Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Carleton University

SOCI 5605: Demographic Analysis  
Winter 2011

Instructor: Dr. Rania Tfaily  
Office: Loeb Building C779  
Office Hours: Mondays 1:30-2:20 pm; Thursdays 10:30-11:20 am & by appointment  
Telephone: 613-520-2600, ext. 2625  
E-mail: Rania_Tfaily@carleton.ca  
Class Time: Thursdays 11:35 am - 2:25 pm  
Class Location: Southam Hall 411

1. Course Description:
This course introduces students to the importance of analyzing population processes and their interrelations with the broader social, economic and political contexts. The course discusses the politics of population and classical debates in the field. It examines various theoretical perspectives regarding the decline in fertility, the mortality revolution, changes in the family, and immigration. The course concludes with a discussion of the effectiveness of state policies in influencing demographic behavior.

2. Course Objectives:
The objectives of this course are to enable students to: a) critically evaluate various perspectives utilized in demographic analysis; b) explain variations in demographic behavior across time and space; c) apply concepts, ideas and theories to contemporary issues; d) develop oral and writing skills with special focus on demographic topics; & e) critically analyze demographic research.

3. Course Readings:
The course readings are based on selected book chapters and journal articles. The book chapters are available through the library (or reserve), and the journal articles are available in electronic format through the course WebCT.

4. Course Requirements & Methods of Evaluation:
Students are expected to do the required readings, attend class regularly and participate in class discussions and debates. The grade distribution for this course is given below. All final grades are subject to the Dean’s approval.

- Class Attendance and Participation: 15%
- Three short Assignments: 30%
- Final Paper proposal: 15%
- Final Paper: 40%

Final Letter Grades
In accordance with the teaching regulations of Carleton University, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

- A+ = 90-100  
- B+ = 77-79  
- C+ = 67-69  
- D+ = 57-59  
- A = 85-89  
- B = 73-76  
- C = 63-66  
- D = 53-56  
- A - = 80-84  
- B - = 70-72  
- C - = 60-62  
- D - = 50-52
Each student is expected to read the required articles for **every class** and **actively participate** in class discussions.

There are three short assignments in this course. Each assignment is expected to be four double-spaced pages. Each assignment question will be posted on WebCT about two weeks before the due date. A hard copy of the student’s **typed** assignment is due in class. If a student cannot make it to class, he/she should leave a hard copy in the Sociology drop box. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the course instructor has received his/her assignment on time. **Students must retain a hard copy of their work.**

Assignments/papers not handed in on time are **penalized at a rate of 10% per day** unless the student has a valid and documented excuse.

Students are required to submit a final paper on a demographic topic. The final paper is expected to be no longer than 25 double-spaced pages (12 point font) including tables, figures and references. A final paper proposal is due on March 3rd. The proposal is expected to be no longer than 10 double-spaced pages (12 point font) and includes an introduction to the topic, a brief literature review, objectives of the paper, a statement of the thesis, and a list of bibliographic references related to the topic. Further guidelines regarding the final paper and the proposal will be discussed in class.

### 5. Academic Regulations, Accommodations, Plagiarism, Etc.

University rules regarding registration, withdrawal, appealing marks, and most anything else you might need to know can be found on the university’s website, here:

http://www.carleton.ca/cu0708uc/regulations/acadregsuniv.html

**Requests for Academic Accommodations**

**For Students with Disabilities:**
Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations are required to contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre to complete the necessary **letters of accommodation**. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first class or ITV test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangements.

The deadline for contacting the Paul Menton Centre regarding accommodation for April examinations is March 11, 2011.

**For Religious Obligations:**
Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory event.

Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton’s Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.

**For Pregnancy:**
Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs.
with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism and cheating at the graduate level are viewed as being particularly serious and the sanctions imposed are accordingly severe. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the Carleton University Student Academic Integrity Policy (See [http://www2.carleton.ca/graduate-studies/policies-and-guidelines](http://www2.carleton.ca/graduate-studies/policies-and-guidelines)). The Policy is strictly enforced and is binding on all students. Plagiarism and cheating – presenting another’s ideas, arguments, words or images as your own, using unauthorized material, misrepresentation, fabricating or misrepresenting research data, unauthorized co-operation or collaboration or completing work for another student – weaken the quality of the graduate degree. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Students who infringe the Policy may be subject to one of several penalties including: expulsion; suspension from all studies at Carleton; suspension from full-time studies; a refusal of permission to continue or to register in a specific degree program; academic probation; or a grade of Failure in the course.

All allegations of plagiarism are reported to the faculty of Dean of FASS and Management. Documentation is prepared by instructors and/or departmental chairs. The Dean writes to the student and the University Ombudsperson about the alleged plagiarism. The Dean reviews the allegation. If it is not resolved at this level then it is referred to a tribunal appointed by the Senate.

**Withdrawal from the Course**
The last date to withdraw from all winter courses is April 5, 2011.

---

**COURSE OUTLINE AND READING LIST**

**JANUARY 6**

**Overview**

**JANUARY 13**

**Demography and Politics**

*Suggested Readings*


**JANUARY 20**

*Population Perspectives*


*Suggested Readings*


**JANUARY 27**

*Fertility Transition*

• **Assignment 1 due**

*Suggested Readings*


**FEBRUARY 3**

*Fertility Transition (Cont’d)*


Suggested Readings

FEBRUARY 10  Historical Perspectives on the Family

FEBRUARY 17  Contemporary Perspectives on the Family
• Assignment 2 due

Suggested Readings

**FEBRUARY 24**  
Statutory Holiday, No Class

**MARCH 3**  
**Mortality Revolution**

- **Final paper proposal due**

**Suggested Readings**


**MARCH 10**  
**Disparities in Health**


**Suggested Reading**


**MARCH 17**  
**Theoretical, Political and Ethical Perspectives on Migration**


**Suggested Readings**


**MARCH 24**

**Race, Ethnicity, Religion and Migration**

• *Assignment 3 due*

**Suggested Reading**


**MARCH 31**

**Population Policies**


*Final paper due on April 21, 2011*