



**College of Commerce
Division of Economic and Financial Studies
Department of Business**

DEM355 SOCIAL AND APPLIED DEMOGRAPHY

UNIT OUTLINE *SEMESTER 1, 2008*

Lecture: Thursdays 1-3 pm, E7B-100

Tutorial: Thursdays 3-4 pm, C5A-232

Tutorial: Thursdays 4-5 pm, C5A-232

Unit Convenor: Professor Farhat Yusuf

Prerequisites: DEM255 (P) or DEM256 (P)

Students in this unit should read this outline carefully at the start of semester. It contains important information. If anything in it is unclear, please consult the unit convenor.

ABOUT THIS UNIT

This unit will appeal particularly to commerce and other social science students. It focuses on the strategic implications of demographic trends for business and governments both in Australia and other countries. This unit will familiarise students with the determinants and consequences of population trends, and the applications of demography in the public and private sectors. While special emphasis will be placed on the study of contemporary Australian demography, the situation in other countries and the historical perspectives will also be considered. In addition to lectures, students will be asked to actively participate in class discussions and will also get opportunities to make presentations. Students will get hands-on experience of social and applied demographic research through the use of census and other data.

The unit is worth 3 credit points.

TEACHING STAFF

The teaching staff consists of Professor Farhat Yusuf and three guest lecturers. Please feel free to contact Professor Yusuf if you have any questions or if there is any way in which he could assist you. He will be available for consultation on Thursdays between 10 am and 12 noon, or by appointment. You could call him on 9850-8565 or send him an e-mail: farhat.yusuf@efs.mq.edu.au

CLASSES

The unit will involve weekly attendance at a two hour lecture on Thursdays starting at 1.05 pm in E7B-100, and a one-hour between 3 and 5 pm on Thursdays. Please make sure that you only attend the tutorial which has been allocated to you. Regular attendance at lectures and tutorials is expected.

WORKLOAD

The relationship between workload and credit points, which, for a typical competent student, is 4 hours per credit point per week. Thus, you should plan to spend, on an average, 12 hours per week on the study of demography. This includes the time spent in lectures as well as doing assignments and *independent study* of relevant demographic topics. If you consistently spend less time than that stipulated above then you are probably not studying hard enough and/or do not understand fully the requirements of this unit.

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXT AND MATERIALS

There is no prescribed textbook for this unit. Relevant books will be available in Special Reserve section of the Library. Lecture notes will be available through the Library's e-Reserve website. Students will also be referred to other readings material in the lectures and tutorials.

UNIT WEB PAGE

At this stage there is no web page for this unit.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Some of the important learning objectives and outcomes include:

- ability to define and explain the differences in social and applied demography
- knowledge of relevant demographic concepts and techniques
- ability to access demographic and other data for Australia and overseas countries using internet and other sources
- understanding of the social and other determinants of fertility, mortality, natality, migration and their consequences
- knowledge of causes and consequences of phenomena such as demographic transition, status of women and ageing of populations
- appreciation and understanding of the applications of demography in business and in the public sector.

In addition to the discipline based objectives, all academic programs at Macquarie University seek to develop students' generic skills in a range of areas. One of the aims of this unit is that students develop their skills in the following:

- critical analysis skills
- problem solving skills
- creative thinking skills
- communication skills
- interpersonal skills.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment of the student performance will be based on attendance at lectures and tutorials, three assignments, class test and the mid-year examination. Weights given to the various assessment tasks are given below:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Mid-year examination	65 %
Tutorial assignments	10 %
Group project	10%
Class test	15 %

Students are expected to achieve a satisfactory pass in each of the above component of assessment.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON GRADING

The final grade which will be awarded to you will be within the range: high distinction (HD), distinction (D), credit (CR), pass (P), conceded pass (PC) or fail (F).

Academic Senate has a set of guidelines on the distribution of grades across the range from fail to high distinction. Your final result will include one of these grades plus an SNG.

