Demography

Overview

The Department of Demography offers an interdisciplinary training program leading to the MA and PhD in demography. Demography is the systematic study of human populations, a topic central to many pressing policy issues such as the economic development of Third World countries, population aging, the environment, health and mortality, family and household change, immigration, and ethnicity. Demography also has strong intellectual and institutional ties to other fields such as sociology, economics, social history, anthropology, biology, public health, and statistics.

Faculty in the Demography Department also participate in the Graduate Group in Sociology and Demography (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/schools-departments-graduate-groups/sociology-demography), which administers a PhD in Sociology and Demography (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/schools-departments-graduate-groups/sociology-demography).

There is no undergraduate major in Demography, but the department offers an undergraduate minor in Demography. Seniors may take graduate courses with the consent of the instructor.

Facilities and Library

Training and research explore anthropological, economic, historical, mathematical, statistical, and social aspects of demography. Computer applications — including exploratory statistical analysis and microsimulation techniques — are strongly emphasized. The department has advanced computing facilities consisting of state-of-the-art UNIX workstations and servers, networked PCs, and access to IBM mainframe services. Additionally, the department has its own noncirculating library, the Allan Sharlin Memorial Library, which hosts a wide collection of books and periodicals in the field of demography.

Events and Colloquia

The Demography Brown Bag (http://www.demog.berkeley.edu/announcements/brownbag.shtml) series is an opportunity for the campus demography community to present either works in progress or completed works in an informal setting. The lectures are hosted during the school year every Wednesday at noon in the Demography Conference Room.

The Demography Mini-Conferences (http://www.demog.berkeley.edu/announcements/bacpop.shtml) are occasional half-day conferences sponsored jointly by the Department of Demography and the Berkeley Population Center (http://www.popcenter.berkeley.edu) at UC Berkeley, and/or the Center for the Economics and Demography of Aging (CEDA) (http://ceda.berkeley.edu). Noted demographers and scholars from related fields make up the list of invited speakers to this series, which brings together specialists interested in demography from the entire Bay Area, including Stanford University and UC Davis, and beyond. We hold several such events each academic year, in one of the campus’ fine meeting spaces. These are half-day gatherings, often starting with an informal buffet lunch (or ending with a networking social), with presentations, moderated discussions, and Q&A from attendees.

Undergraduate Program

Demography (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/demography): Minor

Graduate Programs

Demography (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/demography): MA, PhD

Demography

DEMOG 5 Fundamentals of Population Science 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2011

This course provides an accessible introduction to the social science of demography. The course is organized around cases in which population issues raise policy or ethical dilemmas (example: China’s one child policy). Through these cases, students will learn how demographers use models and data to acquire knowledge about population. Throughout the course, students will also learn to read, interpret, evaluate, and produce tabular and graphical representations of population data.

Fundamentals of Population Science: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Johnson-Hanks

Fundamentals of Population Science: Read Less [-]
DEMOG 88 Immigration: What do the data tell us? 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017
This course will cover the small but important part of the rich history of human migration that deals with the population of the United States--focusing on the 20th and 21st Centuries. We will use the tools of DS8 to answer specific questions that relate to the themes of this course:
1. Why do people migrate?
2. Is immigration good or bad for receiving (and sending) countries?
3. How do immigrants adapt and how do societies change in response?

In addition to scientific questions, this course will also address the demographic and political history of immigration in the US -- an understanding of which is crucial for understanding both the broad contours of US history and the particular situation in which we find ourselves today.

Immigration: What do the data tell us?: Read More [+]

Objectives Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will enhance the experience of DS8 by challenging students to use the tools of DS8 to address current questions with real data. By accessing and using much larger and messier datasets than are used in the main course, students will gain technical skills as well as confidence in their ability to use data to answer questions.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Prerequisites and Restrictions (if any): Corequisite or Prerequisite: Foundations of Data Science (COMPSCI C8 / INFO C8 / STAT C8). This course is a Data Science connector course and is meant to be taken concurrent with or after COMPSCI C8/ INFO C8 / STAT C8. Students may take more than one Data Science connector course if they wish, concurrent with or after having taken the C8 course.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0.5 hours of lecture, 0.5 hours of discussion, and 1 hour of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Carl Mason

Immigration: What do the data tell us?: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 98 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Undergraduate research by small groups.

Directed Group Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of tutorial per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 110 Introduction to Population Analysis 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Measures and methods of Demography. Life tables, fertility and nuptiality measures, age pyramids, population projection, measures of fertility control.

Introduction to Population Analysis: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Wachter

Introduction to Population Analysis: Read Less [-]
DEMOG C126 Sex, Death, and Data 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Introduction to population issues and the field of demography, with emphasis on historical patterns of population growth and change during the industrial era. Topics covered include the demographic transition, resource issues, economic development, the environment, population control, family planning, birth control, family and gender, aging, intergenerational transfers, and international migration.

