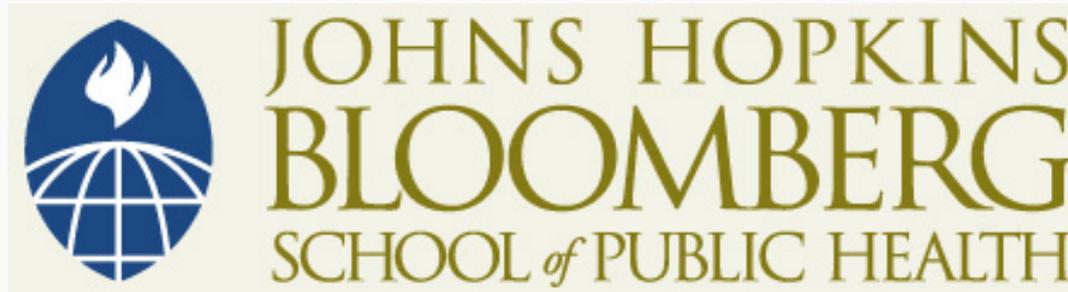


This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/). Your use of this material constitutes acceptance of that license and the conditions of use of materials on this site.



Copyright 2009, The Johns Hopkins University and Nan Astone. All rights reserved. Use of these materials permitted only in accordance with license rights granted. Materials provided "AS IS"; no representations or warranties provided. User assumes all responsibility for use, and all liability related thereto, and must independently review all materials for accuracy and efficacy. May contain materials owned by others. User is responsible for obtaining permissions for use from third parties as needed.



JOHNS HOPKINS  
BLOOMBERG  
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

# Introduction

---

Nan Astone, PhD  
Johns Hopkins University



JOHNS HOPKINS  
BLOOMBERG  
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

## Section A

---

Course Procedures

# Learning Objectives of the Course (Subject Matter)

- At the end of the course, students should be able to:
  - Delineate the substantive scope of demography
  - Describe the major trends in birthrates, death rates, population growth, population sex and age structure, and population distribution throughout history
  - Identify the major explanations for changes in demographic rates and population distribution
  - Identify how demographic rates and population distribution impinge upon the health of populations
  - Identify how demographic behaviors affect and are affected by family and kinship structure

# Learning Objectives of the Course (Related Skills)

- At the end of the course, students should be able to:
  - Proficiently make graphs in Excel
  - Take notes on readings using a format that will assist in both summarizing and criticizing

# Learning Opportunities

- Ten lectures
  - For two, students will prepare by doing some easy tabulations (improving Excel graphing skills thereby)
  - Readings assignments will supplement the lectures and make them easier to understand

# Learning Opportunities

- Three class discussions
  - There are three scheduled LiveTalks for which students will prepare by reading an article and using a specific format to summarize and criticize it

# Learning Opportunities

- One bulletin board debate
  - Concern about potential negative consequences of rapid population growth once dominated the field of demography, and family planning was once the major nexus between demography and public health. This is no longer the case. In this assignment, you will debate whether or not this is positive or negative.
- One wiki group assignment
  - The distribution of the population in space has huge implications for health disparities. In this assignment you will consider how.

# Evaluation

- Two graph assignments, each worth 15 points
- Three discussion assignments, each worth 15 points
- One BB discussion, worth 5 points
- One wiki project, worth 20 points (5 for individual contribution, 15 for group)

# Evaluation

- All assignments are available now
- Possible to complete Assignments 1 and 2 immediately
- Possible to read article and write draft for Assignments 4, 6, and 7 immediately. It might be advisable to wait until you have reviewed the relevant lectures/readings before submitting, but by all means get started.



JOHNS HOPKINS  
BLOOMBERG  
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

## Section B

---

Review of Course Content

# What Is Demography?

- The scientific study of population
  - Traditional subjects
    - ▶ Components of population growth
      - Mortality (death rates)
      - Fertility (birthrates)
      - Nuptuality
      - Distribution of the population in space
        - Migration
        - Urban demography

# What Is Demography?

- The scientific study of population
  - Newer areas of interest
    - ▶ Application of demographic methods to nontraditional subjects
      - Human development
        - Transition to adulthood

# What Is Demography?

- The scientific study of population
  - Newer areas of interest
    - ▶ Application of demographic methods to nontraditional subjects
      - Human development
        - Transition to adulthood
      - Social and economic issues arising from population change
        - Well-being of children (changes in marriage)
        - Disability (low fertility and aging)

# Demography and Public Health

- Oldest part of demography is the study of mortality, which is also central to public health
- Concern about rapid population growth led to high levels of collaboration between demographers and public health practitioners in the area of family planning

# Demography and Public Health

- Rising age at marriage—particularly in the context of a declining age at menarche—is changing the reproductive health needs of young women all over the world
- Rising age at first birth is increasing demand for infertility services
- Increase in nonmarital childbearing rates and divorce rates is increasing the number and percentage of children at high risk of poverty

# Demography and Public Health

- Migration in any form can affect the transmission of disease; the occupation of the Americas by Europeans resulted in the decimation of the indigenous population
- Forced migration presents a unique set of public health challenges, including high levels of injury, malnutrition-related disease, and sanitation-related disease

# Demography and Public Health

- Urbanization affects public health in that it can increase risk of disease due to crowding, but it can also reduce problems of health services delivery
- Public health planning depends upon accurate demographic forecasting

# Demography and Public Health

- Interplay between rates and the size of the population at risk
  - Nonmarital teenage childbearing in the late 1960s and 1970s
    - ▶ Rising age at marriage and huge cohorts of teenagers (American baby boom) increased the size of the population at risk *SO MUCH*, that even though birthrates were going down, the number of births went up and made the problem very visible (to this day many people think **RATES** of teenage childbearing went up in the 1960s and 1970s in the U.S.)

# Demography and Public Health

- Interplay between rates and the size of the population at risk
  - Nonmarital teenage childbearing in the late 1960s and 1970s
    - ▶ Rising age at marriage and huge cohorts of teenagers (American baby boom) increased the size of the population at risk *SO MUCH*, that even though birthrates were going down, the number of births went up and made the problem very visible (to this day many people think **RATES** of teenage childbearing went up in the 1960s and 1970s in the U.S.)

# Demography and Public Health

- Interplay between rates and the size of the population at risk
  - Maternal mortality
    - ▶ Ratio
      - Percent of births where the mother dies
        - This is what you would have as your outcome if you did an intervention to improve obstetric care
    - ▶ Rate
      - Percent of women who die in childbirth
      - Can reduce this by reducing birthrate (e.g., through family planning) without changing anything about obstetric care