

# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## Department of Sociology

### Sociology 251:B1

#### *Population and Society*

(“Policy about course outlines can be found in Course Requirements, Evaluation Procedures and Grading of the University Calendar.”)

Professor Frank Trovato

MWF: 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

Humanities Centre L-3

Winter, 2017

Office: Tory 4-27

Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon (other times by appointment)

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### Policy on Electronic Recording of Lectures

Section 23.4(4) of the University of Alberta Academic Calendar stipulates:

*“Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).”*

### Brief Description of the Course

This course is an introduction to demography and population studies. *Demography* concerns itself with the formal (quantitative) analysis of population size, distribution, structure, and change. *Population Studies* examines the sociological determinants and consequences of demographic phenomena. Students in this course will learn the basic concepts, methods, and theories of these two interrelated aspects of the study of population.

**Course Requirements:** Two mid-term exams and a final examination.

### Required textbook

Trovato, Frank. 2015. *Canada's Population in a Global Context—An Introduction to Social Demography* (2<sup>nd</sup> edn). Toronto: Oxford University Press.

### Exam Dates and component weights

Final Exam: Friday, April 21, 2017, 9 a.m. (2 hrs), to be confirmed by Registrar	40%
Mid-Term Exam 1: February 10, 2017	30%
Mid-Term Exam 2: March 10, 2017	30%
Total	100%

## **Academic Integrity**

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at [www.governance.ualberta.ca](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca)) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

## **Grading**

Component grades will be added together and calculated as a percentage. Your percentage grade will then be converted to the four-point scale and letter grade as indicated below:

<b>Performance</b>	<b>Term score %</b>	<b>Letter grade</b>	<b>Grade on four-point scale</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	91-100	A+	4.0
	86-90	A	4.0
	82-85	A-	3.7
<b>Good</b>	78-81	B+	3.3
	74-77	B	3.0
	70-73	B-	2.7
<b>Satisfactory</b>	66-69	C+	2.3
	62-65	C	2.0
	58-61	C-	1.7
<b>Poor</b>	54-57	D+	1.3
<b>Minimal Pass</b>	50-53	D	1.0
<b>Fail</b>	0-49	F	0.0

**Note:** The following rule is applied when rounding term grades.

If a final term grade is on the margin of a cut-off point, it will be raised to the next higher category. For example, if a student’s overall term score is 90.5, the final grade will be 91, and therefore will receive A+ and 4.0 as a final grade. If a student’s overall term grade is 90.4, the score assigned will be 90, and will therefore receive a final grade of A and 4.0, etc.

## **Mid-Term Exams**

Mid-term exams will consist of a mix of multiple choice questions and a variety of other types of questions, including: true/false; fill-in-the blanks; match concepts; compare and contrast concepts; short answer essay. The exams encompass material from the class lectures, plus the assigned readings from the textbook (see topic outline below).

## **Final Exam**

The final exam will cover the whole course, but most of the emphasis will be on the material studied after the second mid-term. The structure and form of the final exam will be *similar* to that of the two mid-terms, though longer (2 hours).

**NOTE:** Mid-term and final exams will not be returned to students.

**Representative Examination Materials:** See the back of this outline for some representative examination questions in this course.

### **Policy on Missed Exams**

All regulations stipulated in the *University of Alberta Academic Calendar* apply to missed examinations. See: <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/>

- Excused absence for a missed exam is not automatic and is granted at the discretion of the instructor (in the case of term exams) or the student's Faculty (in the case of final exams).
- Instructors and Faculties are not required to grant excused absences for unacceptable reasons that include, but are not limited to personal events such as vacations, weddings, or travel arrangements.
- When a student is absent from a term or final exam without acceptable excuse, a final grade will be computed using a raw score of zero for the exam missed.
- Any student who applies for or obtains an excused absence by making false statements will be liable under the Code of Student Behaviour.

