Population Geography
GEOG 24100
Spring 2024

Course Information:
- GEOG 24100 Population Geography
- Fully online and asynchronous via Blackboard

Contact Information
- Professor Ines Miyares
- imiyares@hunter.cuny.edu (best way to contact)
- Office: HN 1045
- By appointment only—email to arrange a Zoom appointment
- Zoom link is found on the Announcements page
- Zoom appointments arranged at mutually convenient times

Course Materials
- **There is no textbook for the online section**
- Lecture videos are on Blackboard under weekly tabs
- Lab videos are on Blackboard under weekly tabs
- Links to datasets are on Blackboard under weekly tabs
- How to write a formal lab and create a formal table are in the *Course Materials* tab in Blackboard
- *Since all work and communication with the class will be done through Blackboard, it is essential that you have the correct active email linked to Blackboard and that you check that email regularly.*
- *Lab computations and table construction are completed in Excel or equivalent. If you do not have Excel yet, it is available for Hunter students. https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/cis/technology-services/microsoft-office-365-for-education/*

Course Description
- Today's world is consumed with questions concerning population growth and change. During this semester, we will explore several critical issues such as the relationship between population growth and development; immigration and internal migration; how age, race and gender affect other demographic processes; and how and why these processes vary around the world.
- Additionally, you will learn to compute measures of population growth and change, as well as how to present these analyses in formal scientific essays.
- Every week you will watch lecture videos, complete short quizzes to help insure that you understood the lectures, and complete online labs that will give you hands-on understanding of the concepts and processes of population dynamics.
- You will work collaboratively online to complete a final group project—a demographic profile of a county that will be assigned to your group—that will pull together all the demographic measures covered in lecture and in labs.

- You will be able to download publically available datasets and use Excel to analyze them; and will be able to present your weekly research using the standard format of scientific writing.

Learning Outcomes:

- Be able to explain the fundamental concepts and methods in population geography/demography

- Be able to apply the scientific method to analyzing demographic change

- Be able to use Excel to compute demographic measures at multiple geographic scales (national, state, county, census tract)

- Be able to use data from the US Census, the Population Reference Bureau, the National Center for Vital Statistics, and other sources to work individually and collaboratively to study demographic change

- Be able to go from a question to a formula, to data, to analysis, to appropriate interpretation, to a formal presentation of results

- Be able to identify and use sources of demographic data, as well as explain data limitations, confidentiality, anonymity, aggregation/disaggregation issues, and appropriate unbiased interpretation of results

- Be able to analyze geographies of changing ethnicity, racial segregation, and ethnic and racial diversity.

Requirements:
- Labs   50%
- Lecture Quizzes   10%
- Final Project: 10%
- Discussion Boards   5%
- Midterm: 15%
- Final: 10%
- Extra Credit Lab   2%
  (optional but recommended)

Weekly Assignments:
- Each week you will watch lecture videos, complete short quizzes that follow each video, and complete the labs for the week. **Labs are due by 10 pm on Mondays unless otherwise noted, such as for Monday holidays**. *In those cases, the due date is the revised Monday course day*. All labs must be uploaded in a format acceptable by SafeAssign. Do not copy and paste the lab into the dialog box because it will not go through SafeAssign *and* you will lose all your formatting. This will result in losing points on the lab.

- All quizzes are completed on Blackboard. All labs and exams are submitted via Blackboard. ***Assignments submitted in any other manner, including email, or to the wrong link, will not be graded***.

- Each week is labeled with the week number and topic on the Blackboard buttons on the left panel.

- It is essential that you watch the lecture videos and complete the labs each week in a timely manner. Missing or late labs will also result in significant deductions from your lab grade. Labs comprise 50% of your grade, and skills from one lab help prepare you to complete the next lab. The midterm and final will cover both lecture and lab topics and skills.

- There are two discussion boards that you will be engaging in. It is very important for you to participate in those discussions.

