

# Soc312H1S Population and Society

University of Toronto  
Winter 2014 (January – April)  
Tuesday 10:00 – 12:00pm  
Room 140, University College  
Course website: <https://portal.utoronto.ca> (login using your utorid)

Instructor: Brent Berry, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto  
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-2:00pm & also by appointment  
Room 366 at the Sociology Department (725 Spadina Ave)

Teaching Assistants: Josh Curtis, Doctoral Student in Sociology, University of Toronto  
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## Overview

This introductory course examines Canada's population in a global context, covering a broad range of population issues and perspectives. Topics include (a) demographic data and methods, (b) population composition in terms of age, sex, and nuptiality, (c) demographic processes of fertility, mortality, internal and international migration, (d) the relationship between population change and urbanization, and (e) the role of social policy on population change. For all course topics, the instructor will examine historical and cross-national trends and review proposed explanations.

## Evaluation

There is an in-class midterm test worth 32.5%, a final exam worth 32.5%, and an independent research paper worth the remaining 35%. Choice of paper topics will be discussed in class. We strive to securely post grades within two weeks of the midterm and final exam.

## Prerequisites

Completion of a 200+ level sociology course is required to take this course. Students without prerequisites can be removed at any time without notice.

## Readings and Lectures

The readings are from our course textbook titled *Canada's Population in a Global Context: An Introduction to Social Demography*. By Frank Trovato (2009, Oxford), which can be purchased at the University Bookstore. When available, lecture slides will be posted the evening before class. They are provided to benefit in-class note taking. Besides the posted lecture slides, I often incorporate a range of audiovisual material into lectures. It is important to complete all required readings and attend class because the midterm and final exam will cover both required readings and in-class material.

## Email and the Course Webpage

In my courses, email and the ability to access the course webpage is important. I will use e-mail for reminders, clarifications, last-minute notifications, etc. Feel free to contact me via your utoronto e-mail

account if you have any questions. Any email sent to the instructor or TA's should have Soc312H in the subject to ensure that it gets read.

### **Accessibility Needs**

If you require accommodations or have any accessibility concerns, please visit <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility> as soon as possible.

### **Make-Up Tests**

Students who miss a test will receive a mark of zero unless **within three days** of the missed test he/she contacts the instructor requesting special consideration and explaining why the test was missed. The instructor or TA will communicate the time and location of the make-up test. In order to take the make-up test, students must bring **proper documentation from a physician or college registrar** to the make-up test.

- In case of **illness**, you must supply a duly completed **Verification of Student Illness** or Injury form (available at [www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca](http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)). A doctor's note is not acceptable. The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted when you take the make-up test.
- If a **personal or family crisis** prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar (it is a good idea anyway to advise your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted when you take the make-up.

### **Deadlines for Submitting Projects**

Late work will not be accepted without proper documentation from a student's physician or college registrar (described above)

### **Plagiarism**

Cheating and misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offense face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly: practices acceptable in high school may prove unacceptable in university. Know where you stand by reading the "Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters" in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

### **Comments on Writing**

I encourage you to use the university's writing resources, which are described on their website. Subject to available time, the instructor and TAs are willing to read over drafts of your work during visits to office hours. We can help you more if you come early. All too often, students' papers are one or two drafts short of excellence when time expires. One rewrite can often make the difference between "C" and "A" work.

## Class Schedule

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Jan 7 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to the Study of Population	none for today
Jan 14 <sup>th</sup>	The Study of Population;	(Chapter 1)
	Population Data: Their Sources and Nature	(Chapter 2)
Jan 21 <sup>th</sup>	World Population: Past, Present and Futures	(Chapter 3)
Jan 28 <sup>th</sup>	Demographic Composition – Age and Sex Structure	(Chapter 4)
Feb 4 <sup>th</sup>	Nuptiality	(Chapter 5)
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	Fertility	(Chapter 6)
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	No Class Today (Reading Week)	
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Term Test in Class Today</b>	
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Mortality and Population Health	(Chapter 7)
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Internal Migration	(Chapter 8)
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	International Migration	(Chapter 9)
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Urbanization (Papers Due)	(Chapter 10)
April 1 <sup>nd</sup>	Population and Resources; Policy Concerns	(Chapter 11 & 12)

**Final Exam will take place during the exam period**  
**\*\* Date, Time, and Location will be announced when available \*\***