposition. The course also covers recent articles that apply formal demographic methods.

Format: I will lecture and generate discussion during some parts of the class. During the Friday computer labs students will manipulate demographic data in a computer lab using Excel. In the event that students are not participating in discussions, they will be assigned to prepare reviews of the articles and to lead the discussion of them. Students will need to bring a calculator and/or laptop to class.

Grading: Grades will be based on assignments (25%); class attendance and participation (15%); and exams (10% for each quiz and 30% for the cumulative final exam). The exams will include questions comparable to ones in the problem sets. The assignments will be circulated at least one week in advance of their due date; they must be typed. Some assignments may require students to locate and enter data. Assignment problems will be randomly selected for grading. Students are expected to read the assigned material *before and after* it is covered in the lectures.

Final grades will be based on the following scale:

A: 90.0 – 100; B: 80.0 - 89.99; C: 70.0 - 79.99; D: 60.0 - 69.9; F: 59.9 or below.

Absences: If you have a job or appointments that interfere with this course, then you are advised to drop this course now. The lectures will provide additional information that the readings do not cover. Regularly attending class attendance is very critical. If you experience extenuating circumstances that lead to an absence during the semester, please contact the instructor.

Important Dates:

Quiz 1: Friday, February 10th

Quiz 2: Friday, March 3rd

Quiz 3: Friday, April 7th

Final exam: Friday May 5^h from 8:30-10:30

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to abide by the Code of Academic Conduct at BGSU (see the Student Handbook). You can work with other students on lab assignments and in-class assignments, but you cannot simply copy files or answers from another student.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Anyone with a disability and in need of services should contact me immediately to discuss their needs. To receive more information about your rights, contact the Office of Disability Services (phone: 419-372-8495; office: 38 College Park Office Building; website: <http://www.bgsu.edu/disability-services.html>).

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

BGSU aims to allow students to observe their religious holidays without academic penalty. Students need to provide reasonable notice of the dates of religious holidays on which he or she will be absent. Following notification, the instructor will determine what alternative test or assignment will be provided. (As stated in The Academic Charter, B-II.G-4.b at: <http://www.bgsu.edu/downloads/file919.pdf> (EDTL 2710))

VETERANS

If you are a student veteran, please let me know immediately so reasonable accommodations can be made for absences when drilling or being called to active duty. For further information on veteran support services please visit <http://www.bgsu.edu/veteran/>.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The library provides several user-centered services that connect students to high quality information and resources. For more information, to reserve a study space, or to make an appointment contact University Libraries (webpage: <http://www.bgsu.edu/library.html>; <http://www.bgsu.edu/library/ask-us.html> ; phone: 419-372-6943; email: libhelp@bgsu.edu).

LEARNING COMMONS

Help with writing or material comprehension in this class or any of your other classes is available at the Learning Commons. They provide services such as academic coaching, subject tutoring, and reviewing drafts of papers. They are located in Jerome Library and can be contacted via phone (419-372-2823) or email (tic@bgsu.edu).

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

To receive help with CANVAS or computer technology, please contact the Student Technology Assistance Center (STAC; Office: 122 Jerome Library; phone: (419-372-9277); web page: <https://www.bgsu.edu/library/stac.html>).

Schedule:

Week 1 (1/9 & 1/11): Is Demography Destiny?

Krapf, Sandra, Michaela Kreyenfeld, and Katharina Wolf. 2016. "Gendered Authorship and Demographic Research: An Analysis of 50 Years of Demography." *Demography* 53 (4): 1169-1184.

"Marriage by the Numbers" <http://www.newsweek.com/marriage-numbers-110797>

Andrew Cherlin. 1990. "The Strange Career of the 'Harvard-Yale Study.'" *Public Opinion Quarterly* 54: 117-24.

Week 2 (1/18): Population Overview

Chapter 1 in Rowland, Donald T. 2003. *Demographic Methods and Concepts*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Time Magazine (1960) Population: The Numbers Game, January 11, 1960.

Week 3 (1/23 & 1/25): Population Change

Chapter 1 in Wachter, Kenneth W. 2014. *Essential Demographic Methods*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Lam, David. 2011. "How the World Survived the Population Bomb: Lessons from Fifty Years of Extraordinary Demographic History" *Demography* 48(2): 1231-1262.

Week 4 (1/30 & 2/1): Population Structure

Chapter 3 in Rowland, Donald T. 2003. *Demographic Methods and Concepts*. New York: Oxford University Press.

South, Scott J., and Steven F. Messner. "Crime and Demography: Multiple linkages, Reciprocal Relations." *Annual Review of Sociology* (2000): 83-106.

Week 5 (2/6 & 2/8): Review & Quiz 1 (2/10)

Week 6 (2/13 & 2/15): Rates and Standardization

Pages 21-28 from Preston, Samuel, Patrick Heuveline, and Michel Guillot. 2000. *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.

Levitt, Steven D. "The Limited Role of Changing Age Structure in Explaining Aggregate Crime Rates." *Criminology* 37, no. 3 (1999): 581-598.

Week 7 (2/20 & 2/22): Decomposition

Pages 28-30 from Preston, Samuel, Patrick Heuveline, and Michel Guillot. 2000. *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.

Vogel, Matt, and Lauren C. Porter. "Toward a Demographic Understanding of Incarceration Disparities: Race, Ethnicity, and Age Structure." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* (2015): 1-16.

Week 8 (2/27 & 3/1): Review & Quiz 2 (3/3)

Week 9 (3/13 & 3/15): The Life Table

Pages 38-58 from Preston, Samuel, Patrick Heuveline, and Michel Guillot. 2000. *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.

Week 10 (3/20 & 3/22): Life Table Estimates in Software Packages

Allison, Paul. 2010. *Survival Analysis Using the SAS System: A Practical Guide*. Cary, N.C.: SAS Institute.

Week 11 (3/27 & 3/29): Life Table Applications

Bonczar, Thomas P and Allen J. Beck. 1997 "Lifetime Likelihood of Going to State or Federal Prison." *Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report* 1-13.
<http://bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/Llgsfp.pdf>

Pettit, Becky, and Bruce Western. 2004 "Mass Imprisonment and the Life Course: Race and Class Inequality in US Incarceration." *American Sociological Review* 69.2 (2004): 151-169.

Week 12 (4/3 & 4/5): Review & Quiz 3 (4/7)

Week 13 (4/10 & 4/12): Measures of Racial Disproportionality

Bollmer, Julie, James Bethel, Roberta Garrison-Mogren, Marsha Brauen. 2007. "Using the Risk Ratio to Assess Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality in Special Education at the School-District Level." *Journal of Special Education* 41(3): 186-198.

Crutchfield, Robert D., George S. Bridges, and Susan R. Pitchford. 1994 "Analytical and Aggregation Biases in Analyses of Imprisonment: Reconciling Discrepancies in Studies of Racial Disparity." *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 31, no. 2 (1994): 166-182.

Week 14 (4/17 & 4/19): Measures of Fertility

Chapter 8 in Hinde, Andrew. 1998. *Demographic Methods*. London. Arnold Publishers.

Smith H. and P. Cutright. 1988. "Thinking about Change in Illegitimacy Ratios: United States, 1963-1983." *Demography* 25(2): 235-247.

Week 15 (4/24): Review for Final Exam

Final Exam: Friday May 5^h from 8:30-10:30

Notes: Classes are canceled 4/26 & 4/28 (Population Association of America)