

Minor Program in Population Studies

Graduate Student Handbook

2009-2010

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Program in Population Studies

Website: <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor>

Director of Graduate Studies:

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Curriculum Oversight Committee (2008-09):

Ragui Assaad
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Misty Heggeness

Curriculum Coordinator:

Laura Olevitch
Minnesota Population Center
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Program Overview

Population Studies is a multidisciplinary research area at the intersection of the mathematical sciences, the health and social sciences, and public policy. Traditionally, the field has been associated with demography, which is concerned with changes in population size, distribution, and structure due to births, deaths, and migration. In recent decades, the scope of population research has greatly expanded to include such topics as family planning; morbidity and access to health care; demographic transitions; mortality; household and family composition; the life course; schooling; poverty and economic welfare; the aged; minorities; economic development; labor markets and labor force composition; social stratification; urbanization; and population growth, density, and distribution.

Goals and Objectives of the Population Studies Graduate Minor

Established in the fall of 2003, the University of Minnesota's graduate minor in Population Studies provides solid grounding in the theories and methods of demography, with additional specialized training in five interdisciplinary subject areas: historical demography, population geography, economic demography, public health demography, and family and life course demography.

Program Components

The Population Studies minor is an interdisciplinary minor administered by the Department of Sociology, in consultation with Minnesota Population Center, in the College of Liberal Arts. Courses for the minor and participating faculty are drawn from the College of Liberal Arts, the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, the School of Public Health, the College of Human Ecology, the Medical School, and the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences.

The minor is offered at the master's and Ph.D. level to any student currently enrolled in a graduate degree program offered by the University of Minnesota Graduate School. Students at both levels are required to take one core course in demographic methods and population issues and elective courses in one of five interdisciplinary subject areas: historical demography, population geography, economic demography, public health demography, and family and life course demography. Students also have the opportunity to carry out both theoretical and applied research in using demographic data.

At the master's level, students take the core course Population Methods and Issues in the U.S. and the Third World (PA 5301) or World Population Issues (SOC 5090), and a minimum of three additional credits from the list of approved Population Studies courses. At the doctoral level, students take a core course and a minimum of nine additional credits from the list of approved Population Studies courses. Courses may not be in the student's major field. Students may petition to have courses that are not in the Population Studies approved curriculum included in their program of study.

Degree Requirements – Master’s Minor in Population Studies

Student status. Enrollment in the Population Studies minor program at the master’s level is contingent upon enrollment in a master’s degree program offered by the University of Minnesota Graduate School. Students need not formally apply to enroll in the minor; any student currently in good standing in the Graduate School may elect to complete the minor by fulfilling the requirements and filing a program completion form with the Director of Graduate Studies of Population Studies.

Coursework requirements.

- All students must take one of two core required courses. PA 5301, *Population Methods and Issues in the U.S. and the Third World* teaches basic demographic methods, covers population trends and policy issues in the United States and the world, and explores a wide range of topics studied by demographers, via case studies. SOC 5090, *World Population Issues* teaches population trends, population dynamics, and the various factors that influence the volume and distribution of populations across the globe; exposes students to key theories and central methodologies in social demography; and examines key policy questions in the management and engineering of population dynamics across the globe.
- In addition to the core course, master’s students will take at least three credits from the list of approved courses (see Appendix 1). Courses may not be in the student’s major field.
- A total of six credits is required for the minor at the master’s level.
- Students must register for all courses A/F; courses taken on a pass/fail basis may not count toward the minor (with the exception of PubH 5628, which is currently offered only S-N).
- In accordance with Graduate School rules, students may not apply courses in their major field of study to the minor program in Population Studies. Students in the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs are exempt from this rule for the core course, PA 5301 **only**. Humphrey Institute students who wish to apply PA 5301 to the Population Studies minor may not also include it in their major program.

Petitioning to include other courses in the program of study. Students may petition for a course that is not in the Population Studies curriculum to be included in their program of study. This is most appropriate in two cases: for a course in which the student has completed a significant Population Studies project; or for an appropriate topics course. The Curriculum Oversight Committee will review these petitions to determine whether the course is appropriate for the minor program curriculum. Petition forms are available in this handbook (p. 14), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/masters-degree>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Courses taken prior to Fall 2003. Students who completed any of the courses included in the minor program’s approved curriculum in academic years 2001-02 or 2002-03 may count those courses toward completion of the minor program. Students who completed any of the courses included in the minor program’s approved curriculum prior to Fall 2001 may petition to have the course included in their minor program. Petition forms are available in this handbook (p. 14), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/masters-degree>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Filing the program completion form. Once a student has completed the requirements for the minor, he or she will file a program completion form with the Director of Graduate Studies. The Director of Graduate Studies will approve the form and notify the Sociology Department for formal certification. Students should file no later than the month prior to the month in which they intend to graduate. Program completion forms are available in this handbook (p. 13), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/masters-degree>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Filing the degree program with the Graduate School. Students must also formally declare the Population Studies minor on their degree program filed with the Graduate School. The Population Studies Director of Graduate Studies must sign the degree program form. Students who have already filed with the Graduate School a degree program that does not include the Population Studies minor must petition the Graduate School to change their program; the Population Studies Director of Graduate Studies must sign the petition form. Please consult the Graduate School's Student Services and Progress Office (316 Johnston Hall) or the Graduate School's website (http://www.grad.umn.edu/current_students/) for more information.