**Note:** For this course, there are no make-up exams for missed mid-term exams.

*Students granted an excused absence from a mid-term exam will have the weight of the missed mid-term exam transferred to final exam.*

**If you miss a mid-term exam:** I must be notified by e-mail within two working days of the missed exam. I must be provided with supporting documentation pertaining to the absence within two working days following the missed exam or as soon as the student is able having regard to the circumstances underlying the absence.

For medical illnesses, students can present one of the following:

- "**University of Alberta Medical Statement**" signed by a medical doctor (*this cannot be required, but will be accepted if provided in lieu of other documents*)
- "**Medical Declaration Form for Students**" (*for Faculty of Arts students*)
- "**Statutory Declaration**" (*for students in Faculties other than Arts, to be obtained from home Faculty or the Office of the Registrar*)

For **other acceptable absences**, such as domestic afflictions or religious convictions, the student should submit appropriate documentation to the situation. This could include the following:

For a death in the family – a copy of the death certificate

For a religious conflict – a letter from the church or pastor

For a car accident – a copy of the accident report

For other serious afflictions – consult with Instructor or Department about appropriate documents.

## **Regarding Deferred Final Exams**

**If you fail to write the final exam**, you must formally apply to your Faculty office within two working days following the missed final exam in order to be considered for a deferred final examination.

Please note: the decision to grant a deferred final exam is **not** the instructor's.

Deferred examinations are intended to accommodate students who have experienced an incapacitating illness or severe domestic affliction.

Applications based on minor or inconsequential ailments will not be approved if a student:

- (a) Has not been in regular attendance where attendance and/or participation are required, and/or,
- (b) Excluding the final exam, has completed less than half of the assigned work.

**There is only one date for granted deferred final exams:**

**Saturday, May 6, 2017  
9 a.m.  
Location TBA**

## **Other Important Matters**

**Posting of Grades:** Grades will be posted on E-class, which students can access individually.

**Posting of Lectures:** Summary of PowerPoints used in lectures will be posted following each class. Please note: These materials are not intended to serve as comprehensive coverage of the actual lectures.

### **Student Accessibility Services:**

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Student Accessibility Services, contact their office (1-80 SUB; E: [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); ph: 780-492-3381; WEB: [www.ssds.ualberta.ca](http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca))

## **Topics and required readings**

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**NOTE:** Readings listed under each topic are from the assigned textbook. Coverage of each topic may require between 2 and 4 lectures.

### ***Introduction and Overview***

- a. Overview of the Course and Expectations  
**Reading:** pages 2-27; skim rest of chapter

### ***The Study of Population***

- a. Definitions and Basic Concepts: Components of Population Change
- b. Formal Demography and Population Studies
- c. Population Growth Models
- d. Individual Action and Demographic Processes  
**Reading:** pages 2-27; skim rest of chapter

### ***Population Data: Their Sources and Nature***

- a. Sources of demographic data
- b. Census and Vital Statistics systems
- c. The Use of Vital Statistics and Census in Population Analysis  
**Reading:** pages 37-53; skim rest of chapter

### ***Population History***

- a. Present Demographic Situation of the World
- b. From a Long Period of Slow Growth to Explosive Growth
- c. The Demographic Transition: Industrialized and Developing Countries
- d. Canada's Demographic History: Overview
- e. Future World Population: Short and Long Term Perspectives  
**Reading:** pages 61-83; skim rest of chapter

### ***Age and Sex Composition***

- a. Basic Principles and Measures
- b. Typology of Age Distributions
- c. Determinants of Age Composition
- d. Sex Ratio of Population
- e. Changing Age Composition and Societal Ramifications  
**Reading:** pages 106-129; skim rest of chapter

### ***Nuptiality***

- a. Nuptiality as a Social Demographic Process and Basic Measures
- b. Nuptiality Trends: Cross-national Overview
- c. Explanations of Nuptiality Change  
**Reading:** pages 146-148; 154-166; 169-177; skim rest of chapter