Sex, Death, and Data: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 1 or 3 or 3AC or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: SOCIOL C126

DEMOG 145AC The American Immigrant Experience 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Spring 2013
The history of the United States is the history of migration. The course covers the evolution of the American population from about 20,000 BC with the goal of understanding the interdependent roles of history and demography. As an American cultures class, special attention is given to the experiences of 18th- and 19th-century African and European immigrants and 20th- and 21st-century Asian and Latin American immigrants. Two substantial laboratory assignments; facility with a spreadsheet program is assumed.

The American Immigrant Experience: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Also listed as: HISTORY C139B

DEMOG 160 Special Topics in Demography 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2009, Spring 2007
Special topics in demography. Topics may include the demography of specific world regions, race and ethnicity, population and policy, and population and environment and similar specialized or new topics in the field of demography will be covered.

Special Topics in Demography: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

DEMOG 161 Population Apocalypse in Film and Science 3 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2015, Spring 2015
Despite our astonishing demographic success as a species, humans are haunted by the idea of apocalyptic demise. This course explores scientific and cultural narratives of population catastrophe particularly as presented in film. Noah's flood; nuclear annihilation; overpopulation; and climate change all raise the question: Does human nature carry within it the seeds of our inevitable destruction? In this course, we will grapple with both the science and the art in which this question is embedded.

Population Apocalypse in Film and Science: Read More [+]

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructors: Mason, Goldstein

Population Apocalypse in Film and Science: Read Less [-]
DEMOC C164 Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2007
Examination of the impact of policies of state intervention and public benefit programs on poor children and families. Introduction to child and family policy, and study of specific issue areas, such as income transfer programs, housing, health care, and child abuse.
Impact of Government Policies on Poor Children and Families: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: This course may be applied to the Demography major.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Mauldon
Also listed as: PUB POL C164

DEMOC C165 Family and Household in Comparative Perspective 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2012, Fall 2008, Spring 2005
How are families and households organized around the world? Which aspects of household and family vary, and which are constant? What are the relationships between household and family on the one hand and the political, economic, or broad social patterns on the other? This course examines all of these questions, taking historical and contemporary examples from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas.
Family and Household in Comparative Perspective: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Sociology 1, 3, 3AC or consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Lee
Also listed as: ECON C175

DEMOC C175 Economic Demography 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Summer 2015 First 6 Week Session
A general introduction to economic demography, addressing the following kinds of questions: What are the economic consequences of immigration to the U.S.? Will industrial nations be able to afford the health and pension costs of the aging populations? How has the size of the baby boom affected its economic well being? Why has fertility been high in Third World countries? In industrial countries, why is marriage postponed, divorce high, fertility so low, and extramarital fertility rising? What are the economic and environmental consequences of rapid population growth?
Economic Demography: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Economics 1 or 2

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

Summer:
6 weeks - 7.5-7.5 hours of lecture and 0-2.5 hours of discussion per week
8 weeks - 6-6 hours of lecture and 0-2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.
Instructor: Lee
Also listed as: PUB POL C164

DEMOC 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Undergraduate research by small groups. Enrollment is restricted by regulations governing 198 courses.
Directed Group Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 60 units; good academic standing
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of directed group study per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]
DEMOG 199 Supervised Independent Study 1
- 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Supervised independent study and research.
Supervised Independent Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 1-3 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 200 Fundamentals of Population Thought 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 1997, Fall 1996
This course offers an intensive introduction to the history of population thought in Europe and the United States through the close reading and contextualization of selected classic texts, including Graunt, Malthus, and Quetelet.
Required of graduate students in the M.A. or Ph.D. program in Demography.
Fundamentals of Population Thought: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Johnson-Hanks

Fundamentals of Population Thought: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 210 Demographic Methods: Rates and Structures 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Demographic Methods: Rates and Structures: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Wachter

Demographic Methods: Rates and Structures: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 211 Advanced Demographic Analysis 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2014, Spring 2013, Spring 2012
This course is designed to provide an overview of quantitative techniques commonly used in demography, sociology, economics, and other social sciences. Methods are described in both words and formulas, and students are encouraged to learn to move freely between verbal and mathematical representations of data.
Advanced Demographic Analysis: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 210, Population Studies 110, or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Wilmoth

