

COURSE SYLLABUS

Social Demography, Developing Countries

2425-3-E4102B025

Learning objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to discuss and analyze the factors that influence demographic phenomena in countries in different areas of the world.

Knowledge and Understanding

This teaching will provide knowledge and understanding skills regarding:

- theories that explain demographic phenomena and their dynamics
- statistical methods for analyzing the link between social factors and demographic phenomena
- assessing the state of progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

By the end of the teaching, students will be able to:

- discuss theories that explain demographic phenomena and their dynamics
- describe and communicate the demographic evolution of a country
- analyze, interpret and communicate the link between social factors and demographic phenomena
- describe sustainable development goals and use appropriate assessment indicators

Teaching enables the student to acquire a solid foundation in the application of statistics to the context of biostatistics/statistical/demographic work.

Contents

- Demographic dynamics, past and ongoing.
- Tools for determining their causes and consequences.
- Demographic transition.

- Relationship between population and resources.
- Fertility and family planning.
- Sustainable development goals.

Topics will be illustrated using international data and reports.

Emphasis will be on statistical theories and methodologies to explain population dynamics in different geographic areas

Detailed program

1. Countries with different degree of development:

- Definitions
- Criteria used by international organizations to classify countries according to their level of development.

2. Demographic transition:

- definition and examples in countries of ancient and contemporary transition.
- factors, processes and consequences of demographic transition.
- second demographic transition

3. Relationship between population and resources:

- population growth
- maximum population
- constraint and choice factors
- the Malthusian model (theory and formalization)
- the post-Malthusian models

4. Fertility and family planning policies:

- factors influencing fertility.
- supply and demand for children
- fertility in Asian, African and Latin American countries.
- contraception and family planning policies.
- microeconomic theories to explain fertility

5. Sustainable Development Goals:

- introduction
- focus on some of the goals zero poverty, zero hunger, health and well-being, quality education.
- indicators describing progress toward achieving the goals.

Prerequisites

This training activity must be preceded by passing the Demography examination

Teaching methods

- 4 lectures of 3 hours conducted in face-to-face delivery mode
- 2 lectures of 3 hours conducted in asynchronous remote delivery mode
- 3 lectures of 2 hours conducted in asynchronous remote delivery mode
- 9 2-hour tutorials conducted in interactive mode in face-to-face delivery mode

Assessment methods

Attendees:

oral examination: DISCUSSION ON THE TOPICS DEVELOPED IN LECTURES, with individual intermediate tests (SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY REPORT).

Attendees will have to prepare a short report with the results of the analyses that will be carried out during the practicals and a presentation concerning the topics of the second part of the course.

The oral examination will be a discussion of the course topics and the report. The presentation will be part of the evaluation (maximum 2 points only in case of a grade greater than or equal to 18 in the oral)

The evaluation scientific laboratory reports covers:

- the ability to apply the tools to the treatment of concrete research topics;
- the ability to write a short research report.

The oral examination aims to assess theoretical competence on the topics covered.

Non-attendees:

oral exam: DISCUSSION ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS.

The exam focuses on thorough knowledge and understanding of the topics covered. The exam aims to assess theoretical competence and the ability to transfer this knowledge to the practical level.

Micheli G. (2011). Demographics. Mc-Graw Hill. Chapters: 1,4,5,6.

Angeli, A., Salvini, S. (2018). World population and sustainable development. The Mill.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Slides and materials available on the e-learning page.

Reference texts:

For those attending:

- Angels, A., Salvini, S. (2018). World population and sustainable development. Il Mulino.
- Bacci, M. L. (2020). Minimum history of world population. Il Mulino publishing company.
- Dyson, T. (2010). Population and development: the demographic transition. Bloomsbury Publishing.
- Micheli G. (2011). Demographics. Mc-Graw Hill. Chapters: 1,4,5,6.

For non-attendees:

- Angeli, A., Salvini, S. (2018). World population and sustainable development. Il Mulino.
- Micheli G. (2011). Demographics. Mc-Graw Hill. Chapters: 1,4,5,6.

Semester

Second semester, second cycle (roughly May to mid-June)

Teaching language

Italian

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION
