

**Demography and Contemporary Societies**

Code: 104240  
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2503710 Geography, Environmental Management and Spatial Planning	OB	2	1

**Contact**

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**Use of Languages**

Principal working language: catalan (cat)  
Some groups entirely in English: No  
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes  
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

**Other comments on languages**

Catalan will be the language of first choice in teaching, but use of Spanish or English by students is welcomed.

**Teachers**

Caty Roca Fernández  
Antonio Lopez Gay

**Prerequisites**

No special requirements

Equal treatment for the students coming from the two degrees where this course is taught:

Geography, Environment and Territorial Planning (compulsory)

Social and Cultural Anthropology (optional)

**Objectives and Contextualisation**

Course objective: The basic objective of the subject is to introduce students to the basic features of the study of human populations, both in terms of the DEMOGRAPHIC METHOD and of the KNOWLEDGE of the most general demographic phenomena; as well as its interrelation with historical, territorial and environmental contextual elements.

- a) Introducing the students to the main demographic indicators
  - Calculation of indicators: methods and data sources.
  - Demographic information available: data banks on the Internet
- b) How is the behavior of real populations.
  - Understanding the historical process of shaping populations and demographic systems
  - Interactions of the demographic system with other spheres of human activity, environment and planning.
- c) Reinforcement of the logical and analytical elements in relation to population studies.
  - Demographic approaches for the interpretation of social information.

## Competences

- Combine distinct techniques and methods of representation and spatial analysis in elaborating materials for transmitting results.
- Critically analyse the relationship between society and the region applying the conceptual and theoretical framework of geography.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.
- Systematically analyse and interpret environmental, demographic, urban and landscape elements.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Combine distinct techniques and methods of representation and spatial analysis in elaborating materials for transmitting results.
2. Examine how different social, economic, political and environmental processes create and transform spaces and social relationships.
3. Identify and understand social and regional inequalities in society.
4. Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
5. Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.

## Content

1. Introduction to the course, contents and methodology
2. The subject of Demography.
3. Methods: Sources of demographic data
4. Methods: Time dimensions and Lexis diagram.
5. Methods: Indicators and rates in Demography
6. Methods: Comparability in Demography. Standardization of rates.
7. Analysis of phenomena. Main mortality indicators.
8. Analysis of phenomena. Main fertility indicators.
9. Theories of demographic change. Demographic Transition
10. Theories of demographic change. Demographic Dividend.
11. Theories of demographic change. Demographic Metabolism.
12. Applied demography: Population projections.
13. Applied demography: Housing demand forecasting.
14. Applied demography: Urban planning impact on population

## Methodology

The course will last approximately 15 weeks, at a rate of 3 hours per week, which sum up 50 hours of joint work in the classroom.

The weekly work will consist of two types of sessions:

- A first session of 1,5 hours will be TE type (lectures), that is, sessions in which teacher will keep the main role through the presentation and explanation of the different topics, including the use of ICT (internet access, power-point presentations ). Student participation will be encouraged through previous reading, questions and small debates.

- A second weekly session (1,5 h) will be of the PAUL type, practical work in a lab computer classroom, in which the teacher will coordinate the individual or small groups work. In these practical sessions public online statistical sources will be presented and handled, problems of calculation of urban, demographic and housing indicators will be solved, as well as relevant texts or other material of interest will be discussed.

The two sessions in some weeks will be TE type (lectures).

Every 1 or 2 week lab work session will end with an assignment. All assignments will take part in the course final evaluation, together with 2 partial exams.

University teaching intranet will be used (Campus Virtual). There, students will be able to access all documents needed for the lectures and lab sessions. It will also be the place for students to deliver the assignments before successive deadlines.

In one of the last sessions of the course, students will be able to fulfill the surveys of evaluation of teaching activity and evaluation of the course methods.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

## Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	31.34	1.25	5
Problems in computer lab	15.66	0.63	1
Type: Supervised			
Individual or small groups tutoring	10	0.4	5
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous work on assignments	20	0.8	1
Compulsory reading	30	1.2	5
Studying for exams	20	0.8	5
Supplementary recommended reading	10	0.4	

## Assessment

Assessment is a continuous process, based on partial exams and assessment of assignments.

- Assessment of theory and concepts (lecture classes) will be carried out through two partial exams. They will consist of 4-5 short questions, which will combine theoretical and conceptual aspects, with practical questions.

- Assessment of the lab sessions will be done through assignments, at a rate of one per week or every two weeks, approximately. A reasonable deadline period will be set for every assignment (approx. 2-3 weeks). Contribution of students in final discussion during lab sessions will be considered as well.

