**Population and Economic Growth**
Syllabus – March 2022

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Course Zoom: https://ucsd.zoom.us/j/8655969007
Course materials online: https://github.com/tvogl/popTAU

**Overview:** This course examines interconnections between population change and economic growth, drawing on research in macroeconomics, development economics, applied microeconomics, and demography. Topics include the measurement of demographic processes and aggregate welfare; economic theories of demographic change; differential fertility; the economic effects of mortality decline; infectious disease; intergenerational mobility; and migration. Prerequisites: Microeconomic Theory 1 and Macroeconomic Theory 1.

**Organization:** The course consists of four sessions, three hours each. Each session has two lectures, with a 10-minute break in between. Each lecture has **one required (starred) reading** and three supplementary readings. **Students should read the required reading before class**.

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| Sunday, 13 March, 17:00-20:00 | Monday, 14 March, 16:00-19:00 |
| Tuesday, 15 March, 16:00-19:00 | Wednesday, 16 March, 15:00-18:00 |

**Assignments and grading:** Students are expected to attend all lectures. Grading is based on participation (25%) and a take-home assignment (75%). The take-home assignment is due on **Thursday, 31 March**. Students can choose one of two options for the assignment:

1.  Write **referee reports on 2 papers** that were written or published since 2015 and are related to the course. Papers on and off the syllabus are fine. Reports should be **2 pages, single-spaced**. A report should start with a summary of the paper, followed by an overall assessment, and then a list of specific comments or suggestions. Students planning to complete this option should e-mail a **preference-ordered list of 4 papers** to tvogl@ucsd.edu before the last lecture, of which two will be selected. Students may not use a referee report they have already written for another course.

2.  Write a **research proposal** on a topic related to development economics, growth economics, population economics, or (preferably) their intersection. The proposal should be **at most 5 pages, single-spaced**. It should have a clearly defined question; motivation of why the question is economically interesting; a synthesis of relevant background literature focusing on the points most germane to the question at hand; a discussion of an appropriate model (empirical or theoretical); and an overview of the data to be used to analyze the question (if relevant). Students may write about a project they are already developing, but the writing should be new.

**Session 1 (Sunday, 13 March): Measurement**

**Lecture 1: Facts and Measurement**

Almås, I. (2012). "International Income Inequality: Measuring PPP Bias by Estimating Engel Curves for Food." *American Economic Review* 102(2): 1093-1117.

\* Jones, C. (2016). "The Facts of Economic Growth" (Sec. 4). *Handbook of Macroeconomics*.

Deaton, A., and A. Heston. (2010). "Understanding PPPs and PPP-Based National Accounts." *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 2(4): 1-35.

Preston, S., P. Heuveline, and M. Guillot. (2001). *Demography: Measuring & Modeling Population Processes* (Ch. 3 & 5). https://www.gwern.net/docs/statistics/2001-preston-demography.pdf

**Lecture 2: Welfare Across Space, over Time, Between Cohorts, and over the Lifecycle**

Becker, G., T. Philipson, and R. Soares. (2005). "The Quantity and Quality of Life and the Evolution of World Inequality. *American Economic Review* 95(1): 277-291.

Deaton, A. (1997). *The Analysis of Household Surveys* (Ch. 6). https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/30394

Fang, H., and X. Qiu. (2021). "'Golden Ages': A Tale of the Labor Markets in China and the United States." Working paper.

\* Jones, C., and P. Klenow. (2016). "Beyond GDP: Welfare Across Countries and Time." *American Economic Review* 106: 2426-2457.

**Session 2 (Monday, 14 March): Fertility**

**Lecture 3: Fertility and Economic Growth**

Ashraf, Q. and O. Galor. (2011). "Dynamics and Stagnation in the Malthusian Epoch." *American Economic Review* 101(5): 2003-2041.

Chatterjee, S., and T. Vogl. (2018). "Escaping Malthus: Economic Growth and Fertility Change in the Developing World." *American Economic Review* 108(6): 1440-67.

