Demography

Code: 101582
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
Social and Cultural Anthropology	OT	3
Social and Cultural Anthropology	OT	4

Contact

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Teachers

Angeles Perez Mateos

Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the end of this document.

Prerequisites

To take this subject you must have a command of Catalan and/or Spanish equal to or higher than level B2.

There are no additional special requirements.

Students from Antropologia Social i Cultural will be part of the following course group

104240	Demografia i Societats Contemporànies

Equal treatment for the students coming from the two degrees in which 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

Social and Cultural Anthropology

- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- 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.
- Take account of social, economic and environmental impacts when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Take sex- or gender-based inequalities into consideration when operating within one's own area of knowledge.
- Use digital tools and critically interpret specific documentary sources.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analysing and interpreting demographic problems.
2. Analysing the main dynamics of today's world from a geographic viewpoint.
3. Assess the reliability of sources, select important data and cross-check information.
4. Classifying problems related to demographic phenomena.
5. Comparing and contrasting relevant geographic data.
6. Identify the principal forms of sex- or gender-based inequality and discrimination present in society.
7. Identify the social, economic and environmental implications of academic and professional activities within one?s own area of knowledge.
8. Summarising acquired knowledge about the origin and transformations experienced in the several fields of anthropology.

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

Catalan will be the priority language of teaching

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	23.5	0.94	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 6, 8, 3
Problems in computer lab	23.5	0.94	1, 4, 5, 6, 3
Type: Supervised			
Individual or small groups tutoring	10	0.4	1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 3
Type: Autonomous			
Compulsory reading	40	1.6	1, 2, 5, 7, 6, 8
Studying for exams	20	0.8	1, 2, 4, 5, 3

The course will last approximately 18 weeks, at a rate of 3 hours per week, which adds up to 50 hours of joint work in the classroom.

The student must devote a total of 150 hours to the subject. Of these 33% (50 hours) will be with the whole group and the teacher in classroom activities, seminar or computer lab (joint activities directed).

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 the teacher will keep the main role through the presentation and explanation of the different topics, including the use of ICT (internet access, interactive PowerPoint presentations). Student participation will be encouraged through previous reading, questions, and small debates. Active attendance would be checked.

- 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 online practical sessions, public statistics sources will be presented and handled, problems related to the calculation of urban, demographic, and housing indicators will be solved, and relevant texts or other materials of interest will be discussed. Active attendance would be checked.

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 be part of the course's 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 complete 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.

Assessment

Continous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Evaluation of required reading	10%	0.5	0.02	1, 2, 4
Partial exams (theory)	40%	2.5	0.1	1, 4, 5, 7, 6, 8
Reports of lab activities	50%	30	1.2	1, 5, 7, 8, 3

This course applies continuous evaluation and it is not possible to opt for a comprehensive evaluation.

Evaluation evidence:

- The evaluation of the contents will be carried out through two partial exams. They will consist of 4-5 short questions, which will measure the ability to use the concepts and indicators in the appropriate context, and to interpret them correctly from the point of view of demographic dynamics. The dates will be included in the course syllabus and will be communicated on the first day of class. These tests must be taken in person, on the day, time and classroom assigned.

Erasmus students requesting to bring forward an exam date must submit to the professor in charge a written document from the home university justifying this request.

- The evaluation of the practicals will be based on the individual report dossiers. Active attendance and participation in the discussion of results in each practical class will be an evaluable element. The reports of the practical work delivered will be individual for each student, although a cooperative work can be carried out for its resolution in the classroom and out of it.

- Active participation in the theory sessions will also be evaluable, through evaluable activities that will be carried out during the class.

Weight of the different evidences in the final evaluation:

- The grade of both mid-term exams represents 45% of the total value (22.5% + 22.5%).

- Participation and results in different activities carried out in the theory sessions will be evaluated, for which class attendance will be required (10%).

- The evaluation of the practical work in the PAUL sessions and of the results reports. The evaluation of the practicals will take into account the attendance and participation in class and the final report (45%, average of all the practicals).

To pass the course it will be necessary:

a) to exceed 5 in the overall grade (weighted average of exams, activities in the theory and practical sessions).

b) have obtained an average of 5 in the exams, with a grade of 4 or higher in each exam,

c) the average evaluation of the internship must exceed or equal the grade 4.

Calculation of final grade:

The final grade is the weighted average of all grades and exercises and exams not taken will count as 0 (zero). Practical exercises handed in after the established deadline will not be received and will be considered as not completed (grade 0, zero). The student will receive a grade of "Not evaluable" if he/she has not submitted more than 30% of the evaluation activities, including both partial exams.

Reassessment:

There is a right to reassessment, which will take place on the date set by the teaching coordination of the degree. The reassessment is possible if the student has been previously evaluated in 66% of the evaluation activities, including the two partial exams. Only those exams and exercises taken and/or handed in within the indicated deadlines can be reassessed.

Effects on the evaluation of copying, plagiarism and other irregularities:

In case the student makes any irregularity that may lead to a significant variation in the grade of an act of evaluation, this act of evaluation will be graded with 0, regardless of the disciplinary process that may be instituted. In case of several irregularities in the evaluation acts of the same subject, the final grade of this subject will be 0. Among these irregularities is the copying or plagiarism of work or parts of work. Let us remember that a "copy" is considered a work that reproduces all or a large part of the work of another student. "Plagiarism" is the fact of presenting all or part of an author's text as one's own, without citing the sources, whether 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.

Review of partial and final grades:

At the time of each evaluation activity, the teacher will inform the students (Moodle) of the procedure and date of grade review.

Use of Artificial Intelligence

Restricted use: For this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies is allowed exclusively in support tasks in the completion of practical work, such as bibliographic or information search, or text correction. The student must clearly identify in which parts this technology has been used, specify the tools used and include a critical reflection on how these have influenced the process and the final result of the activity. The non-transparency of the use of AI in the practical reports will be considered academic dishonesty and may result in a partial or total penalty in the grade of the activity, or higher penalties in serious cases.

Other information:

Repeater students do not have a differentiated treatment of their evaluation.

Health alerts: In case the tests cannot be taken in person, their format will be adapted (maintaining their weighting) to the possibilities offered by the virtual tools of the UAB. Homework, activities and class participation will be done through forums, wikis and/or discussions of exercises through Teams, etc. The professor will ensure that the student can access or offer alternative means, which are within their reach.

Bibliography

Each theory session is accompanied by a short compulsory reading, which must be read and prepared before the session, and a complementary reading, recommended to complete the study of related knowledge and skills.

The required and recommended readings will be announced, along with the course calendar, on the first day of class.

The reference bibliography for the course is:

Recommended books:

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 deCantabria*.

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.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this link. To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn

(PLAB) Practical laboratories	11	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	12	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(PLAB) Practical laboratories	13	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	first semester	morning-mixed