

**SYD 4020 - Population**  
**Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law**  
**University of Florida**  
**Spring 2025**

**Instructor:** Oluwatobi A. Alawode

**Class Times:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday | Period 5 | 11:45 am – 12:35 pm.

**Email:** [alawodeoluwatobi@ufl.edu](mailto:alawodeoluwatobi@ufl.edu)

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 11:45 am – 1:50 pm or by appointment

**Course Description and Objectives:** This course is designed to introduce students to global population issues focused on fertility, mortality, migration, and population composition. We will also cover a variety of topics related to population issues throughout the semester, such as race/ethnicity, family, health & healthcare, the environment, and public policy. At the end of this course, students will be able to: (1) define and understand demographic concepts (2) use and interpret demographic measures (3) engage with theoretical perspectives (e.g., sociological, economics, public health) as it relates to population issues, and (4) analyze research on global population issues.

**Communication:** I am available via email (please use the subject line "**SYD 4020 Population**") and during office hours. To schedule office hours, please send an email to [alawodeoluwatobi@ufl.edu](mailto:alawodeoluwatobi@ufl.edu)

**Required Materials**

1. Poston, Dudley L. & Bouvier, Leon F. (2017). *Population and Society: An Introduction to Demography*. Cambridge University Press. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
2. Additional readings will be available on the course canvas website.

**Grading**

Homework Assignments (5 in total)	25% or 250 points	Quizzes	5% or 50 points
Midterm Exam	25% or 250 points	Participation	10% or 100 points
Final Exam	25% or 250 points	Attendance	10% or 100 points
<b><u>Total: 100% or 1000 points</u></b>			

**Grade Range**

A	94.0 – 100	B-	80.0- 82.9	D+	67.0 – 69.9
A-	90.0 – 93.9	C+	77.0 – 79.9	D	63.0 – 66.9
B+	87.9 – 89.9	C	73.0 – 76.9	D-	60.0 – 62.9
B	83.0 – 86.9	C-	70.0 – 72.9	E	Below 60

**Attendance**

**Students are expected to attend class regularly.** In the event you are required to self-quarantine during the semester, you are still expected to attend class (unless you test positive for COVID-19, are symptomatic, and have a doctor's note to excuse your absence).

**Late Work**

Late work is only permitted for the following reasons: an emergency, a religious holiday, an acute illness (officially documented), court-imposed legal obligation (documented formally), or to conduct official University business (officially documented) (e.g., attending a conference). **Other reasons not listed here will be at the instructor's discretion.**

## **Examinations**

This course will have a midterm exam (TBA) and a final exam (TBA). Both exams will cover assigned readings, class lectures, homework assignments, and other course materials. Exams will consist of multi-choice questions and short answer essays.

## **Quizzes**

Quizzes will consist of multi-choice and short-answer questions related to the assigned readings and/or topics covered in the previous class (5 in total). Quizzes are unannounced; therefore, the student must attend class regularly and read before class.

## **Participation**

Participation is required for this course. Participation is based on a clear understanding of the course readings and lectures. In other words, "*speaking your mind*" without reading before class or avoiding speaking in class will result in a poor participation grade. Moreover, students who tend to "dominate" class discussions will be asked to refrain from speaking to let others participate. All discussions will be centered on facts rather than emotions (we will talk more about this at the beginning of the semester).

## **Academic Integrity**

You are required to follow the Student Honor Code, which states, "*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."* Please review the Student Honor Code at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code>.

## **Educational Accommodations**

If needed, please register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at (352)392-8565 or [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) early in the semester (please provide me with an accommodation letter from the DRC).

## **Course Evaluations**

UF has updated the student course evaluation guidelines, which states, "Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback professionally and respectfully is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/> "

## **Health & Wellness Resources**

Research shows that optimum health is positively associated with academic success<sup>1</sup>. Below are on-campus resources that may be beneficial.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/health\\_and\\_academics/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/health_and_academics/index.htm)

**UF Counseling and Wellness Center**  
 PHONE: (352) 392-1575  
 LOCATION: 3190 Radio Road  
 WEBSITE: [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc)

**UF Mind and Body Center**  
 LOCATION: 410 Peabody Hall (walk-ins welcomed)  
 WEBSITE: <https://counseling.ufl.edu/resources/mbc/>

**UF Student Health Care Center**  
 PHONE: (352) 392-1161  
 LOCATIONS: Infirmary Building & Health Science Center, Dental Towers  
 WEBSITE: <https://shcc.ufl.edu/contact/>

**Field & Fork Pantry**  
 PHONE: (352) 294-3601  
 LOCATION: 651 Newell Road (near Rawlings Hall)  
 WEBSITE: <https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/>

**Tentative Course Schedule [Course Schedule may be subject to changes]**

Week	Topics & Readings	Important Dates
1	<b>Course Introduction/What is Demography?</b> P&S Chapter 1	
2	<b>Why Should We Study the Population?</b> PRB: The World Population at 7 billion (2011) [Link: <a href="https://u.demog.berkeley.edu/~jrw/Biblio/Eprints/PRB/files/world-at-7-billion.pdf">https://u.demog.berkeley.edu/~jrw/Biblio/Eprints/PRB/files/world-at-7-billion.pdf</a> ]	
3	<b>Theoretical Perspectives, Part 1</b> P&S Chapter 3 P&S Chapter 12	Homework Assignment #1
4	<b>Theoretical Perspectives, Part 2</b> Omran (2005) A Theory of the Epidemiology of Population Change.	
5	<b>Sources of Demographic Data</b> P&S Chapter 3 PRB's Population Handbook [Link: <a href="https://www.prb.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/prb-population-handbook-2011.pdf">https://www.prb.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/prb-population-handbook-2011.pdf</a> ]	
6	<b>Age-Sex Composition</b> P&S Chapter 10	Homework Assignment #2
7	<b>Race and Ethnicity</b> <b>P&amp;S Chapter 11</b> Saenz and Morales (2005) Zuberi (2000)	
8	<b>Fertility</b> P&S Chapter 4	Homework Assignment #3
9	<b>Family, Contraception &amp; Birth Control</b> P&S Chapter 5 P&S Chapter 6	
10	<b>Mortality</b> P&S Chapter 7	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
11	<b>Health, Part I</b> Olshansky et al. (1997) PRB: Attaining Global Health: Challenges and Opportunities (2000)	
12	<b>Health, Part II</b> Macfarlane et al. (2000)	Homework Assignment #4

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13	<b>Migration and Population Redistribution</b> P&S Chapter 14 TBA	
14	<b>Population Policy</b> P&S Chapter 15 PRB: New Population Policies: Advancing Women's Health and Rights (2001)	Homework Assignment #5
	<b>Finals</b>	TBA

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