- **Labs 1-6 must be submitted before the midterm unless I have previously approved late submission based on a legitimate documentable reason. Also, make sure you note the last day I will accept labs 7-10 is May 6, 2024.** *It is <u>before</u> the last day of class.*

- There is a grading rubric attached to each lab, so you know in advance exactly what is required. There is a specific table format and a formal lab write-up format you will need to follow. Both of these formats are fairly standard across the natural sciences and social sciences, so if you develop these skills, you will be able to use them in other classes and in your professional life. You will find the formats under Course Materials, and your second lab (Week 2) has a video on how to create a formal table in Excel and copy it over into Word. I don't want you to be creative with tables. I want you to develop the skill of developing a professional publication-quality table. If you are using Sheets or Numbers, you can export to Excel. Make sure you format exactly as I ask for. You do have Excel available to you for free as a student.

- There is one extra credit lab. It involves creating maps using the census website mapping tools.

Final Project:
- As a final project, you will be working in collaborative groups through Blackboard to complete a detailed demographic profile of a county assigned to your group. The project groups and counties will be assigned after the midterm since there are only 4 post-midterm labs. This will pull together the various skills you have learned over the course of the semester. The demographic characteristics you will need to compute are listed under the group project tab in Blackboard. You will be creating a wiki in Blackboard that presents these measures in formal tables, as well as general descriptions of your assigned county. Here you are free to get creative—include maps, graphics, county logos, text—to teach the rest of the class about your assigned county. Your wiki serves as a group presentation. There will be a question on the final exam concerning the wikis.

Grading and Other Essential Policy Information:

(I know this seems like a long list of rules, but some of them have been added due to either communications problems in previous semesters or because other students tried to get around the system. Thus, I get a bit more specific each semester. It protects both you and me if you have all the rules up front.)

- Each lab will be worth 10 points unless otherwise noted (two are worth 15 points, and one is worth 20 points), and has a specified due date noted on Blackboard.
- To earn full credit, you must complete the assignment as given, written in correct formal English, and showing evidence of critical thinking. You must follow the format given under Course Materials (Introduction with the research question and hypotheses; Methodology, including all *mathematical* formulas and explanation of data; Results; Interpretation of results; Conclusions; Bibliography). Interpretations of results *are not* conclusions. Conclusions point back to the original question.
- Excel formulas are NOT to be included in your report. **Formulas in words are _not_ mathematical formulas.** For example, when completing the Hoover Index lab, the formula I will be looking for is:

$$H = 50 \sum_{i=1}^{r} | P_i - A_i |$$

Where:
P_i = Population of Subunit $_i$/ Total Population and
A_i = Area of Subunit $_i$/ Total Area

- All tables are to be completed in the format given under Course Materials.
- I expect *complete* bibliographic citations, including for census data. ***This means each census file must be listed separately in your bibliography. You must use the format I gave you for citing census data. If I have created the file, you do not know when I did it, so do not try and figure out what the source should be.***
- Even if I have given you the data, you need to include the bibliographic citation for the ORIGINAL data, usually, but not always, the census bureau. I only give you the data to save you the time and stress of having to find each file yourself.
- There will be significant deductions in points given for late assignments unless you have given me an *excellent documentable* excuse. ***The late clock starts 15 minutes after the due time.***
- Emailed labs will not be graded. Labs submitted anywhere other than in the appropriate assignment folder will not be graded. Why? The grading rubric and the grade book are linked to the Assignment. This way there is a time-date stamp for each assignment and you receive your grade as soon as I grade it.
- ***I do not give incompletes except in cases of legitimate documentable emergencies, such as a death in the family during finals week***. You will receive the grade you have earned by the last day of class.
- A grade of WU will be given to students who *completely* disappear from the class ***prior to submitting sufficient gradable work*** and neglect to withdraw from the course. This includes the final project and/or final exam. **If you disappear without officially withdrawing, it may affect your financial aid status.**
- **A grade of WU will also be given to students who do not complete sufficient work to even merit an F.**

