

Code: M-GGR/02

Credits: 9

Matter: Economic and Political Geography (Monographic Course)

Main language of instruction: Italian

Other language of instruction: English

Teaching Staff

Head instructor

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Introduction

1. Objective of the course:

The specific objective of the Monographic Course of Economic and Political Geography - major in «Population and Migrations» - is to train professionals with useful operational skills to be applied in working contexts such as the planning of population policies and the national crisis arising from both the management of borders and migration flows. To this end, the course consists of a first introductory part concerning the analytical tools of the Population Geography and Demography, with a reference to the geopolitical and geo-economic implications of the population dynamics. The course will then focus on the consequences deriving from the shift of the geo-demographic centre of gravity and on the implications linked to the structure of global geo-demographic contexts, with particular reference to the Euro-Mediterranean area. The main peculiarities of the migratory phenomenon and its multiple implications will then be analysed. Finally, the course will offer an overview of the geography of migrations in the world and will end with the geopolitical analysis of population movements in Europe, particularly analysing the case of Italy.

Objectives

2. Course Structure:

The Monographic Course of Economic and Political Geography (Population and Migrations) is structured in 9 subjects. The first subject presents the introductory essentials to population studies; the second deepens the geopolitical and geo-economic implications of the population; the third reports the shift of the geo-demographic centre of gravity; the fourth illustrates the Euro-Mediterranean geo-demographic context; the fifth explains the geo-demographic contexts in the rest of

the world; the sixth analyzes the migratory phenomenon; the seventh studies the implications of population movements; the eighth illustrates the geography of migrations in the world and the ninth deepens the geopolitics of migration in Europe and in Italy.

Competencies:

By the end of the course, the expected learning outcomes - in particular concerning the ability to analyse demographic and migratory phenomena in geographical terms - can be described as follows:

- Knowledge and understanding

The course will allow students to develop the ability to interpret the structure and evolutionary dynamics of the world population, as well as the actors, processes and implications of migratory phenomena, thus permitting to delineate the relationships between the dynamics and phenomena analysed and various geographical spaces of the planet.

- Applying knowledge and understanding

The ability to apply geographic knowledge and understanding of some contemporary issues will find a first moment of progress in the accomplishment of the practical exercises provided in the online forums, in the performance of e-tivities and in the fulfilment of the tests dispensed on the e-learning platform and will have an important phase of verification during the final exam.

- Making judgments

Students will acquire analytical skills and a critical spirit in order to investigate the evolutionary models of the global geo-demographic panorama and the migratory processes within the global system.

- Communication skills (communication skills)

By the end of the course, students will have to be able to transmit with clarity and methodological consistency the assessment of the different geographical configurations of the world population and migratory flows. Moreover, they should be able to understand the importance of this kind of knowledge for the society, in order to interact with both specialists and a wider audience.

- Learning skills (learning skills)

Students who will have successfully overcome the final exam should reach knowledge and own methodological and applicative skills that will allow them to grasp appropriate job positions related to the course topics.

Syllabus

3. Programme of the course:

Subject 1 - Introductory essentials to population studies

Week 1 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

The basics of Population Geography; The basics of Demography; Key concepts of geographical disciplines; Key concepts of demographic disciplines; Population dynamics: the demographic transition; Population structure: the age pyramid.

E-tivity 1 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 2 – The geopolitical and geo-economic implications of population

Week 2 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

The demographic dilemma; The role of the population in geopolitical models; The role of the population in geo-economic models; Political geo-demography: cyclical relations among population, geopolitics and territories; A possible critical factor: the youth bulge; A possible development factor: the demographic window of opportunity.

E-tivity 1 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 3 – The shift of the geo-demographic centre of gravity

Week 3 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

The evolution of the world population; The process of growth and the spatial implications of demography; Differences and discontinuities by geographical areas; The geo-demographic revolution: age, people and territories; The three "i" of aging; A world of contrasts: youthful countries and elderly countries.

E-tivity 2 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 4 - The Euro-Mediterranean geo-demographic context

Week 4 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment

The Euro-Mediterranean relations on a demographic basis; A dual but convergent development; The importance of socio-cultural factors; The youth bulge in the Middle East and North Africa; The Iranian and Turkish cases; The Italy-France comparison.

E-tivity 2 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 5 - The geo-demographic context in the rest of the world

Week 5 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

The demographic trends in the Americas; The demographic crisis of Russia; The demographic emergence of Asia; The two demographic giants: China and India; The challenges of the population for the developing world; Youth bulges in the rest of the world.

E-tivity 2 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 6 - The migratory phenomenon

Week 6 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

An old phenomenon; The different classifications of migrations; The different types of migrants; Theories that attempt to explain migratory flows; Theories of migrations not exclusively economic; The functions of international migration.

E-tivity 3 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 7 - The implications of population movements

Week 7 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

Migrations and demographics; Migrations and geographical space; Migrations and politics; Migrations and economic dynamics; Migrations and security; Migrations, rights and the environment.

E-tivity 3 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 8 - The geography of migrations in the world

Week 8 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

Migration flows in the United States; Migration flows in Australia and New Zealand; Asian migratory flows; The migratory flows of Sub-Saharan Africa; Migration flows in the Middle East and North Africa; Migration flows in Latin America and the Caribbean.

E-tivity 3 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Subject 9 – The geopolitics of migration in Europe and Italy

Week 9 - 6 videotaped theory lessons for a 20 hours commitment.

Migration flows and European continent; Immigration and European countries; Immigration and European Union; Italy: from a country of emigration to a destination for immigration; Policies for immigrants in Italy; Immigrants in Italy.

E-tivity 4 and self-assessment tests for an approximately 6 hours commitment.

Evaluation system and criteria

The assessment of learning takes place through a written or oral test, aimed at ascertaining the analytical skills of the acquired concepts. A series of activities (e-tivities) carried out in the virtual classes during the course are also taken in consideration. In this way the expected learning outcomes above outlined are evaluated.

The final examination can be done according to two methods provided by the University: written or oral (the latter only at the University headquarters in Rome).

The written test consists of the following: 20 multiple-choice tests and 2 essays (one of the two to be performed according to the preference of the student). The twenty multiple choice tests are assigned the value of 1 point for each correct answer. The essay, selected from the two proposals, is assigned a maximum score of 10 points based on the instructor's verification of the expected learning outcomes.

The oral exam consists of an interview in order to ascertain the student's level of preparation, his ability to argue and connect the various topics of the course and his ability to use the correct terminology of the discipline.

In order to evaluate both written and oral examination, the student's participation in online activities (especially e-tivities) and the overcoming of self-assessment tests are taken into consideration.

Bibliography and resources

4. Materials to consult:

The study materials prepared by the Head instructor and provided on the Unicusano e-learning platform consist of pre-recorded audio-video lessons, downloadable texts and summary slides, as well as of self-assessment tests and the documentation made available for the performance of e-tivities. Such teaching materials are fully suitable, if used in their entirety, for the optimal overcoming of the finale examination

5. Recommended bibliography:

Said that at the end of each downloadable text it is provided a selected bibliography, for those who want to deepen the issues discussed in the study materials provided on the e-learning platform (however sufficient to overcome the final exam), the following bibliography is recommended:

- Angeli A., Salvini A., Popolazione e sviluppo sostenibile, Il Mulino 2018.
- Betts A., Collier P., Refuge: Rethinking Refugee Policy in a Changing World, Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Castles S., De Hass H., Miller M.J., The Age of Migration: International Population Movements in the Modern World, 5th Edition, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013.
- Collier P., Exodus. How Migration is Changing our World, Oxford University Press, 2015.
- Darling D., Gietel-Basten S., Why Demography Matters, Wiley, 2017.

- Geddes A., Scholten P., The Politics of Migration & Immigration in Europe, 2nd Edition, Sage, 2016.
- Giordano A., Movimenti di popolazione, LUP, 2015.
- Goldstone A.J., Kaufman E.P., Toft M.D., Political Demography: How Population Changes Are Reshaping International Security and National Politics, Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Livi Bacci, Il pianeta stretto, Il Mulino, 2015.
- Newbold P., Population Geography: Tools and Issues, 3rd Edition, Rowman & Littlefield Pub., 2017.
- Pagano A. (a cura), Migrazioni e identità: analisi multidisciplinari, Edicusano, 2017.
- Pagnini M.P., Terranova G., Geopolitica delle rotte migratorie, Aracne, 2018.
- Rosina A., De Rosa A., Demografia, Egea, 2017.
- Tertrais B., Papin D., Atlante delle frontiere. Muri, conflitti, migrazioni, Add Editore, 2018.