



School of Economics and Management

EEH003F, Causes of Demographic Change, 7.5 credits

Befolkningsutvecklingens orsaker, 7,5 högskolepoäng

Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

Details of approval

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2020-12-01.

General Information

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

Learning outcomes

On a general level the student shall acquire advanced knowledge of demographic processes and their interactions with economic and societal factors, as well as knowledge of basic demographic measures. Specifically students will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- individually discuss, in writing, different explanations behind demographic change, and apply theories to actual population change in a global historical context
- discuss in a larger group different explanations behind demographic change and relate to actual global population change

Competence and skills

- individually calculate basic demographic measures, such as life tables, age-specific rates, total fertility rates, etc and to interpret their trends and patterns

Judgement and approach

- apply, in writing, demographic measures on data from various contexts and critically interpret these measures with reference to theories and explanations discussed in the literature
- write and present for a group a coherent demographic analysis using the theories and methods from the course and real demographic data

Course content

The course gives an introduction to demographic data, measurement and description of demographic phenomena. The course consists of two parts: • Demographic methods. Basic demographic measures and concepts are discussed, such as rates, the lexis diagram, life tables, fertility, nuptiality, mortality and migration measures. • Theories and evidence on global demographic change in an historical perspective. The long term demographic development in the world is discussed and related to different theoretical explanations.

Course design

The course is designed as a series of lectures, exercises and laboratory work with reports. Assessment Grading is based on individual performance, via written assignments, oral presentation as well as group activities. The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. Plagiarism is considered to be a very serious academic offence. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

Grading scale

Marking scale: Fail or Pass.

Prerequisites

PhD students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, business administration, economic and social geography, economics, history or the equivalent knowledge.

Further information

This course cannot be included in the same degree as STAN19, EKHP11, EKHM24, EKHM60 and EKHM67.