Letter of certification. Some graduate degree programs do not allow a minor program to appear on a student's transcript. Students in these programs who have completed the Population Studies minor may request an official letter certifying their completion of the minor. Please contact Laura Olevitch (624-8806, popstudies@pop.umn.edu) for more information.

Degree Requirements – Ph.D. Minor in Population Studies

Student status. Enrollment in the Population Studies minor program at the doctoral level is contingent upon enrollment in a doctoral degree program offered by the University of Minnesota Graduate School. Students need not formally apply to enroll in the minor; any student currently in good standing in the Graduate School may elect to complete the minor by fulfilling the requirements and filing a program completion form with the Director of Graduate Studies of Population Studies.

Coursework requirements.

- All students must take one of two core required courses. PA 5301, *Population Methods and Issues in the U.S. and the Third World* teaches basic demographic methods, covers population trends and policy issues in the United States and the world, and explores a wide range of topics studied by demographers, via case studies. SOC 5090, *World Population Issues* teaches population trends, population dynamics, and the various factors that influence the volume and distribution of populations across the globe; exposes students to key theories and central methodologies in social demography; and examines key policy questions in the management and engineering of population dynamics across the globe.
- In addition to the core course, doctoral students will take at least nine credits from the list of approved courses (see Appendix 1). Courses may not be in the student's major field. A student may petition the Director of Graduate Studies to waive the requirement that all courses be from the same subject area if, for example, a student's planned dissertation topic is closely related to specific courses in two different areas within the Population Studies minor.
- A total of twelve credits is required for the minor at the doctoral level.

- Students must register for all courses A/F; courses taken on a pass/fail basis may not count toward the minor (with the exception of PubH 5628, which is currently offered only S-N).
- In accordance with Graduate School rules, students may not apply courses in their major field of study to the minor program in Population Studies. Students in the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs are exempt from this rule for the core course, PA 5301 **only**. Humphrey Institute students who wish to apply PA 5301 to the Population Studies minor may not also include it in their major program.

Petitioning to include other courses in the program of study. Students may petition for a course that is not in the Population Studies curriculum to be included in their program of study. This is most appropriate in two cases: for a course in which the student has completed a significant Population Studies project; or for an appropriate topics course. The Curriculum Oversight Committee will review these petitions to determine whether the course is appropriate for the minor program curriculum. Petition forms are available in this handbook (p. 15), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/minor-requirements-2013-ph-d>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Courses taken prior to Fall 2003. Students who completed any of the courses included in the minor program's approved curriculum in academic years 2001-02 or 2002-03 may count those courses toward completion of the minor program. Students who completed any of the courses included in the minor program's approved curriculum prior to Fall 2001 may petition to have the course included in their minor program. Petition forms are in this handbook (p. 15), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/minor-requirements-2013-ph-d>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Filing the program completion form. Once a student has completed the requirements for the minor, he or she will file a program completion form with the Director of Graduate Studies. The Director of Graduate Studies will approve the form and notify the Sociology Department for formal certification. Students should file the program completion form after completing coursework and in advance of scheduling a defense. Program completion forms are available in this handbook (p. 13), at <http://www.pop.umn.edu/training/population-minor/minor-requirements-2013-ph-d>, or at the Minnesota Population Center (50 Willey Hall).

Filing the degree program with the Graduate School. Students must also formally declare the Population Studies minor on their degree program filed with the Graduate School. The Population Studies Director of Graduate Studies must sign the degree program form. Students who have already filed with the Graduate School a degree program that does not include the Population Studies minor must petition the Graduate School to change their program; the Population Studies Director of Graduate Studies must sign the petition form. Please consult the Graduate School's Student Services and Progress Office (316 Johnston Hall) or the Graduate School's website (http://www.grad.umn.edu/current_students/) for more information.

