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Phone Numbers:	(210) 784-1911 or Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900

Texas A & M University San Antonio (TAMUSA)
Department of Sociology and Communication
COURSE SYLLABUS
SOCI – 4331
Demography and Population Problems

Instructor's Name	Dr. Dorothy Kalanzi
Instructor's Office	TBA Online
E-mail Address	dkalanzi@tamusa.edu
Office Hours	TBA Online
Meeting Location	TBA - Online

E-MAIL

The best way to reach me is via E-mail provided above. Please feel free to E-mail me if you have questions or concerns. I check my E-mail daily. Try to be brief and on the point to accommodate other students who may wish to communicate with me at the same time. However, if you encounter technical trouble shooting issues contact TAMUSA Information Technology (IT) or Blackboard Support at <https://www.tamusa.edu/information-technology-services/index.html> or externally at: https://help.blackboard.com/Filter/Student/College_or_University. These departments should be more than glad to assist students. Be ready to provide your Blackboard user account information. You can also access Blackboard, IT, or other support services once you enter the course virtual classroom and click on “Blackboard or IT Help” for your convenience.

COURSE DISCRIPTION

SOCI 4331. Demography & Population Problems. This course introduces and examines basic demographic concepts and formulas, historic and contemporary population trends and processes, as well as the effects of demographic changes on social norms, culture, and structure. TSI Restriction(s): Reading, Math, and Writing. [**Credits: 3 (3-0-0)**].

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Population: An Introduction to Concepts and Issues, 13th edition, by John Weeks.
ISBN-13: 978-0-357-36057-6. ISBN-10: 0-357-36057-5. Available at TAMUSA bookstore and online external bookstores.

REQUIRED ACCESSORIES

Students must have access to computerized equipment including a webcam. Please note that this course is entirely online. All quizzes/exams will be completed online utilizing Lock Down

Browser and a webcam as proctoring systems. It is the students' responsibility to make sure they have access to the above on the first day of class. Important to know is that, while on campus, TAMUSA has computers located across campus for your convenience.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Except if approved by respective personnel, the only students eligible to register for this course should be at either the Junior or senior levels, or above. Additionally, enrolled students must have completed SOCI 1301, SOCI 1306, or ENGL 1302. This being an online course, students who register for this course should also possess basic computer and internet skills as well as knowledge utilizing computer processing software packages, such as Microsoft Word. All assessments will be completed online and must be submitted via Blackboard to be graded.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Define key concepts in the study of demography.
2. Trace the history of the world population.
3. Identify essential sources of demographic data and understand their limitations.
4. Describe how population data are collected and interpreted.
5. Apply theories of population growth at the global, national, regional, and local levels.
6. Describe trends in population size, composition, and distribution.
7. Analyze population processes and consequences of demographic changes to society.
8. Calculate and interpret basic measures used to assess population processes such as fertility, mortality, migration and urbanization.
9. Characterize demographic and social implications of population trends in family structures.
10. Describe and interpret basic biological reproductive processes and major contraceptive technologies.
11. Analyze national, regional and global policies pertaining to population changes and social problems.

ASSESSMENTS AND PROCEDURES

EXAMS: There will be 3 Exams assessing covered material from course readings, lectures, movies and related activities. Each Exam will be worth 100 points. The maximum score for all exams will be 300 points. Students must successfully complete all Exams to get a desirable grade. The format for each exam will be discussed in advance. All Exams will be taken using lockdown browser and a webcam. Lockdown Browser is a system utilized to proctor students taking assessments online to promote TAMUSA's academic integrity policy.

DISCUSSION FORUMS: There will be 10 Discussion Forums. The maximum points for completing each forum will be 10 points. Students must complete all 10 Discussion Forums to get the desired grade. These discussions relate to text/lecture materials, movies, and other activities relevant to the course. To get full points for each discussion, each student must submit

2 posts, each post worth 5 points. The first post must be your original post. The second post must be a response post to any of the other student's posted insights about the issue in question. To maximize points, the first or your original post must be at least 200 words in length. The response post must be at least 200 words. The "200 words" will give other readers a clearer and deeper understanding of your thoughts on a given issue. Also, for maximum points, you must submit a response post reacting to any of the other student's original post. However, as you respond to other people's posts, be open minded and understanding that we all do not have to agree but can work together with unique perspectives on social issues for the betterment of society.

