



# Population and Economic Growth

Mini Course, Tel Aviv University

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UCSD

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# Hello!

I'm very excited to be here and share this custom course with you.

My first time feeling unconstrained in designing a course!

- Usually, I feel pressure to teach students the “core” of some field.
- Since I am kind of a weird economist, I find that hard.
- Since your excellent faculty teach you the “core,” I am free to talk about what I find interesting. I hope you find it interesting too!

I hope to give you a sense of how I approach research in this area: sometimes theory, sometimes identification, always a hard look at the data.

Me: Tom Vogl -- interested in development/population/health economics.

You?

# Course Organization

Four sessions, each with two lectures.

## **Measurement** (Sunday, 13 March, 17:00--20:00)

- Facts and measurement
- Welfare across space, over time, between cohorts, over the lifecycle

## **Fertility** (Monday, 14 March, 16:00--19:00)

- Fertility and economic growth
- Differential fertility and child quality

## **Health** (Tuesday, 15 March, 16:00--19:00)

- Mortality decline and economic growth
- Infectious disease spillovers

## **Mobility** (Wednesday, 16 March, 15:00--18:00)

- Intergenerational persistence and mobility
- Migration

# Readings

Each **lecture** has four associated readings. One is required (marked by \*).

So each **session** has eight associated readings and two required readings.

You should read the two required readings **before** each session.

Lectures will...

- cover the required readings in depth
- discuss the other associated readings with varying detail
- occasionally mention other research that is not on the syllabus

# Expectations, Assignments, and Grading

## **Participation** (25% of grade)

I am here because I want to learn from you! I expect you to read carefully, ask questions, make comments.

## **Assignment** (75% of grade, due 31 March)

Choose **one** of two options:

- **Referee reports** on 2 relevant papers written or published since 2015. 2 pp. each, single-spaced. E-mail me 4 paper options by the weekend.
- **Research proposal** in dev/growth/pop economics. Max 5 pp., single-spaced. Okay to use existing project, but writing should be new.