

Socio-Demography Syllabus

(Winter Term, 2025)

Instructor: Professor Juan Díez Medrano

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The Course:

This course is a survey course of current literature on different topics related to the interaction between demography and society. There is a long tradition in the study of these relationship, which could be traced back to Malthus, but which finds its first academic expression in Durkheim's seminal book *Suicide*. The course will focus on recent publications in Sociology's and Demography's top journals to provide students with an overview of the field, including topics of interest and dominant methodological approaches. The course has a fairly Western-centric bias, for two reasons: 1) the breadth of the field demands difficult decisions concerning topics; 2) both instructor and students are probably more acquainted with the West's socioeconomic and political conditions, which will help in the understanding and contextualization of the course material.

Logistics:

The course takes the form of a 3-hour seminar. In the first part of each session, the instructor introduces the topic. This is followed by a group discussion of the session's required text. The remaining of the session focuses on a topic chosen for debate (both theoretical and methodological). One or two students will be in charge of critically presenting the required texts for debate in class. This will be followed by guided discussion monitored by those presenting and based on questions they will have prepared. After the class, students in charge of the debate will have to submit a synthesis of the papers and a briefing of the discussion that took place in class.

Grading:

Grades will be passed on class attendance, participation, and presentations.

I-Society and Fertility

1. Gender Roles and Fertility

Required:

Han, Sinn Won and Mary Brinton. 2022. "Theories of Postindustrial Fertility Decline: An Empirical Examination." *Population and Development Review* 48,2: 303-330.

Recommended:

Lappergard, Trude and Tom Kornstad. 2020. "Social Norms about Father Involvement and Women's Fertility." *Social Forces* 99,1: 388-423

Bueno, Xiana and Mary Brinton. 2019. "Gender Egalitarianism, Perceived Economic Insecurity, and Fertility Intentions in Spain: A Qualitative Analysis." *Population Studies* 73,2: 247-260.

Raybould, Alice and Rebecca Sear. 2021. "Children of the (gender) revolution: A Theoretical and Empirical Synthesis of how Gendered Division of Labour Influences Fertility." *Population Studies* 75,2: 169-190.

Debate: Housework and Fertility: Micro-Evidence

Cooke, Lynn Prince. 2004. "The Gendered Division of Labor and Family Outcomes in Germany." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 66: 1246-1259

Miettinen, Anneli, Lassi Lainiala, and Anna Rotkirch. 2015. "Women's Housework decreases fertility: Evidence from a Longitudinal Study Among Finnish Couples." *Acta Sociologica* 58,2: 139-154

Craig, Lyn and Peter Siminski. 2011. "If Men do More Housework, Do their Wives have more Babies?" *Social Indicators Research* 101: 255-258.

2. Employment and Fertility/Fertility and Labor Outcomes

Required:

Piriu, Andrea. 2022. "Globalization and Gender-Specific Patterns in Individual Fertility Decisions." *Population and Development Review* 48,1: 129-160.

Recommended:

Alderotti, Giammarco, Daniele Vignoli, Michela Baccini, and Anna Matysiak. 2021. "Employment Instability and Fertility in Europe: A Meta-Analysis." *Demography* 58,3: 871-900

Gatta, Arianna, Francesco Mattioli, Letizia Mencarini and Daniele Vignoli. 2022. "Employment Uncertainty and Fertility Intentions: Stability or Resilience?" *Population Studies* 76,3: 387-406

Karaman, Deniz and Joshua Goldstein. 2018. "The Changing Relationship between Unemployment and Total Fertility." *Population Studies* 72,1: 109-121.

Debate: Women's Work and Fertility

Bearak, Jonathan, Anna Popinchalk, Kristen Burke, and Selena Anjur-Dietrich. 2021. "Does the Impact of Motherhood on Women's Employment and Wages differ for Women Who Plan their Transition into Motherhood?" *Demography* 58,4. 1301-1325

Hsu, Chen-Hao. 2021. "Parity-specific Motherhood Penalties: Long-term Impacts of Childbirth on Women's Earnings in Japan." *Advances in Life Course Research* 50: 100435.

Muller, Joanne, Nicole Hiekel, and Aart Liefbroer. 2020. "The Long-Term Costs of Family Trajectories: Women's Later-Life Employment and Earnings across Europe." *Demography* 57: 1007-1034.

3. Networks and Fertility

Required:

Buyukkececi, Zafer, Thomas Leopold, Ruben van Gaalen, and Henriette Engelhardt. 2020. "Family, Firms, and Fertility: A Study of Social Interaction Effects." *Demography* 57: 243-266.

