



CAPILANO UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Fall 2023	COURSE NO: GEOG 400	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: Human Population and the Environment	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lilwat7úl (Lil'wat), xʷmə ̓ ̓kʷəyəm (Musqueam), shísháhlh (Sechelt), S̓k̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of class time, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for a 15-week semester, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

45 credits of 100-level or higher coursework

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Demography is the study of human populations - size, composition, distribution, movement, and the processes through which populations can change. Human populations are intimately connected with their natural environment and this course will explore the complex and reciprocal relationship between them, how people respond to changing environments, and potential policy responses to these effects. Local and global scales will be considered, with particular focus on issues of social inequality and the impacts of climate change and ecological degradation.

COURSE NOTE

GEOG 400 is an approved Self and Society course for Cap Core requirements.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND/OR RESOURCES

A reading list will be compiled by the instructor. Examples include:

De Sherbinin *et al.*, *Population and Environment*, Annual Review Environmental Resources. 2007; 32: 345–373 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2792934/>

Robbins *et al.*, *Environment and Society: a critical introduction*, 2nd edition, Wiley, 2013. <https://www.wiley.com/enca/Environment+and+Society%3A+A+Critical+Introduction%2C+2nd+Edition-p-9781118451557>

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Apply an interdisciplinary perspective on population ecology to understanding human demography and society.
2. Discuss, interpret, and synthesize primary literature on the intersection of demography and ecology.
3. Identify and evaluate the validity of ecological theories that explain the distribution of population today and in the past.
4. Communicate an understanding of the environmental processes underlying demographic changes and the range of theories which explain those changes.
5. Analyze population and environment dynamics through a social justice lens
6. Develop an understanding of the spatial distribution of Canada's population and its relationship with environmental processes.
7. Explore the relationship between First Nation populations and the environment through the lens of Indigenous economics (Indigenomics).
8. Communicate arguments with high quality written and verbal skills that demonstrate an understanding of how population dynamics contribute to the causes and consequences of anthropogenic climate change, and to a population's capacity to respond.

Students who complete this Self and Society course will be able to do the following:

1. Identify potential root causes of local/global problems and how they affect local/global cultures, economies, politics, and policies.
2. Assess and evaluate individual and collective responsibilities within a diverse and interconnected global society.
3. Apply concepts of sustainable development to address sustainability challenges in a global context.
4. Generate strategies for reconciling Indigenous and Canadian relations.
5. Explain how contexts (e.g. cultural, historical, colonial, economic, technological) shape identity formation and social structures.

COURSE CONTENT

Weeks	Topic
1-3	Part 1: Population: Introduction to Demography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical perspective: Population and environmental resources • Limits to Growth: Revisiting Malthus and Ehrlich • The Demographic Transition Model: Assumptions and critique • Migration and other responses to population/environment challenges
4-7	Part 2: Global & regional Interactions between population and environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21st Century 'overshoot': Demographic momentum vs environmental carrying capacity • Population and consumption: Key drivers of humanity's ecological footprint • Rural to urban transition: Environmental considerations • Sustainable Development Goals: A framework for analysis

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critique of capitalism: Social inequality and uneven development
8-10	Part 3: Socio-Cultural Demographics and Environmental Perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigeneity: Human-environment interrelationships (<i>Indigenomics</i>) • Population/environment dynamics through a gender lens • Regional population/environment case studies
11-13	Part 4: Climate Change & Population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate crisis: Population 'hotspots' • Climate refugees: Redistribution of people and resources • Future population transitions and trajectories
14/15	Final Exam Period

EVALUATION PROFILE

Academic article review	15%
Research essay	25%
Final exam	30%
<u>Applied Project</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total:	100%

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete "I" are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc.

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes and associated activities.

English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking only.

On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or eLearn; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <https://www.capilanou.ca/student-life/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)

Policy Statement (S2009-06)

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy and procedures S2017-05 Academic Integrity for more information: <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,

- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy and B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure (found on Policy page <https://www.capilanou.ca/about-capu/governance/policies/>)

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.