\* Galor, O. (2005). "From Stagnation to Growth: Unified Growth Theory." *Handbook of Economic Growth Volume 1*. Section 4.

Günther, I., and K. Harttgen. (2016). "Desired Fertility and Number of Children Born Across Time and Space." *Demography*, *53*(1), 55-83.

**Lecture 4: Differential Fertility and Child Quality**

Bhalotra, S., and D. Clarke. (2019). "Twin Birth and Maternal Condition." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 101(5): 853-864.

Bleakley, H., and F. Lange. (2009). "Chronic Disease Burden and the Interaction of Education, Fertility, and Growth." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 91(1): 52-65.

Hazan, M., and H. Zoabi. (2015). "Do Highly Educated Women Choose Smaller Families?" *Economic Journal* 125(587): 1191-1226.

\* Vogl, Tom. (2016). "Differential Fertility, Human Capital, and Development." *Review of Economic Studies* 83(1): 365-401.

**Session 3 (Tuesday, 15 March): Health**

**Lecture 5: Mortality Decline and Economic Growth**

Albanesi, S., and C. Olivetti. (2016). "Gender Roles and Medical Progress." *Journal of Political Economy* 124(3): 650-695.

Cervellati, M., and U. Sunde. (2015). "The Economic and Demographic Transition, Mortality, and Comparative Development." *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics* 7(3): 189-225.

 * Hansen, C., and L. Lønstrup. (2015). "The Rise in Life Expectancy and Economic Growth in the 20th Century." *Economic Journal* 125(584): 838-852.

Young, A. (2005). "The Gift of the Dying: The Tragedy of AIDS and the Welfare of Future African Generations." *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 120(2): 423-466.

**Lecture 6: Infectious Disease Spillovers**

Alon, T., M. Kim, D. Lagakos, and M. VanVuren. (2021). "Macroeconomic Effects of COVID-19 Across the World Income Distribution." *IMF Economic Review*, forthcoming.

* Geruso, M., and D. Spears, D. (2018). "Neighborhood Sanitation and Infant Mortality." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 10(2): 125-62.

Greenwood, J., P. Kircher, C. Santos, and M. Tertilt. (2019). "An Equilibrium Model of the African HIV/AIDS Epidemic." *Econometrica* 87(4): 1081-1113.

Guiteras, R., J. Levinsohn, and A.M. Mobarak. (2015). "Encouraging Sanitation Investment in the Developing World: A Cluster-Randomized Trial." *Science* 348(6237): 903-906.

**Session 4 (Wednesday, 16 March): Mobility**

**Lecture 7: Intergenerational Persistence and Mobility**

* Alesina, A., S. Hohmann, S. Michalopoulos, and E. Papaioannou. (2021). "Intergenerational Mobility in Africa." *Econometrica* 89(1): 1-35.

Asher, S., P. Novosad, and C. Rafkin. (2020). "Intergenerational Mobility in India: New Methods and Estimates across Time, Space, and Communities." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, revise and resubmit.

Balboni, C., O. Bandiera, R. Burgess, M. Ghatak, and A. Heil. (Forthcoming). "Why Do People Stay Poor?" *Quarterly Journal of Economics*.

Lu, F., and T. Vogl. (2022). "Intergenerational Persistence in Child Mortality." *American Economic Review: Insights*, accepted.

**Lecture 8: Migration**

Atkin, D. (2016). "The Caloric Costs of Culture: Evidence from Indian Migrants." *American Economic Review* 106(4): 1144-81.

Bazzi, S., A. Gaduh, A. Rothenberg, and M. Wong. (2016). "Skill Transferability, Migration, and Development: Evidence from Population Resettlement in Indonesia." *American Economic Review* 106(9): 2658-98.

* Bryan, G., and M. Morten. (2019). "The Aggregate Productivity Effects of Internal Migration: Evidence from Indonesia." *Journal of Political Economy* 127(5): 2229-2268.

Lagakos, D., A. Mobarak, and M. Waugh. (2021). "The Welfare Effects of Encouraging Rural-Urban Migration." *Econometrica*, revise and resubmit.