Administrative Unit: Department of History & Social Sciences Department

Course Prefix and Number: SOCI 412

Course Title: Population and Ecology

Number of: Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Study of population composition and dynamics by age, sex and ethnicity; fertility, mortality and migration; patterns of population growth and distribution in the United States and in the world; population growth and contemporary social issues and policies. Prerequisite: SOCI 111. Occasional offering.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): SOCI 111.

Text(s):


Supplemental Texts:


Course Objectives:

- To define demography and describe the various sources of demographic data.
- To understand the composition of society along the lines of age, sex, and ethnicity.
- To understand fertility and fertility rates, mortality and mortality rates, and their affects on population size.
- To understand population policies across the globe.
- To understand cause and consequences of global migration patterns as well as internal migration patterns.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Critically analyze the competing theoretical perspectives on global population growth.
- Understand demography as an academic discipline and its usefulness.
- Describe and analyze the composition of the population by age, sex, and ethnicity.
- Describe the demographic concepts of fertility, fertility rates, mortality, mortality rates, the demographic transition, demographic trap and their affect on population size.
- Analyze the causes and consequences of migration.
- Evaluate population policies.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Definition of demography and the sources of demographic data.
- Patterns and trends of world population change.
- Historical patterns of population growth in the U.S.
- Age, sex, ethnic and racial composition of the population, and its consequences on fertility and mortality.
- Fertility and fertility rates, and their consequences on population. Determinants of family size in the world, problems of unwanted births and teenage childbearing.
- Mortality and mortality rates, their causes, historical trends, and consequences. Differences in mortality by age, sex, race, socioeconomic status and nation.
- Migration.
- Major patterns of international migration in history; immigrants and the U.S. society. Internal migration in the U.S.: interregional flows in the U.S.; the determinants and consequences of internal migration.
- Population growth and contemporary social issues: resources, economic development, family control, urbanization, and others.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35
Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

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Date: September 19, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

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