Letter of certification. Some graduate degree programs do not allow a minor program to appear on a student's transcript. Students in these programs who have completed the Population Studies minor may request an official letter certifying their completion of the minor. Please contact Laura Olevitch (624-8806, popstudies@pop.umn.edu) for more information.

Departmental, Collegiate, and University Policies

Academic standards. In accordance with Graduate School policy, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.8 in courses in their Population Studies minor program.

Program completion and certification. Students are responsible for filing a program completion form with the Population Studies Director of Graduate Studies and for declaring the minor on their Graduate School degree program. Students will not receive certification of the minor without completing these steps. Students are responsible for knowing and meeting all requirements for degree completion in their home department and the Graduate School.

Other requirements. There is no requirement for an oral examination or capstone project. For master's and doctoral students whose programs require a traditional final oral exam according to Graduate School regulations, a member of the Population Studies graduate faculty will represent the minor on the final exam committee.

Petitions. Students may petition for a course in which they have completed a significant Population Studies project, or for a particular topics course to be included in their program of study. The Curriculum Oversight Committee will review these petitions to determine whether the course is appropriate for the student's minor program curriculum; approved petitions will be signed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Doctoral students may petition the Director of Graduate Studies to waive the requirement that all elective courses for the minor be from the same subject area; the Director of Graduate Studies may approve these petitions at his or her discretion.

Advising. There is no formal assignment of advisors to students participating in the Population Studies minor program. It is strongly recommended that students consult with the Director of Graduate Studies or other members of the Population Studies graduate faculty (listed in Appendix 2) for advice on their program of study.

Responsibilities. The Population Studies program and graduate students participating in the program are expected to adhere to the principles laid out in the Graduate School's document, "Mutual Responsibilities in Graduate Education at the University of Minnesota" (available at http://www.grad.umn.edu/governance/policies/mutual_responsibilities.html).

The Director of Graduate Studies is responsible for overseeing the program, chairing meetings of the faculty and the Curriculum Oversight Committee, advising students, approving petitions on the advice of the Curriculum Oversight Committee, and approving program completion forms. The Curriculum Oversight Committee, which consists of at least four and no more than eight Population Studies faculty members, is responsible for reviewing major changes to the curriculum and other features of the minor, and will advise the graduate faculty in Population Studies. The Curriculum Coordinator is responsible for receiving and checking program completion forms and petitions, staffing faculty and committee meetings, and assisting the Director of Graduate Studies. Students are responsible for knowing and meeting the requirements of the program.

Conduct. Students and faculty in the Population Studies program are expected to adhere to all standards of conduct established by the University of Minnesota and the Graduate School.

Appendix 1 – List of Courses Approved for the Population Studies Minor

Core Course

PA 5301

Population Methods and Issues in the U.S. and the Third World

Basic demographic measures/methodology. Demographic transition, mortality, fertility. Diverse perspectives on nonmarital fertility, marriage, divorce, and cohabitation. Cultural differences in family structure, aging, migration, refugee movements, population policies. Discussion of readings on population growth and environment. 3 cr.

SOC 5090 / 8590

World Population Issues

Population trends, population dynamics, and the various factors that influence the volume and distribution of populations across the globe. Exposes students to key theories and central methodologies in social demography, and examines key policy questions in the management and engineering of population dynamics across the globe. 3 cr.

Elective Courses

ApEc 8701

International Economic Development, Growth and Trade

Economics of research/development. Technical change, productivity growth. Impact of technology on institutions. Science/technology policy. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: economic demography.

DHA 5484

Rural Housing Issues

Housing issues for non-metropolitan places, small towns, and rural areas are explored in this course. Emphasis is on the housing needs and policy implications for targeted rural populations including Native American Indians, immigrants, migrant farm workers, and those living in areas of persistent poverty. Impacts of various rural economic development strategies and public policies on housing availability, adequacy, and affordability will be discussed. 3cr.

Population studies area of concentration: population geography.

DHA 8463

Housing: Race and Class

Roles of difference (race, gender, class) in shaping distribution of housing, particularly in cities. Role of housing in patterns of social differentiation. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: population geography.

FSoS 8106

Family Research from Economic Perspectives

Seminar integrates conceptual and methodological perspectives of family social science with economic approaches to studying families. Family investments in human and social capital. Diversities in families; interface of public policies and family economic well-being. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: economic demography, and family and life course demography.

FW 5051**Analysis of Populations**

Factors involved in regulation, growth, general dynamics of populations. Data needed to describe populations, population growth, population models, regulatory mechanisms. 3 cr.