- There will be an assessment of the questionnaire on the obligatory bibliography.

Qualification: The qualification of the two partial exams weights 50% of the total value (25% + 25%), the assessment of the classwork reading another 10% and the assessment of the assignments counts for the remaining 40%. To pass the course it will be necessary to have obtained an average score of 5 or more (up to 10) in the exams, with a grade of 4 or more in both of them.

The final grade of the course is the weighted average of all the marks (exams and joint practical notes), the possible range being from 0 to 10. Assignments delivered after the indicated period will not be accepted and will be considered not performed (grade 0, zero) . Unjustified failure to attend a partial exam will mean a "Not Assessable" course grade. The subject is considered Failed when the final average grade does not reach 5.0. Students will obtain a "Not assessed/Not submitted" course grade unless they have submitted more than 30% of the assessment items, including both partial exams.

The assessment evidences indicated above can be reassessed or retaken. There will be a reassessment activity of the partial exams that will take place on the date fixed by the teaching coordinator of the degree. The exams and the assignment dossier can not be reevaluated jointly; the student must pass exams or either assignments. Only those exams and assignments carried out and / or delivered within the established deadlines may be re-evaluated.

Assignment reports will be individually delivered by each student, although a cooperative work can be done during its elaboration in or out of the classroom.

In the event of a student committing any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade awarded to an assessment activity, the student will be given a zero for this activity, regardless of any disciplinary process that may take place. In the event of several irregularities in assessment activities of the same subject, the student will be given a zero as the final grade for this subject. Among these irregularities are "copy" and "plagiarism". Let's remember that a "copy" is considered a work that reproduces all or most of the work of one or more classmates. "Plagiarism" is the fact of presenting all or part of a text of an author as its own, without mentioning the sources, be on paper or in digital format. See UAB documentation on "plagiarism" at: [http://wuster.uab.es/web\\_argumenta\\_obert/unit\\_20/sot\\_2\\_01.html](http://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/unit_20/sot_2_01.html).

On carrying out each evaluation activity, lecturers will inform students (on Moodle) of the procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.

The assessment procedure is the same for students retaking the course.

Health alerts: In the event that tests or exams cannot be taken onsite, they will be adapted to an online format made available through the UAB's virtual tools (original weighting will be maintained). Homework, activities and class participation will be carried out through forums, wikis and/or discussion on Teams, etc. Lecturers will ensure that students are able to access these virtual tools, or will offer them feasible alternatives.

## Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Assessment of compulsory reading	10%	0.5	0.02	3, 5
Final redaction of Assignment reports	40%	10	0.4	1, 4
First partial exam (theory)	25%	1.25	0.05	3, 2, 5
Second partial exam (theory)	25%	1.25	0.05	3, 2, 5

## Bibliography

Compulsory reading previous to classroom work (theory sessions):

- The subject of Demography.

Cabré, Anna (1995). Si sólo subiera la natalidad... El Periódico, 24 de diciembre de 1994 (Campus Virtual)

- Methods: Sources of demographic data

Goerlich, Francisco José (2007). ¿Cuántos somos? Una excursión por las estadísticas demográficas del Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE). Boletín de la Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles, (45).

<https://bage.age-geografia.es/ojs/index.php/bage/article/view/642>

- Methods: Time dimensions and Lexis diagram.

Rau, Roland, Bohk-Ewald, Christina, Muszyńska, Magdalena M., Vaupel, James W. (2018). The Lexis Diagram. In: Visualizing Mortality Dynamics in the Lexis Diagram. The Springer Series on Demographic Methods and Population Analysis, vol 44. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-64820-0\\_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-64820-0_2)

- Methods: Indicators and rates in Demography

Columbia University. Demography Learning Module. Rates & indices | Measures of the total population.

<http://www.columbia.edu/itc/hs/pubhealth/modules/demography/rateIndices.html>

- Methods: Comparability in Demography. Standardization of rates.

Módenes, Juan A. y Menacho, Teresa. (2019). Diversidad regional en España del uso del coche para ir a trabajar: ¿diferencias de comportamiento o de composición?. Revista de Estudios Andaluces, 37, 71-93.

<https://idus.us.es/handle/11441/85806>

- Analysis of phenomena. Main fertility indicators.

Treviño, Rocío; Esteve, Albert. Els grans perquè de la(in) fecunditat a Espanya. Bellaterra: Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, 2019. 4 pag. (Perspectives demogràfiques ; 015). Online: <https://ddd.uab.cat/record/204270>

- Analysis of phenomena. Main mortality indicators.