DUE DATES: Discussion Forum Due dates are clearly listed in the course syllabus schedule below. Late discussion posts will carry a penalty of 3 points. This is necessary because to maximize discussion points, other students will depend on your original post just like your success may depend on theirs. I value your input as well as your contributions, and I will do my best to encourage them by working with you to create a climate that is conducive for your participation. I will treat your contributions with respect, and I expect you to do the same for your classmates. Further instructions to complete discussion forums are narrated in Blackboard modules.

EXTRA CREDITS: Additionally, there may be additional online written activities that could be awarded as extra credits based on the overall performance of the class. Extra credit activities are voluntary and not a requirement. All extra credit activities must be completed as scheduled.

MAKE UP POLICY: All students are expected to complete all assessments as scheduled UNLESS one has a legitimate written excuse such as a written documentation of death or a serious illness, court appearance, or absence on a college sponsored function. These are the only legitimate excuses for failure to complete assessments as scheduled. Other situations may be considered as per 'TAMUSA's Important Policies and Resources' found on the course Blackboard menu under "**Important Policies and Resources**". Make sure you understand these policies. Remember that it is your responsibility to contact me if you must reschedule completing assessments for any reason. At the same time, if you fail to complete the exam as scheduled for any reason, do not hesitate to consult with me should there be other situation to be considered.

READINGS: The readings for this class are not easy. It is extremely important that you have enough time to devote to your readings. Therefore, if you are not able to read the text and review your notes regularly you will not be successful in this class. It is vital to your success that you do your readings on a timely basis and engage in class discussions forums. I will not remind you of missed assignments or any other matter. If you must miss a deadline for accessing class material, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from fellow students. If your score falls below 70% on any of the given assignments, don't hesitate to contact me about your performance for help.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Class participation specifically in the form of discussion forums or other online activities is essential for success in this course, not only because it enhances the

overall learning process, but it may affect your final grade. Make sure you complete discussions as scheduled because other students will depend on your input to post their work.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to TAMUSA's academic integrity policy. Additionally, the use of Generative AI is prohibited in this course. Students are prohibited from using generative AI in discussion forums because these activities are intended to develop critical thinking, independent analysis, and original expression. Using AI-generated responses bypasses the cognitive effort required to evaluate ideas, engage meaningfully with peers, and articulate personal understanding. Reliance on AI undermines authentic learning, misrepresents student authorship, and prevents instructors from accurately assessing individual comprehension. For these reasons, and in alignment with course learning objectives, the use of Generative AI is strictly prohibited in this course.

All work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity. Suspected violations of TAMUSA's standards for academic integrity policy will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with the University's policy, which could result in severe consequences that may include the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

GRADING SCALE

Your course grade will be based on the number of points you earn. Your responsibility is to earn as many points as possible.

Assignment	Point Value	% Final Grade	Outcomes Assessed	Percentage
3 Examinations	300	75%		A = 100-90
10 Discussion Forums	100	25%		B = 89-80
Extra Credits (Tentative)	Cr	Cr		C = 79-70
				D = 69-60
Total Points	400	100%		F = Below 60

DROP POLICY

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits students to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive course drops (i.e., courses a student chooses to drop) during their undergraduate careers. A non-punitive drop does not affect the student's GPA. However, course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "F" grades and will impact the student's GPA. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Texas A&M University-San Antonio is committed to providing all students with reasonable access to learning opportunities and accommodations in accordance with The Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Support Services in the Central Academic Building, Suite 210, or at (210) 784-1335 or visit <https://www.tamusa.edu/index.html> or email us at dss@tamusa.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability-related needs with Disability Support Services and their instructors as soon as possible.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic Learning Center: The Academic Learning Center provides free course-based tutoring to all currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. Students wishing to work with a tutor can make appointments through the Brainfuse online tutoring platform. Brainfuse can be accessed in the *Tools* section of Blackboard. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu, calling (210) 784-1307, or visiting the Central Academic Building, room 202.

Counseling/Mental Health Resources: As a college student, there may be times when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you are experiencing emotional difficulties or mental health concerns, support is available to you through the Student Counseling Center (SCC). To schedule an appointment call 210-784-1331 or visit Modular C, Room 166 (Rear entrance). All mental health services provided by the SCC are free and confidential (as the law allows). The Student Counseling Center provides brief individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, consultation, case management, and prevention services. **Crisis support is available 24/7 by calling the SCC at 210-784-1331 (after-hours select option '2').** For more information and self-help resources, please visit www.tamusa.edu/studentcounseling.

Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center: The Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center supports graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges as well as faculty and staff. Tutors work with students to develop reading skills, prepare oral presentations, and plan, draft, and revise their written assignments. Our language tutors support students enrolled in Spanish courses and students composing in Spanish for any assignment. Our digital studio tutors support students working on digital projects such as eportfolios, class presentations, or other digital multimedia projects. Students can schedule appointments through JagWire under the Student Services tab. Click on "Writing, Language, and Digital Composing Center" to make your appointment. The Center offers face-to-face, synchronous online, and asynchronous digital appointments. More information about what services we offer, how to make an appointment, and how to access your appointment can be found on our website at <https://bit.ly/WLDCCenter>.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will

enable them to provide any resources they may possess.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the Patriots' Casa in-person room 202, or to contact the Office of Military Affairs with any questions at military.va@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

EMERGENCY EXIT PROCEDURES

JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. In the event of an emergency, such as inclement weather, students, staff and faculty, who are registered, will have the option to receive a text message, email with instructions and updates. To register or update your information visit: <https://tamusa.bbcportal.com/>. More information about Emergency Operations Plan and the Emergency Action Plan can be found here: <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-operations-plan.pdf> and <https://www.tamusa.edu/about-us/campus-information/safety/university-police-department/documents/emergency-action-plan.pdf>. Download the SafeZone App for emergencies or call (210) 784-1911. Non-Emergency (210) 784-1900

FINANCIAL AID AND VERIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE

According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance. If Title IV funds are disbursed to ineligible students (including students who fail to begin attendance), the institution must return these funds to the U.S. DoE within 30 days of becoming aware that the student will not or has not begun attendance. Faculty will provide the Office of Financial Aid with an electronic notification if a student has not attended the first week of class. Any student receiving federal financial aid who does not attend the first week of class will have their aid terminated and returned to the DoE. Please note that any student who stops attending at any time during the semester may also need to return a portion of their federal aid.

STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

At the end of each term, you will be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey. You are strongly urged to participate. Your response will not affect your performance in this course as instructors do not see survey responses, except after grades have been submitted.

EEOC STATEMENT

TAMUSA does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in the employment or the provision of services. See Policies and Resources file found on the course Blackboard menu under **“Important Policies and Resources”**.

PROJECTED TOPICS AND READING SCHEDULE

(This schedule may change at the discretion of the instructor. “As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Dr. Dorothy J. N. Kalanzi)

Jan 20 – Jan 25 Module 01	Course Introduction	Students Introductions Extra Credit 1
Jan 26 – Feb 01 Module 02	Introduction to Demography – Ch. 01	Discussion Activity # 01 – Required
Feb 02 - Feb 08 Module 03	Demographic Data/Applied Demography – Ch. 02	Discussion Activity # 02 - Required
Feb 09 - Feb 15 Module 04	Demographic Perspectives and Theories – Ch. 03	Discussion Forum # 03 - Required
Feb 16 - Feb 22 Module 05	EXAMINATION # 01	EXAMINATION # 01
Feb 23 – Mar 01 Module 06	The Health and Mortality Transition – Ch. 04	Discussion Forum # 04 – Required
Mar 02 – Mar 08 Module 07	The Fertility Transition – Ch. 05	Discussion Activity # 05 - Required

MAR 09 – MAR 15 - HAPPY SPRING BREAK

Mar 16 – Mar 22	The Migration Transition – Ch. 06	Discussion Activity # 06 – Required
Mar 23 – Mar 29 Module 08	The Urban Transition – Ch. 07	Discussion Forum # 07 - Required
Mar 30 – Apr 05 Module 09	EXAMINATION # 02	EXAMINATION # 02
Apr 06 – Apr 12 Module 10	The Age Transition and the Life Course – Ch. 08	Discussion Forum # 08 – Required
Apr 13 – Apr 19 Module 11	Family Demography and Life Chances – Ch. 08	Discussion Activity # 09 – Required
Apr 20 – Apr 26 Module 12	Pop. the Environment, & Sustainability – Ch. 10	Discussion Forum # 10 - Required
Apr 27 – May 6 Module 13	REVIEW AND EXAMINATION # 03 Exam Due Date - May 7th, at 11:59 p.m.	FINAL EXAMINATION

MAY 06, at 11th59 p.m. – COURSE ENDS. ALL ASSESSMENTS MUST BE IN BY MIDNIGHT

ALL THE BEST, GOOD LUCK ON ALL YOUR FINALS

Additionally, make sure you also check out the TAMUSA’s Policies and Resources file found on the course Blackbord menu under “**Important Policies and Resources**”.