Geog 5371/PA 5201**American Cities I: Population and Housing**

Emergence of North American cities; residential building cycles, density patterns; metropolitan housing stocks, supply of housing services; population and household types; neighborhood-level patterns of housing use; housing prices; intraurban migration; housing submarkets inside metro areas; emphasis on linking theory, method, case studies. 4 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: population geography.

Hist 5797**Methods of Population History**

Standard methods of population analysis with a special focus on methods widely used for historical population research. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: historical demography.

PA 5037**Regional Demographic Analysis**

Data analysis techniques for practitioners in fields of planning, management, and policy analysis who work at community and regional levels. Population analysis and forecasting techniques relevant for small geographic areas. Techniques for regional and local economic analysis, such as shift-share analysis, economic base, and location quotient analysis. 2 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: population geography.

PA 5401**Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy**

Nature/extent of poverty/inequality in the United States, causes/consequences, impact of government programs/policies. Extent/causes of poverty/inequality in other developed/developing countries. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: economic demography.

PA 5451/PubH 6281**Immigrant Health Issues**

Web-based course. Research skills to access demographic, health, and background information on immigrants in the United States; determine major character/health needs of immigrants; design “culturally competent” health programs; and advocate for changes to promote immigrant health. 3-4 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography.

PA 5452**Immigration and Public Policy**

Issues of international migration and the integration of immigrants and refugees are among the most important public policy questions of our age. The purpose of this course is to teach students to employ an analytical framework to the analysis of immigration policy proposals in Europe and the United States. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: economic demography.

PA 5690**Race, Gender, and Health Policy**

We will discuss how race and gender (as well as class and sexuality) intersect with and shape health policies. We will begin with an analysis of feminist scholarship that theorizes the intersectionality of race, gender, class and sexuality in the production and reproduction of discrimination. Then, we will examine texts that provide concrete examples of how discrimination operates in the realm of health policy-making. Special attention will be given to the impacts of public policies on black women's reproductive health. 3 cr.

Population Studies area: Public Health Population Studies

PA 8312**Analysis of Discrimination**

Introduces students of policy analysis and other applied social sciences to tools for measuring and detecting discrimination in market and nonmarket contexts. Application of modern tools of labor econometrics and race relations research to specific problems of market and nonmarket discrimination. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: economic demography.

PubH 5628/6628**Race, Class, and Family Formation**

Impact of race/class on family formation, family dynamics, and family resiliency/maintenance. Explores whether traditional approaches in family intervention are effective among individuals who are not engaged in traditional social institutions. 1 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

PubH 6390**Social Epidemiology**

This course aims to introduce public health and other interested graduate students to the sub-discipline of social epidemiology, including theory and methods. Social epidemiology is the branch of epidemiology that considers how social interaction and purposive human activity affect health. 2 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

PubH 6605**Reproductive and Perinatal Health**

Epidemiology, programs, services, and policies. Social, cultural, psychological, physiologic, environmental, economic, and political factors that affect reproductive health, pregnancy, and childbearing. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

PubH 6607**Adolescent Health: Issues, Programs and Policies**

Major public health issues of adolescents in the United States. Emphasizes prevention and health promotion strategies and effectiveness of programs/policies. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

PubH 6645**Families and Health: An Ecosystems Approach**

Interrelationships between individual, family, and community health. Family theories/research, effect of sociocultural context, public policies, and community structures on health.

Primary/secondary prevention strategies for promoting family health. 2 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

PubH 6845**Using U.S. Demographic Data in Policy Analysis**

Practical instruction in posing researchable policy questions, locating existing demographic data, converting data into usable file format, understanding documentation, analyzing data, and communicating findings according to standards of the professional policy community. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: all areas

PubH 8805**Sociological Theory in Health Services Research**

Effect of social structure on health outcomes/behaviors. Current/historical events/issues from perspective of sociological/social psychological theories. Students apply theories to a topic they identify. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography.

SOC 8090**Fertility, Family Planning and Sexual Health**

This course explores the issues of fertility, family planning, and sexual health from three literatures: demography, family sociology, and public health. Among other topics, will explore such issues as: the transition from high to low fertility across the globe; marital, non-marital and stepfamily childbearing; race/ethnic, class and age differences in childbearing; the social and programmatic context of HIV/AIDS; and policies and debates about sex education. The program will draw from literature and examples in developed and developing nations. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: public health demography, and family and life course demography.

SOC 8551**Social Structure and the Life Course**

Central concepts and premises of life course analysis as applied to intersocietal (comparative), intrasocietal (socioeconomic status, race, and gender), and historical variability; institutional patterning of life course (family, education, work, the polity); deviance and criminal careers; changes in the self; and methodological strategies. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: family and life course demography.