Advanced Demographic Analysis: Read Less [-]
DEMOG 213 Practical Computer Applications for Demographic Analysis 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
An introductory course for first year Demography graduate students in the use of the Demography laboratory. Covers Unix based tools for manipulating computer programs and data files, and the R, SPlus, and SAS statistical packages. The course introduces the proportional hazard model and methods of estimating it. The final project for this course is use of the 1995 Current Population Survey (fertility supplement) to compute Total Fertility Rates for the U.S.
Practical Computer Applications for Demographic Analysis: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of demonstration per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Instructor: Mason
Practical Computer Applications for Demographic Analysis: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 215 Current Research Topics in Demography 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2010, Spring 2009, Spring 2008
The goals of this course are 1) to familiarize graduate students with active research projects in Demography and 2) to improve skills in R and Stata. Topics covered include demographic micro-simulation with SOCSIM, the Human Mortality Database, stochastic simulation/forecasting, GIS for Demographers, and mortality forecasting. Two-thirds of class time will be spent in the computer laboratory. Students will present results.
Current Research Topics in Demography: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 213
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Instructor: Johnson-Hanks
Current Research Topics in Demography: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 220 Human Fertility 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2013, Fall 2011, Fall 2010
This course offers a critical, graduate-level introduction to the social science of reproduction, drawing especially on models and theories from demography, sociology, and anthropology. Among the topics are parity specific control and the calculus of conscious choice, below-replacement fertility, and the political economy of stratified reproduction.
Human Fertility: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Johnson-Hanks
Human Fertility: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 230 Human Mortality 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2015, Spring 2011, Spring 2009
Measurement of mortality by age and cause. Traditional, transitional, and modern mortality patterns in European and non-European areas. Current trends and differentials by age, sex, race, occupation and marital status. Consequences of mortality declines for fertility change and development.
Human Mortality: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 210 or consent of instructor
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Wilmoth
Human Mortality: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 240 Human Migration 2 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2013, Spring 2011, Spring 2000
Human populations analyzed from the stand point of their spatial distribution and movement. Special attention to rural-urban migration, metropolitan structure, inter-regional movement, and demographic aspects of land-use, the collection and analysis of emigration and immigration data and statistics, migration policies.
Human Migration: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 7.5 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Human Migration: Read Less [-]
DEMOG 260 Special Topics in Demography Seminar 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2016, Fall 2015
Special topics in demography, such as anthropological and evolutionary approaches, kinship and family structure, race and ethnicity, and similar specialized or new topics in the field of demography will be covered. Seminar will be offered according to student demand.
Special Topics in Demography Seminar: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
6 weeks - 2.5-9.5 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 2-7 hours of seminar per week
10 weeks - 1.5-6 hours of seminar per week
15 weeks - 1-4 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Special Topics in Demography Seminar: Read Less [-]

DEMOG C275A Economic Demography 3 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Spring 2013
Economic consequences of demographic change in developing and developed countries including capital formation, labor markets, and intergenerational transfers. Economic determinants of fertility, mortality and migration.
Economic Demography: Read More [+]
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Lee
Also listed as: ECON C275A
Economic Demography: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 296 Advanced Research Techniques 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Problems in data acquisition, analysis, and presentation of technical demographic research. Required of graduate students in the Ph.D. program in Demography.
Advanced Research Techniques: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 295 and consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Advanced Research Techniques: Read Less [-]

DEMOG 298 Directed Reading 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Intended to provide directed reading in subject matter not covered in available course offerings.
Directed Reading: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Directed Reading: Read Less [-]
DEMOG 299 Directed Research 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Summer 2017 8 Week Session, Spring 2017
Intended to provide supervision in the preparation of an original research paper or dissertation.
Directed Research: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week  
Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-22.5 hours of independent study per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate  
Grading: Letter grade.  
Directed Research: Read Less [-]  

DEMOG 301 GSI Training 1 - 6 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Course credit for experience gained in academic teaching through employment as a graduate student instructor. 
GSI Training: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Prerequisites: Appointment as a graduate student instructor in department  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-6 hours of seminar per week  
Summer: 8 weeks - 1-6 hours of seminar per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers  
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.  
GSI Training: Read Less [-]  

DEMOG 601 Individual Study 1 - 8 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015
Individual study, in consultation with the graduate adviser, intended for qualified students to do necessary work to prepare themselves for language examinations, and the comprehensive examination. 
Individual Study: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Prerequisites: Graduate standing  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate examination preparation  
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.  
Individual Study: Read Less [-]  

DEMOG 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Students 1 - 8 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
Individual study in consultation with the major field adviser, intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare themselves for the various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D. 
Individual Study for Doctoral Students: Read More [+]  
Rules & Requirements  
Prerequisites: For qualified graduate students  
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit.  
Hours & Format  
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-8 hours of independent study per week  
Additional Details  
Subject/Course Level: Demography/Graduate examination preparation  
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.  
Individual Study for Doctoral Students: Read Less [-]