Geog 241- Population Geography  
Spring 2010 Course Outline

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 educational levels and employment; and how and why these processes vary around the world. Additionally, we will examine the “mechanics” of computing population growth and change as well as different ways to visually display measures of population. This course can be applied to either Group B or Group C of the Pluralism and Diversity requirement and Stage 3B (non-W) of the GER.

Starting February 11, we will meet on Mondays for lecture and on Thursdays in TH 402/3 to work on computer labs that will use real census data, as well as data from other sources, to explore spatial and social processes in the US and around the world.

Class Hours: Monday, Thursday 8:10-9:25  
HN1036/TH 402/3

Lecturer: Prof. Ines Miyares  
Laboratory: Prof. Ines Miyares  
Office: HN 1045  
Department Office: HN 1006  
Telephone: (212) 772-5443  
Office Hours: Monday, Thursday 1:00-2:30 or by appointment  
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Available at Shakespeare & Company 69th and Lex.

Grading: Labs 35%  
Midterm Exam 25%  
Final Exam 20%  
Field Assignment 20%

It is essential that you attend and participate in the lectures and labs each week. There will be lecture material covered during the lab period. Habitual tardiness, unexcused absences and lack of participation in labs will all count against you in computing your lab grade. Missing or late labs will also result in significant deductions from your lab grade. Lab absences will only be excused in cases of legitimate emergency or legitimate illness.

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 CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures. Plagiarism, dishonesty, or cheating in any portion of the work required for this course will be punished to the full extent allowed according to Hunter College regulations.
All students will participate in a field project that will involve examining in detail an ethnic community in New York City. This is a group project that will result in the development of a neighborhood profile that provides information concerning the population history and current population dynamics of the area. More details will be provided as the semester progresses. Students who choose to not participate fully as responsible team members will sacrifice 20% of their final grade.

**Lecture Schedule:**

Week 1: Introduction to the study of population. P&L: Introduction

Week 2: Population data P&L Ch 2

Weeks 3-5: Population Composition, structure, growth and change over time. P&L: Ch 1, 3, 4, 10

No class Monday February 15th. Thursday is a Monday so we meet in lecture.

Week 6: Mortality Ch 5

Week 7: Fertility Ch 6, 7

March 11th: Take-home midterm exam will be made available on Blackboard. You will have until Midnight March 14th to complete it.

Subsequent weeks: Migration, Immigration, Ethnicity. Chapter 8 plus additional readings on Blackboard.

**March 29-April 5: Spring Break**

May 10, 13, 17: Group Presentations. Group papers due May 17 no later than 5 p.m. on Blackboard.

**Lab Schedule:**

Lab I: Using Excel-Reapportionment

Lab II: Hoover Index

Lab III: Population Change at Various Scales

Lab IV: Fertility and Population Momentum

Lab V: Ethnic Change at various scales

Lab VI: Segregation Index

Lab VII: Diversity Index

Lab VIII: Comparing Immigrant Communities

**Monday May 20th – Final Exam 9-11 am in the lecture room**