- The only students who will be eligible to request a grade of Pass/NC at the end of the semester are those who have completed **ALL** assignments (including every quiz) in a *timely manner* (that is, each one *on its due date*!). *I will notify the registrar if you apply for Pass/NC but do not qualify.*
- If a documentable emergency situation arises that may result in the late submission of an assignment, please let me know as soon as possible via email.
- **The clock starts for late labs 15 minutes after the time it is due unless you have a pre-approved reason for lateness.**
- Email Policy: I do check my email regularly. However, I do expect professional respectful communication via email. I am not your buddy or your Facebook friend; I am your professor.

Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

ADA Policy

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772- 4857 or (212) 650-3230. If you have a documentable disability or condition that makes it impossible to complete an assignment as written, please contact me immediately so an alternative can be arranged.

If you are registered with the Office of AccessABILITY for extra time on exams, please send me the documentation right away so I can program the midterm and final to grant you the allowed extra time on the timed portions.

Hunter College Policy on Sexual Misconduct

In compliance with the CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Hunter College affirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationship. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.
a.   Sexual Violence: Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, on contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444)
b.   All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct: Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose (jtrose@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-650-3262) of Colleen Barry (colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East

1123.
CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct
Link: http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/la/Policy-on-Sexual-Misconduct-12-1-14-with-links.pdf

Syllabus Change Policy
- Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.
- If changes are made to the syllabus, I will notify you via email through Blackboard. It is essential that you have your correct email linked to your Blackboard account and that you check your Hunter or other Blackboard-linked email regularly. Bounced emails will not be an acceptable excuse for not being aware of changes or any other communications to the class.

Weekly topics:
Week 1:   Introduction to Population Geography
Week 2:   Structure of the Population
Week 3:   Population Growth Through Time
Week 4:   Population Projections
Week 5:   Changing Death Rates
Week 6:   Fertility/Life expectancy
Week 7:   Midterm (Available March 5, 7 am to March 11, 10 pm)
Week 8:   Intro to Migration
Week 9:   Migration Theories
Week 10:   Immigration to the US: The Early Years
Week 11:   Immigration to the US: Territorial Expansion
Week 12:   Immigration to the US: Reactions to "The Other"
Week 13:   Immigration to the US: Immigration Reform
Week 14:   Immigration to the US: Refugees, Political Asylees, and DACA

Week 15:   Final Project Wikis go live Monday, May 13 at 5 pm
Week 15:   Final exam available for completion between May 16-22

Required Labs:
Lab I   Reapportionment (Folder 1, 10 points) **Due 1/29**
Lab II   Your Census Tract (Folder 2, 10 points) **Due 2/5**
Lab III   Hoover Index (Folder 3, 10 points) **Due 2/13**
Lab IV   Population Projections (Folder 4, 15 points) **Due 2/22**
Lab V   Population Momentum (Folder 5, 10 points) **Due 2/28**
Lab VI   Fertility (Folder 6, 10 points) **Due 3/4**
Lab VII   Dependency Ratios (Folder 8, 10 points) **Due 3/18**
Lab VIII   Ethnic Change at various scales (Folder 9, 20 points) **Due 4/1**
Lab IX   Segregation Index-Index of Dissimilarity (Folder 11, 10 points) **Due 4/8**
Lab X   Diversity Index-Entropy Index (Folder 12, 15 points) **Due 4/15**
Extra Credit Lab: Mapping Census Data **Due by 5/6**
Last day to submit late labs is 5/6/2024. I will only accept labs 7-10 after this date if you have an excellent documentable reason.

Required Discussion Boards:

Week 8:   International and Domestic Fertility Rates (Folder 8)
Week 13:   Comparing Historical and Contemporary Immigration Rhetoric (Folder 12)