Université catholique de Louvain

Introduction to Demography

5.0 credits

LSPED1211

2016-2017

30.0 h

1q

Teacher(s) :	Schoumaker Bruno ;			
Language :	Français			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Main themes :	The course opens with a short history of how the world came to be populated. This is followed by a multi-disciplinary approach to "demographic issues", the interrelations of statistical population structures and the process of their continuous renewal throughout time. A major part of the course is devoted to the presentation of basic methods of describing and analyzing these structures and demographic processes, through population pyramids, mortality, fertility and migrations. The rest of the course deals with the major theories and demographic doctrines (such as Malthusianism, and transition), the causes and consequences (social, economic and political) of demographic development and the prospects for world populations.			
Aims :	This course aims to equip students with the basic concepts and tools for analyzing the continuous process of population renewal throughout time, and to make them aware of interrelations of demographic dynamics (fertility, mortality, migration) and a range of contextual factors (social, economic, political and ideological). The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".			
Content :	The course covers the following topics: ?Awareness-raising (rather than definition) of demographic problems, through a swift overview of the history of world populations. ?The components of demographic dynamics. ?Sources of demographic data. ?The dimensions of time, a key variable in demographic analysis. ?The state of the population: volume and structures, population pyramids. ?Population movement: mortality, fertility, migration (measures and analysis). ?Causes and effects of evolutions in demographic structures and phenomena. ?Overview of the key demographic doctrines and theories Method: Lectures, on the basis of a course handout and some complementary reading.			
Other infos :	Course materials: course handout			
Faculty or entity in charge:	ESPO			

Programmes / formations proposant cette unité d'enseignement (UE)					
Intitulé du programme	Sigle	Credits	Prerequis	Acquis d'apprentissage	
Minor in Population and Development Studies	LSPED100I	5	-	٩	
Bachelor in Sociology and Anthropology	SOCA1BA	5	-	٩	
Master [120] in Population and Development Studies	SPED2M	5	-	٩	
Additionnal module in Geography	LGEOG100P	4	-	٩	