Recommended:

Thomas, Michael and Lars Dommermuth. 2021. "Interrelationships Among Fertility, Internal Migration, and Proximity to Nonresident Family: A Multilevel Multiprocess Analysis." *Demography* 58,5: 1817-1841.

Pessin, Léa, Roberta Rutigliano, and Marina Haddock Potter. "Time, Money, and Entry into Parenthood: The Role of (grand)parental Support." *Journal of Marriage and the Family* 84: 101-120

Aparicio Díaz, Belinda, Thomas Fent, Alexia Prskawetz, and Laura Bernardi. 2011. "Transition to Parenthood: The Role of Social Interaction and Endogenous Networks." *Demography* 48: 59-579

Debate: Climate Change and Fertility

Barreca, Alan, Olivier Deschenes, and Melanie Guldi. 2018. "Maybe Next Month? Temperature Shocks and Dynamic Adjustments in Birth Rates." *Demography* 5:1269-1293.

Rackin, Heather, Alison Gemmill, and Caroline Sten Hartnett. 2022. "Environmental Attitudes and Fertility Desires among US Adolescents from 2005-2019." *Journal of Marriage and the Family*: 1-14

II-Society and Mortality

1. Socioeconomic Inequality, Health, and Mortality

Required:

Homan, Patricia. 2019. "Structural Sexism and Health in the United States: A New Perspective on Health Inequality and the Gender System." *American Sociological Review* 84,3: 486-516

Recommended:

Brown, Tyson. 2018. "Racial Stratification, Immigration, and Health Inequality: A Life Course-Intersectional Approach." *Social Forces* 96,4: 1507-1540

Debate: Education, Health, and Mortality

Bijwaard, Govert, Per Tynelius And Mikko Myrskylä. 2018. "Education, Cognitive Ability and Cause-Specific Mortality: A Structural Approach" *Population Studies* 73,2: 217-232

Permanyer, Iñaki, Jeroen Spijker, Amand Blanes, and Elisenda Rentería. 2018. "Longevity and Lifespan Variation by Educational Attainment in Spain: 1960-2015." *Demography* 55: 2045-2070

Maralani, Vida and Camille Portier. 2021. "The Consolidation of Education and Health in Families." *American Sociological Review* 86,4: 670-699

2. Work, Health, and Mortality

Required:

O'Brien, Rourke, Elizabeth Bair, and Atheendar Venkataramani. 2022. "Death by Robots? Automation and Working-Age Mortality in the United States." *Demography* 59,2: 607-628.

Recommended:

Bucher-Koenen, Tabea, Helmut Farbmacher, Raphael Guber, and Johan Vikström. 2020. "Double Trouble: The Burden of Child-Rearing and Working on Maternal Mortality." *Demography* 57: 559-576

Shandra, Carrie. 2018. "Disability as Inequality: Social Disparities, Health Disparities, and Participation in Daily Activities." *Social Forces* 97,1: 157-192.

Debate: Social Consequences of Covid

Völker, Beate. 2023. "Networks in Lockdown: The Consequences of Covid-19 for Social Relationships and Feelings of Loneliness." *Social Networks* 72: 1-12

Landivar, Liana Christin, Leah Ruppner, Lloyd Rouse, William Scarborough, and Caitlyn Collins. 2021. "School Reopenings During the Covid-19 Pandemic and Implications for Gender and Racial Equity." *Demography* 59,1:1-12

Heizmann, Boris and Nora Huth-Stöckle. 2022. "The Nexus between Attitudes towards Migration and the Covid-19 Pandemic: Evidence from 11 European Countries." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*

3. Homicide, Mental Health, and Suicide

Required:

Whitt, Hugh. 2010. "The Civilizing Process and Its Discontents: Suicide and Crimes against Persons in France, 1825-1830." *American Journal of Sociology* 16,1: 130-186.

Recommended:

Lee, Dohoom and Byungkyu Lee. 2020. "The Role of Multilayered Peer Groups in Adolescent Depression: A Distributional Approach." *American Journal of Sociology* 125,6: 1513-1558

Frech, Adrienne and Sarah Damaske. 2019. "Men's Income Trajectories and Physical and Mental Health at Midlife." *American Journal of Sociology* 124, 5: 1372-1412

Debate: Suicide

Van Poppel, Frans van and Lincoln Day. 1996. "A Test of Durkheim's Theory of Suicide—Without Committing the 'Ecological Fallacy'" *American Sociological Review* 61,3: 500-507

Simson, Miles. 1998. "Suicide and Religion: Did Durkheim Commit the Ecological Fallacy, or Did Van Poppel and Day Combine Apples and Oranges?" *American Sociological Review* 63,6: 895-896

Van Poppel, and Lincoln Day. 1998. "Reply to Simpson:" *American Sociological Review* 63,6: 896-899.