Cruz Castanheira, Helena; Monteiro, José H. (2021). Mortalidad por COVID-19 y las desigualdades por nivel socioeconómico y por territorio. CEPAL, Santiago de Chile. Online:

<https://www.cepal.org/es/enfoques/mortalidad-covid-19-desigualdades-nivel-socioeconomico-territorio>

- Theories of demographic change. Demographic Transition

Jiménez, Javier (@dronte) (2022) Caminamos hacia el fin de la inmigración: lo que el desplome demográfico de África dice sobre nuestro futuro. Blog Xataka. Online:

<https://www.xataka.com/medicina-y-salud/caminamos-fin-inmigracion-que-desplome-demografico-africa-dice-nue>

- Theories of demographic change. Demographic Dividend.

Lee, R., & Mason, A. (2006). ¿Cuál es el dividendo demográfico?. Finanzas & Desarrollo, 43(3), 16-17. Online:

[https://ntaccounts.org/doc/repository/LM2006\\_Spanish.pdf](https://ntaccounts.org/doc/repository/LM2006_Spanish.pdf)

- Theories of demographic change. Demographic Metabolism.

Domingo, Andreu; Bayona i Carrasco, Jordi (2021). La huella de las migraciones en el metabolismo demográfico del Área Metropolitana de Barcelona. Estudios Geográficos, 82 (291), e083. Online:

<https://doi.org/10.3989/estgeogr.202194.094>

- Applied demography: Population projections.

Módenes, J. A. (1998). Jornades Tècniques sobre Projeccions Demogràfiques de Catalunya: Barcelona, 26 i 27 de maig de 1997. Online: <https://ddd.uab.cat/pub/dag/02121573n32/02121573n32p219.pdf>

IDESCAT (1998). Projeccions de població de Catalunya 2010-2030. Estadística Demogràfica: Estudis i Projeccions. Online: <https://www.idescat.cat/serveis/biblioteca/docs/bib/publicacions/gi0952.pdf>

- Applied demography: Housing demand forecasting.

Módenes, J. A. (2020). Demanda de vivienda familiar y demografía: cambios a la vista. ASPRIMA Revista. Página 15. Online: [https://www.asprima.es/wp-content/asociados/ASPRIMA\\_Revista\\_2020\\_.pdf](https://www.asprima.es/wp-content/asociados/ASPRIMA_Revista_2020_.pdf)

- Applied demography: Urban planning impact on population

Módenes, J.A. (2012). Desequilibrios en las estructuras demográficas locales a raíz del último boom residencial: Problemas para la futura gestión sociodemográfica. En VVAA. La población en clave territorial: Procesos, estructuras y perspectivas de análisis. Asociación de Geógrafos Españoles y Universidad de Cantabria, 117-126. Online: <https://tinyurl.com/f7ftmxpn>

#### Recommended reading

GARCÍA, Isidro Dubert; PÉREZ-CARAMÉS, Antía (2021). Invasión migratoria y envejecimiento demográfico.: Dos mitos contemporáneos. Catarata, 2021.

LUTZ, Wolfgang (2021) Advanced Introduction to Demography. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar

#### Handbooks of Demographic Analysis

ARROYO, Andrés, Elena MANZANERA, Y Antonio PASCUAL -EdS- (2007), Estadísticas demográficas y sociales. Difusión estadística. Jaén: Universidad de Jaén.

PRESSAT, Roland. (1983). El análisis demográfico. Madrid: FCE.

RILEY, Nancy; Brunson, Jan (Eds.). (2018). International Handbook on Gender and Demographic Processes (Vol. 8). Springer.

TAPINOS, George. (1988). Elementos de demografía. Madrid: Espasa Calpe.

#### Population dynamics.

CABRÉ, Anna. (1999), El sistema català de reproducció, Barcelona, Proa.

LIVI-BACCI, Massimo (2012) Historia mínima de la población mundial. Barcelona: Crítica. (English version: BACCI, Massimo Livi. 2017. *A concise history of world population*. John Wiley & Sons)

THUMERELLE, Pierre-Jean. (1997) Las poblaciones del mundo, Madrid: Cátedra

REQUES, Pedro (2001). Población, recursos y medioambiente: ¿el final de los mitos. *Santander: Ed. Universidad de Cantabria*.

More references during classes

## Software

During classes at the computer lab, the following software will be used in order to process statistical data:

- Excel

The final reports of lab activities must be submitted in .pdf format.