### ***Fertility***

- a. Basic Concepts and Measures of Fertility
- b. Society and Fertility: Social-Biological Interactions
- c. Proximate Determinants of Fertility
- d. Theories of Fertility Change  
**Reading:** pages 192-201; 205-214; 217-233; skim rest of chapter

### ***Mortality and Population Health***

- a. Population Health and Mortality: Basic concepts
- b. Social Demographic Dimensions of Mortality
- c. Basic Measures of Mortality and Life Table
- d. Mortality Change Through History: Epidemiological Transition
- e. Health and Mortality Inequalities

**Reading:** pages 257-294; skim rest of chapter

### ***Internal Migration***

- a. Basic Concepts and Measures
- b. Explanations of Migration

**Reading:** pages 340-345; 355-379; skim rest of chapter

### ***International Migration***

- a. The Complex Nature of International Migration
- b. Basic Concepts and Measures
- c. Migration in History
- d. Theories of International Migration

**Reading:** pages 399-406; 410-427; skim rest of chapter

### ***Urbanization***

- a. Basic Concepts and Measures
- b. Urbanization in History
- c. Urban Systems
- d. Urban Change in the Future

**Reading:** pages 450-454; 460-476; skim rest of chapter

### ***Population and Resources***

- a. Classic Statements
- b. Malthusian Theory
- c. Marxist Theory
- d. Contemporary Perspectives on Population

**Reading:** pages 503-536

### ***Population Change and Policy Concerns***

- a. The Interconnectedness of Demography, Policy and Society
- b. Population Policy---Global Perspective
- c. Canadian Population Policy Concerns

**Reading:** pages 539-574

***Open Topics*** (if time permits)

## Examples of representative examination questions

### Multiple Choice

- In a table of age-specific fertility rates cross-classified by age and period, the row elements of that table would represent:
  - period-specific TFRs
  - cohort-specific fertility rates
  - cohort-specific NRRs
  - period-specific NRRs
  - none of the above
- In a life table,
  - the RNI is always zero
  - the crude birth and death rates are always the same
  - there is no in- or out-migration
  - all of the above
  - none of the above

### Short Answer

- Describe formal demography and population studies. How are they related?
- The age pattern of migration can be described as a *law-like* phenomenon. What are the underlying features of this phenomenon?
- How are *Survival Probabilities* and *Life Expectancy* related in the *Life Table*?

### True/False

- The “J” shape of mortality is characteristic of pre-transitional populations.  
*True* \_\_\_\_\_ *False* \_\_\_\_\_
- The series: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 ... describes arithmetic growth.  
*True* \_\_\_\_\_ *False* \_\_\_\_\_

### Compare and Contrast the Following Pairs of Concepts

- Data collection systems: Census vs. Vital Registration
- Explanations of Mortality: Compression of morbidity vs. Expansion of survival
- Population growth: Rate of natural increase vs. Demographic components equation.

## Calculations and Interpretation

1. The table below gives the population distributions and deaths for two hypothetical populations, (A) and (B).

Population		
Age	Population (A)	Population (B)
0-4	39,539	267,104
5-14	61,728	504,028
15-24	34,725	401,294
25-44	43,686	597,025
45-64	17,626	487,071
65+	3,855	218,238
<b>Total</b>	<b>201,159</b>	<b>2,474,760</b>

Deaths		
Age	Population (A)	Population (B)
0-4	853	1,104
5-14	228	402
15-24	301	1,294
25-44	406	5,025
45-64	565	10,771
65+	1,189	28,238
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,542</b>	<b>46,834</b>

2. With these data compute the following measures and interpret your results:
- Youth Dependency Ratios
  - Old Age Dependency Ratios
  - Overall Dependency Ratios
  - Crude Death Rates
  - Age-Specific Death Rates
  - Age-Standardized Death Rate (direct method) for population B, using population A as the standard