This is a somewhat interdisciplinary course that covers issues relating to the causes and consequences of population growth, and other demographic phenomena. The course will emphasize both the micro-theoretic household production framework as well as more aggregated approaches. This course will emphasize issues and models applicable to developing countries, but will incorporate some consideration of North America, Europe and eastern Asia as well.

This course is taught at a level appropriate for either Master's or Ph.D. students. Some background in microeconomic theory will be necessary, or can be acquired concurrently. Other effective prerequisites include calculus, introductory econometrics, and a bit of linear algebra.

NOTE: I will be away on January 11, the first day of class. I will meet with you for the first time on January 17, and will use this meeting to learn about your background, which will help me pitch the course appropriately. Please be there! From time to time, I will be out of town, and will need to reschedule classes. Cancelled classes, however, will be made up.

1. OBJECTIVE. This course will survey a wide range of topics. Those on which we concentrate will to some extent be chosen by the group, although in lectures I will try to give an overview of the field. My primary objective is to have you cover the basics and then get involved in original research in a particular area. In particular, I hope that many of you will choose to use household or relatively disaggregated data sets in doing empirical work. IBS has the Malaysia Family Life Survey on tape; I have a detailed AIDS data set; and others can be obtained as well. Ideally, the research you undertake here will lead to publication and/or a dissertation topic.
2. TOPICS.

I. Overview
1. Historic trends in demographic and economic variables
2. Malthus, population growth, and food scarcity.

II. The Economic Determinants of Demographic Phenomena
3. Fertility and Population Growth
4. Mortality
5. Migration
6. Marriage and Household Formation
7. Famine
8. Morbidity (with special reference to AIDS)
9. Women and Work

III. Economic Consequences of Demographic Change
10. Optimal Population Growth
11. Population Growth and Inequality
12. Savings and Economic Growth
13. Macro Consequences of Demographic Phenomena
14. Economic Consequences of Changing Age Structure

3. COURSE REQUIREMENTS. The final grade will be a weighted average of the following:

- midterm examination 10
- final examination 30
- 2 in-class presentations 10
- term paper 50%

Late papers or missed presentations or exams will receive an automatic grade of F unless permission is granted 48 hours prior to the due date. Any exceptions due to emergencies must be approved by the Graduate School.

4. READING LIST. I will keep most but not all of the readings in a convenient central location for you to borrow and photocopy (2 hour limit). There is no required text, although Cigno’s Economics of the Family is a nice, brief text, and I will have the Colorado Bookstore order several copies. The reading list below is incomplete, and from time to time I will provide more detailed lists on specific topics. But despite being incomplete, it is more than you can read, and you will need to be selective, reading in detail only in those areas of research interest to you.
I. OVERVIEW


1. Historic trends in demographic and economic variables


2. Malthus, population growth, and food scarcity


II. THE ECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF DEMOGRAPHIC PHENOMENA

3. Fertility and Population Growth


A. Blanc and S. Rutstein, "The Demographic Transition in Southern Africa," Demography 1994 (May) 31:2 pp.209-15. Also see the two articles by D. Thomas and I. Muvandi in the same issue, and with the same title.


J. Nugent, "The Old-Age Security Motive for Fertility," PDR 1985 (March) 11:1


4. Mortality


5. **Migration and Urbanization**


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**Marriage, Household Formation and Household Dissolution**


R. Willis, "What Have We Learned from the Economics of the Family?" *AER* 1987 (May).


8. **Morbidity and AIDS**


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**9: Women, Work, and Fertility**


III. ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

10. Optimal Population Growth


11. Population Growth, Demographic Structure, and Inequality


D. Parsons, "The Economics of Intergenerational Control," *PDR* 1984 (March):41-54.


**12. Savings and Population Growth**


**13. Macro Consequences of Demographic Phenomena**


14: Economic Consequences of Changing Age Structure


