

TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT: Annual; 2nd Semester

CREDITS: 6

COURSE TEACHER(S): Dr. Junxi QIAN

ASSESSMENT:

EXAMINATION 60 %	COURSEWORK 40 %
• 2 hours	• 1 group project (presented in the form of an oral presentation)

OBJECTIVES:

This course aims to provide students with a fundamental understanding of human population issues and problems in our contemporary world from a geographical perspective.

COURSE SYNOPSIS:

Major concepts, theories and definitions in Population Geography will first be introduced, and the patterns and trends in fertility, mortality and migration of human populations in different parts of the world will be illustrated. Example from across the world will be drawn to demonstrate the varying regional patterns of population, and how different patterns of population affect pathways of social change and development in specific contexts. Topics investigated in the course include: population data and global population trends; population composition and structures; ageing and elderly care; internal migration; international migration; asylum seekers and refugees; cultural policies and politics of migration; population and health issues; population and environmental sustainability. Policies adopted to address these population-related issues will also be discussed and analyzed. In addition to a general delineation of Population Geography, this course will have a specific focus on the latest population changes and mobilities in East Asian societies, especially challenges of population deficit and ageing in Mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea and Japan. The course is useful for students majoring in geography, urban studies, urban planning, social work, sociology, public administration, etc. to get an overview of population trends and public policy directions around the world.

LECTURE TOPICS:

- Definition of population geography, and geographical perspectives in the research of population
- Data, tools and measurements in the research of population
- Patterns and trends in fertility, mortality, and growth of human populations in different parts of the world
- Population composition and population pyramid
- Aging and elderly care in contemporary world
- Migration I: International migration
- Migration II: Internal migration
- Migration III: Refugees and asylum-seekers
- Migration IV: Migration and issues of citizenship and belonging
- Population and health
- Population and sustainability

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

- Newbold, B. K. (2013). Population Geography: Tools and Issues, 2nd edition. New York: Rowman and Littlefield.
- Weeks, J. (2016). Population: An Introduction to Concepts and Issues, 12th edition. Belmont: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	develop an understanding of intellectual history, key concepts, theoretical orientations and debates in population geography	✓						Project & exam
2	develop awareness of patterns and trends in population structures in different world regions and at various geographical (global, national and local) scales, with a specific focus on population changes in China		✓					Project & exam
3	appreciate population-related issues as outcomes and causes of interrelated economic, political, social, cultural and environmental changes, with a specific focus on the implications of population changes and mobilities in China	✓						Project & exam
4	acquire analytical skills to link population-related issues with economic, political, social, cultural and environmental processes across geographical scales and space				✓			Project & exam
5	develop an ability to interpret empirical data related to demography and migration			✓				Project & exam
6	acquire critical reading, writing and presentation skills						✓	Project & exam

*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

PLO1 critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

PLO2 demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

PLO3 identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

PLO4 integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

PLO5 participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

PLO6 effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.