General information	
Academic subject	**Population Models and Policies**
Degree course	Scienze Politiche (SP)
Academic Year	2022-2023
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS): 8	
Language	Italian
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	February/May
Attendance	Attendance is highly recommended

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Department and address	Department of Political Sciences
Virtual headquarters	Teams
Tutoring (time and day)	Thursday: 8,30-10,30 in attendance or on Teams

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	Students will be able to apply the knowledge and understanding acquired during teaching activities through the simulation of concrete situations and case studies. This will allow students to develop skills regarding the measurement, observation, and processing of demographic data. These objectives will be pursued by accompanying lectures and exercises with reports and oral presentations carried out individually and/or in groups during lessons. Students will be guided to develop skills to build critical evaluations, by applying the theoretical knowledge acquired, on information provided during the course regarding methods, data elaborations, and interpretations. This will allow students to acquire the ability to collect and analyze data, to make autonomous judgments and coherent reflections on topics addressed during lessons, with special regard to the observation and management of relevant populations -from a demographic perspective- and to the decision-making-processes of public and private interest.
Course prerequisites	Basic knowledge of Demography
Contents	The course is divided into two parts: The first part explores concepts and measures that refer to mortality, fertility, mobility, and demographic growth and focuses on the following topics: a) Population dynamics and development theories b) Theory of demographic transition.

	c) The demographic transitions of the twentieth century. d) Current demographic trends. Study cases: Area of the Mediterranean Basin; Sub-Saharan Africa, China, India. e) The United Nations projections on the evolution of the world population. f) International migration. The second part focuses on the demography that characterizes the Italian and European context, paying particular attention to the effects of the Population ageing, to the causes and consequences of low fertility and the transformation of family models.
Books and bibliography	**Per i frequentanti** A) ANGELI A & SALVINI S. (2018), Popolazione mondiale e sviluppo sostenibile. Il Mulino, Bologna (Cap.1, 2, 4, 5, 7). B) Un libro a scelta tra i due seguenti: - ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER GLI STUDI DI POPOLAZIONE (2021): Rapporto sulla Popolazione. L'Italia e le sfide della demografia. Il Mulino, Bologna (Cap. 1, 2, 3,4 e un capitolo a scelta tra 5, 6,7 e 8). - Mencarini L. & Vignoli D. (2018). *Genitori Cercasi. L'Italia nella trappola demografica.* Milano: Egea. C) Documentazione aggiuntiva verrà resa disponibile dal docente durante il corso Per gli aspetti metodologici: BLANGIARDO G.C. (2006). Elementi di Demografia. Il Mulino, Bologna: Capitoli 1, 2, 3. **Per i non frequentanti** A) ANGELI A. & SALVINI S. (2018), Popolazione mondiale e sviluppo sostenibile. Il Mulino, Bologna. B) Un libro a scelta tra i due seguenti: -ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER GLI STUDI DI POPOLAZIONE (2021): Rapporto sulla Popolazione. L'Italia e le sfide della demografia. Il Mulino - Mencarini L. & Vignoli D. (2018). *Genitori Cercasi. L'Italia nella trappola demografica.* Milano: Egea. Per gli aspetti metodologici: BLANGIARDO G.C. (2006). Elementi di Demografia. Il Mulino, Bologna: Capitoli 1, 2, 3.
	For attending students: The material distributed by the teacher is to be considered an integral part of the program. For non-attending students: The texts in points A and B must be studied entirely
Work schedule	

Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
200	54	10	136
ECTS			
8			
Teaching strategy	Lectures with PPT and exercises		
Expected learning outcomes			
Knowledge and understanding on:	As part of the expected learning outcomes, students will acquire knowledge and understanding about both the theory and practice of statistical and demographic methodologies. In particular, the course aims to train students to develop the skills necessary for the collection of quantitative and qualitative information, for data processing, for the selection and application of statistical and demographic methods, and for the representation and interpretation of collective phenomena in different contexts, including socio-demographic and economic ones. In addition, students will acquire skills regarding both the comparative analysis of variables appertaining to the same or different statistical populations, and the analysis of the characteristics of populations and demographic processes. The educational objectives of this course will be pursued through lectures and exercises carried out during lessons, as well as through seminars on topics of specific interest.		
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	Students will be able to apply the knowledge and understanding acquired during teaching activities through the simulation of concrete situations and case studies. This will allow students to develop skills regarding the measurement, observation and processing of statistical and demographic data, and the application of useful concepts and methods to design and carry statistical surveys capable of producing information on social phenomena and social behaviours. These objectives will be pursued by accompanying lectures and exercises with reports and oral presentations carried out individually and/or in groups during lessons.		
Soft skills	Considering that topics taught follow a subsequent structure, during lessons and exercises, students will be repeatedly urged to verify their knowledge, and called to fill cognitive gaps and expand the skills already acquired. This will allow students to improve their learning skills, through individual and/or group activities, and their method of study by using a theoretical-practical learning approach, that is, the process of learning by doing. The learning capacity will be evaluated through several forms of continuous evaluation during the course, also carrying out some data elaborations and research-related analysis.		
Assessment and feedback			

Methods of assessment	Written test and oral interview
Evaluation criteria	Problem-solving skills: i.e. applying what has been learnt to a real situation, identifying the areas of knowledge that allow it to be tackled most effectively. Attending students will apply statistical methodologies to the study of social phenomena and provide a critical interpretation of the results obtained through statistical survey.
	Analysing and synthesising information: i.e. acquiring, organising and reformulating data and knowledge from different sources. Exercises based on official statistics will be carried out, which will help to develop the ability to analyse and compare statistical data.
	Making independent judgments: i.e. interpreting information critically and making decisions accordingly. Students will have to indicate how to choose between alternative statistical methods for the collection, representation, processing and synthesis of statistical data.
	Efficient communication: i.e. conveying information and ideas in both oral and written form in a clear and formally correct manner, expressing them in terms appropriate to the interlocutors, specialists or non-specialists in the field. Students expound on statistical methods used in the collection, processing and interpretation of data concerning social phenomena and indicate measures of growth and structural characteristics of populations.
	Continuous learning: i.e. knowing how to recognise one's own shortcomings and how to identify effective strategies for acquiring new knowledge and skills. During the course of the exercises, students will be asked to point out the statistical tools (indices, ratios, graphs, tables) that enable them to critically analyse the data.
	Working in a team: i.e. coordinating with other people, even those with different cultures and professional specialisations, integrating skills. Attending students will be asked to form working groups during the exercises.
	Being enterprising: i.e. being able to develop innovative ideas, to plan and organise their implementation, to manage the necessary means and to be willing to take risks in order to do so. Students are expected to identify appropriate statistical techniques for data processing and synthesis.
	Ability to organise and plan: i.e. to realise ideas and projects taking into account time and other available resources. Attending students are expected to carry out exercises and case application activities within the time allocated for the course.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	Evaluation is by means of an oral final examination with a grade expressed in thirtieths (from 18/30 to 30/30). In order to qualify for a high mark in the examination, it is necessary to have developed a critical autonomy of judgement and an adequate capacity for arguments and exposition.
Additional information	