SOC 8590**Sociology of Time: Age, Work and the Gendered Life Course**

We are all living in, affected by, using, strategizing around, and moving through multiple layers of time. For the most part, time remains invisible – to scholars as well as to other individuals.

This course offers a sociological approach to time, demonstrating that it is not simply a “given” but, rather, *socially constructed*: as subjective experience and expectations over the life course; in the form of cultural beliefs about human development, biological aging, health and the ordering of events; and as a series of age-graded, socially-expected role entries, exits, boundaries, behaviors, and durations. 3 cr.

Population studies area of concentration: family and life course demography.

Appendix 2 – Graduate Faculty in Population Studies

John Robert Warren
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Sociology, CLA

Cawo Abdi
Department of Sociology, CLA

Ragui Assaad
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Kathleen Thiede Call
Division of Health Policy and Mgmt, SPH

Robin Councilman
Family Medicine/Community Health

Jeff R. Crump
Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel

Michael Davern
Division of Health Policy and Mgmt, SPH

Elizabeth E. Davis
Department of Applied Economics

John M. Eyler
History of Medicine, Medical School

Katherine Fennelly
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Paul W. Glewwe
Department of Applied Economics

Eric Grodsky
Department of Sociology

Wendy Lynn Hellerstedt
Division of Epidemiology, SPH

M. Janice Hogan
Department of Family Social Science

Pamela Jo Johnson
Division of Health Policy and Mgmt, SPH

Miriam L. King
Minnesota Population Center

Deborah Levison
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Carolyn Liebler
Department of Sociology, CLA

Ian Ross Macmillan
Department of Sociology, CLA

Ann Meier
Department of Sociology, CLA

Phyllis Moen
Department of Sociology, CLA

Robert McCaa
Department of History, CLA

Jeylan T. Mortimer
Department of Sociology, CLA

Samuel L. Myers, Jr.
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

J. Michael Oakes
Division of Epidemiology, SPH

Lisa Park,
Department of Sociology, CLA

Joan M. Patterson
Division of Epidemiology, SPH

Steven Ruggles
Department of History, CLA

Virginia Solis Zuiker
Family Social Science

Graduate Minor in Population Studies Program Completion Form

Name: _____ **ID Number:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Mailing address (campus address ok): _____

Major program: _____

Degree sought: _____ Master's _____ Ph.D.

Population Studies Minor area of concentration (optional)

_____ Historical Demography

_____ Public Health Population Studies

_____ Population Geography

_____ Family and Life Course Demography

_____ Economic Demography

Course completion

year	term	course number	title	# credits	grade

Submitted: _____
student's signature date

Approved: _____
signature, Director of Graduate Studies, Population Studies date

Submit this form **with a copy of your University of Minnesota transcript** to: Laura Olevitch, Minnesota Population Center, 50 Willey Hall.

Graduate Minor in Population Studies Petition to Add a Course

Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing address (campus address ok): _____

Major program: _____

Degree sought: _____ Master's _____ Ph.D.

Population Studies Minor area of concentration (optional)

_____ Historical Demography

_____ Public Health Population Studies

_____ Population Geography

_____ Family and Life Course Demography

_____ Economic Demography

I wish to petition to include the following course(s) in my Population Studies program:

year	term	course number	title and instructor	# credits	grade

Submitted: _____
student's signature date

Approved: _____
signature, Director of Graduate Studies, Population Studies date

Submit this form **with a copy of the syllabus for each course and (if applicable) a description of your final project** to: Laura Olevitch, Minnesota Population Center, 50 Willey Hall.

** See reverse for instructions **

Instructions

Only courses that are in the approved Population Studies curriculum may be applied automatically to a student's minor program. To obtain permission to include a course not in the curriculum, fill out this petition form, attach a copy of the syllabus for each course noted on the form, and submit all material to Laura Olevitch, Minnesota Population Center, 50 Willey Hall. All petitions for additions to a student's minor program require review and approval by the Director of Graduate Studies and the Curriculum Oversight Committee.

Courses on the approved Population Studies curriculum that were completed before Fall 2001 are not automatically applied to a student's minor program. Students who completed any of the courses included in the minor program's approved curriculum prior to Fall 2001 must petition to have those courses included in their minor program.

Use this petition for the following:

1. To request that a course in which you completed a significant project in Population Studies be included in your program of study. **Include a description of your project, outlining the nature of the topic, the methods used, and the final length.**
2. To request that a particular topics course be included in your program of study.
3. To request that an approved course that was completed Summer 2001 or earlier be included in your program of study.

You must supply a copy of the syllabus for each course listed on the petition form.

Please contact Laura Olevitch with questions: 624-8806 or popminor@pop.umn.edu.