

University of Manitoba, Department of Sociology Fall, 2008  
SOC 2480 A01 POPULATION PROBLEMS, 3 Credit hours  
Slot 5 10:00-11:15 214 Tier  
Instructor: K.W. TAYLOR

Office: University College Room 369  
Office hours: By Appointment

Phone 474-8877  
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Required Textbook: Beaujot and Kerr, *Population change in Canada*. Second Edition: Oxford  
Optional Textbook: Beaujot and Kerr, *The Changing Face of Canada: Essential Readings in Population*.  
Canadian Scholars Press

This document along with course policies and details on grade calculations and assignments can be found on the course webpage. Go to the UM webpage > JUMP > Courses > Population Problems. If you have no ID Click on Claim your ID.

### COURSE GOALS

The goals of this course are to assist students to learn the processes, structures and history of population in Canada and the world, the theories that attempt to explain them and the policies that are employed to attempt to control them. Population is regarded as both a major resource and a major problem in the survival of the biosphere. The relations between population characteristics (size, growth, migration, health, age) and other social processes (food production, consumption, waste, climate change, development) may be looked at, as the class members determine. Instruction will focus on asking questions, problem solving, research and communication skills for the above topics.

### Evaluation

Course Work	Value	Dates
Tests	40%	Oct 18, Dec 4
Assignment A	20%	Nov 1
Assignment B	20%	Dec 4
Classroom Participation	15%	Every class meeting
Attendance	5%	Every class meeting

Assignment A: Autobiography of the student as a unit of population

Assignment B: Select one of the following types. Note: the instructor must approve your choice of type, topic, nation, etc.

Term Paper	(Individual)
Nation population audit and forecast	(Individual)
Population history and forecast of region, Empire, other grouping	(Group)

Note: Topics selected for assignments must be independent of exam question topics.

**PARTICIPATION:** Students are expected to read assigned materials prior to class, raise questions, answer questions, and contribute to class discussions, problem solving, and complete participation point assignments. Students may participate by writing in the course website.

**ATTENDANCE:** Students are expected to attend and record their attendance at all class meetings unless they can document reasons for non-attendance such as sickness or family crises. Students missing more than 25% of class meetings without documented reasons may face debarment from the course.

## Topic and Readings Calendar

Week	Topic	Textbook	Video	Website
September				
1	What's to explain in population?			
8	How study population?	1		
15	How did Canada get populated?	2		
22	How explain death and death rates?	3		
29	How explain birth and birth rates?	4		
October				
6	How explain P movement?	5		
13	How explain P distribution?	6		
20	How explain P growth?	7		
27	How explain P aging?	8		
November				
3	How explain family demographics?	9		
10	How explain social composition?	10		
17	How explain Aboriginal demography?	11		
24	What can be concluded about P?	12		
December				
1	Test 2			

Reading assignments on topics not covered in the textbooks will be announced from time to time. Material for these assignments will be placed on library reserve or put on the course web page.

### *Student Responsibility and Academic Integrity*

If a test is missed for a legitimate medical reason the student must get in touch with the professor, present their medical certificate, and arrange for a make-up test. Under normal circumstances, the student is required to inform the professor of their request for a make-up test within one week of the original test date. Failure to request a make-up test within the expected time frame may result in ineligibility for a make-up test and a mark of zero for that test.

Cheating is a serious offense with grave consequences. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on academic ethics, i.e., cheating (see the University of Manitoba Undergraduate Calendar).

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

Last day for Voluntary Withdrawal from course: November 12

The following numerical scores are used for averaging letter grades: A+=87, A=82, B+=77, B=72, C+=67, C=62, D=55. Grades are averaged upward if the score is less than .5 away from the next category. For example, a score of 79.50 would be graded as B+; a score of 79.51 would be graded as A+