Van Tubergen, Frank, Manfred te Grotenhuis and Wout Ultee. 2005. "Denomination, Religious Context, and Suicide: NeoDurkheimian Multilevel Explanations Tested with Individual and Contextual Data." *American Journal of Sociology* 111,3: 797-823.

III-Society and Marriage

1. Pre-Conditions to Couple Formation

Required:

Gibson-Davis, Christina, Anna Gassman-Pines, and Rebecca Lehrman. 2018. "'His' and 'Hers': Meeting the Economic Bar to Marriage." *Demography* 55: 2321-2343.

Recommended:

Palumbo, Lydia, Ann Berrington, Peter Eibich, And Agnese Vitali. 2022. “Uncertain Steps into Adulthood: Does Economic Precariousness Hinder Entry into the First Co-Residential Partnership in the UK?” *Population Studies* DOI: 10.1080/00324728.2022.2102672

Kucheva, Yana. 2018. “Subsidized Housing and the Transition to Adulthood.” *Demography* 55: 617-642.

Van Wijk, Daniël, Helga de Valk, and Aart Lifbroer. 2021. “Temporary Employment and Family Formation: An Income or Insecurity Effect?” *European Sociological Review* 37,4: 641-658

Debate: Same-Sex Couples

Kolk, Martin and Gunnar Andersson. 2020. “Two Decades of Same-Sex Marriage in Sweden: A Demographic Account of Developments in Marriage, Childbearing, and Divorce.” *Demography* 57: 147-169.

Chen, Shuai and Jan van Ours. 2018. “Subjective Well-Being and Partnership Dynamics: Are Same-Sex Relationships Different?” *Demography* 55: 2299-2320.

Ocobock, Abigail. 2020. “Leveraging Legitimacy: Institutional Work and Change in the Case of Same-Sex Marriage.” *American Journal of Sociology* 126, 3: 513-544

2. Assortative Mating

Required:

Qian, Zhenchao and Daniel Lichter. 2018. “Marriage Markets and Inter-marriage: Exchange in First Marriages and Remarriages.” *Demography* 55: 849-875.

Recommended:

Thomas, Reuben. 2020. “Online Exogamy Reconsidered: Estimating the Internet’s Effects on Racial, Educational, Religious, Political and Age Assortative Mating.” *Social Forces* 98,3: 1257-1286.

Sironi, Maria and Ridhi Kashyap. 2022. “Internet Access and Partnership Formation in the United States.” *Population Studies* 76,3: 427-445

Potarca, Gina. "Online Dating is Shifting Educational Inequalities in Marriage Formation in Germany." *Demography* 58,5: 1977-2007.

Debate: *Marriage and Economic Inequality*

Choi, Seongsoo and Inkwan Chung. 2020. "How Marriage Matters for the Intergenerational Mobility of Family Income: Heterogeneity by Gender, Life Course, and Birth Cohort." *American Sociological Review* 85,3: 353-380.

Boertien, Diederik and Milan Bouchet-Valat. 2022. "Are Increasing Earnings Associations between Partners of Concern for Inequality? A Comparative Study of 21 Countries." *Social Forces* 101, 2: 639-664.

Kapelle, Nicole and Philipp Lersch. 2020. "The Accumulation of Wealth in Marriage: Over-Time Change and Within-Couple Inequalities." *European Sociological Review* 6,4. 580-593.

3. Couple Dissolution

Required:

Gonalons-Pons, Pilar and Markus Gangl. 2021. "Marriage and Masculinity: Male-Breadwinner Culture, Unemployment, and Separation Risk in 29 Countries." *American Sociological Review* 86, 3: 465-502

Recommended:

Potarca, Gina and Clémentine Rossier. 2022. "Are Women in Hypogamous Unions More Depressed? A Cross-National Comparison among the Highly Educated." *European Sociological Review* 38,1: 103-123

Tisch, Daria. 2021. "My Gain or Your Loss? Changes in Within-Couple Relative Wealth and Partners' Life Satisfaction." *European Sociological Review* 37,2: 271-286.

Rapp, Ingmar and Johannes Stauder. 2020. "Mental and Physical Health in Couple Relationships: Is it Better to Live Together." *European Sociological Review* 36,2: 303-316.

Debate:

Anderson, Lewis, Erzsebet Bukodi and Christian Monden. 2021. "Double Trouble: Does Job Loss Lead to Union Dissolution and Vice Versa?" *European Sociological Review* 37,3: 379-398

Arpino, Bruno, Marco Le Moglie, and Letizia Mencarini. 2021. "What Tears Couples Apart: A Machine-Learning Analysis of Union Dissolution in Germany." *Demography* 59,1: 161-186.

Hamplova, Dana, Céline le Bourdais, and Blandine Legendre. 2021. "Partners' Relative Income and the Risk of Union Dissolution in Two Institutional Contexts." *European Sociological Review* 37,4: 525-540.

IV- Migration and Society

1. Determinants of Migration

Required:

Thornton, Arland, Nathalie Willians, Prem Bhandari, Linda Young-Demarco, Cathy Sun, Jeffrey Swindle, Christina Hughes, Yu Xie. 2019. "Influences of Material Aspirations on Migration." *Demography* 56: 75-102

Recommended:

Bernard, Aude and Francisco Perales. 2021. "Is Migration a Learned Behavior? Understanding the Impact of Past Migration on Future Migration." *Population and Development Review* 47,2: 449-474

Debate: New Migration Forces

Entwistle, Barbara, Nathalie Williams, and Ashton Verdery. 2020. "Climate Change and Migration: New Insights from a Dynamic Model of Out-Migration and Return Migration." *American Journal of Sociology* 125,6: 1469-1512

Thiede, Brian, Heather Randell, and Clark Gray. 2022. "The Childhood Origins of Climate-Induced Mobility and Immobility." *Population and Development Review* 48, 3. 767-793

Pesando, Luca María, Valentina Rotondi, Manuela Stranges, Ridhi Kashyap, and Francesco Billari. 2021. "The Internetization of International Migration." *Population and Development Review* 47,1: 79-111

2. Social Attainment

Required:

Potochnick, Stephanie and Matthew Hall. 2021. "US Occupational Mobility of Children of Immigrants Based on Parents' Origin-Country Occupation." *Demography* 58,1: 219-245

Recommended:

Panichella, Nazareno, Maurizio Avola, and Giorgio Piccitto. 2021. "Migration, Class Attainment and Social Mobility: An Analysis of Migrants' Socio-Economic Integration in Italy." *European Sociological Review* 37,6: 883-898

Roth, Tobias and Markus Weissmann. 2022. "The Role of Parents' Native and Migrant Contacts on the Labour Market in the School-to-Work Transition of Adolescents in Germany." *European Sociological Review* 38: 707-724

Debate: Selection and Migration Outcomes

Schmidt, Regine, Cornelia Kristen, and Peter Mühlau. 2022. "Educational Selectivity and Immigrants' Labour Market Performance in Europe." *European Sociological Review* 38,2. 252-268.

Polavieja, Javier, Mariña Fernández Reino, Marta Ramos. 2018. "Are Migrants Selected on Motivational Orientations? Selectivity Patterns amongst International Migrants in Europe." *European Sociological Review* 34, 5: 570-588.

Kanas, Agnieszka and Stephanie Steinmetz. 2021. "Economic Outcomes of Immigrants with Different Migration Motives: The Role of Labour Market Policies." *European Sociological Review* 37,3: 449-464

3. Political Institutions, Migration, and Migration Outcomes Policy

Required:

Catron, Peter. 2019. "The Citizenship Advantage: Immigrant Socioeconomic Attainment in the Age of Mass Migration." *American Journal of Sociology* 124,4: 999-1042

Recommended:

Vink, Maarten, Anna Tegunimataka, Floris Peters, and Pieter Bevelander. 2021. "Long-Term Heterogeneity in Immigrant Naturalization: The Conditional Relevance of Civic Integration and Dual Citizenship." *European Sociological Review* 37,5: 751-765.

Ponce, Aaron. 2019. "Is Welfare a Magnet for Migration? Examining Universal Welfare Institutions and Migration Flows." *Social Forces* 98, 1: 245-278

Clemens, Michael and Hannah Postel. 2018. "Deterring Emigration with Foreign Aid: An overview of Evidence from Low-Income Countries." *Population and Development Review* 44, 4: 667-693

Debate: Internal Mobility

Kulu, Hill, Emma Lundholm and Gunnar Malmberg. 2018. "Is Spatial Mobility on the Rise or in Decline? An Order-Specific Analysis of the Migration of Young Adults in Sweden." *Population Studies* 72,3: 323-337

Hyatt, Henry, Erika McEntarfer, Ken Ueda, and Alexandria Zhang. 2018. "Interstate Migration and Employer-to-Employer Transitions in the United States: New Evidence from Administrative Records Data."

Erickson, Matt and Kim ChangHwan. 2021. "Tied Staying on the Rise? Declining Migration among Co-Breadwinner Couples in the United States, 1990s to 2010s." *Social Forces* 101, 2: 974-1002