On occasion your raw mark for a unit (*i.e.*, the total of your marks for each component of assessment) may not be the same as the Standardised Numerical Grade (SNG) which you receive. Under the Senate guidelines, results may be scaled to ensure that there is a degree of comparability across the university, so that units with the same past performances of the students should achieve similar results.

It is important that you realise that the policy does not require that a minimum number of students are to be failed in any unit. In fact it does something like the opposite, in requiring examiners to explain their actions if more than 20% of students fail in a unit.

The process of scaling does not change the order of marks among students. A student who receives a higher raw mark than another will also receive a higher final scale mark.

For an explanation of the grading policy see:

<http://www.mq.edu.au/senate/rules/Guidelines2003.doc> or alternately
<http://www.mq.edu.au/senate/rules/detailedguidelines.doc> .

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Macquarie University provides a range of academic student support services. Details of these services can be accessed at <http://www.student.mq.edu.au>

EXAMINATIONS

The University Examination period in First Half Year 2008 is from 11 to 27 June 2008. You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available in draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations.

You are advised that it is Macquarie University policy not to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester that is the final day of the official examination period.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You are expected to attend scheduled examinations with the other students completing this unit. If extraordinary circumstances prevent you from attending the scheduled examination or affect your performance in an examination, you may wish to lodge a request for special consideration.

Any such requests must be lodged on the appropriate form (available from ERIC or the student administrators in the Department of Business). If there are medical circumstances you wish to be taken into account when considering your request, the medical information must be lodged on the official Professional Authority Form. No other form of medical certificate will be recognised.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

The unit convenor, at his discretion, may decide that, in the light of the circumstances set out in a request for special consideration, the appropriate way to assess your performance in this unit is to invite you to sit a supplementary examination. Please note that it is not automatic that you will receive a supplementary examination if you have missed an examination due to medical reasons or misadventure. Students need to have an adequate performance in other assessment components to be considered for a supplementary examination.

PLAGIARISM

The University defines plagiarism in its rules: “Plagiarism involves using the work of another person and presenting it as one’s own.” Plagiarism is a serious breach of the University’s rules and carries significant penalties. You must read the University’s practices and procedures on plagiarism. This can be found on the web at:

<http://www.student.mq.edu.au/plagiarism/>

The policies and procedures explain what plagiarism is, how to avoid it, the procedures that will be taken in cases of suspected plagiarism, and the penalties if you are found guilty. Penalties may include a deduction of marks, failure in the unit, and/or referral to the University Discipline Committee.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Students are expected to arrive on time, certainly before five minutes past the hour, and not to leave until the class ends. If you have a recurring problem that makes you late, or forces you to leave early, have the courtesy to discuss this with your lecturer/tutor. Students are expected to be quiet during lectures unless, of course, class participation is required. Mobiles should be turned off during classes; not simply set to “silent”.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGY

The unit will be taught through lectures and tutorials. Students are expected to read in advance for lectures and tutorial discussions, and must complete all the assessment or other tasks assigned to them.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

<u>Week</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	28/2	Introduction to social, applied and business demography.
2	6/3	World population: past, present and future.
3	13/3	Population theories.
4	20/3	Trends and differentials in nuptiality and fertility.
5	27/3	Trends and differentials in mortality, morbidity and health.
6	3/4	Changing status of women and its socio-demographic implications. (<i>Dr Stefania Siedlecky</i>)
7	10/4	Internal migration and urbanisation. Projections of labour force, households and families.
MID SEMESTER BREAK		
8	1/5	Class Test.
9	8/5	State population projections in NSW. (<i>Dr Tom Wilson</i>)
10	15/5	Case studies on consumer demographics in Australia.
11	22/5	Household consumption patterns in China.
12	29/5	Application of demography in educational planning. (<i>Mr Doug White</i>)
13	5/6	Revision and conclusion.
