DEM 255
Australia's Population: Past, Present and Future
D2 2012
Marketing and Management

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Nick Parr
nick.parr@mq.edu.au
Contact via nick.parr@mq.edu.au
E4A 626
Thursday 3:05pm – 3:55pm

Credit points
3

Prerequisites
12cp and DEM127

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit is suitable for students from a wide range of backgrounds with an interest in population issues and policy in Australia. Some of the topics covered include: the cultural diversity of Australia's population; trends in the demography of education and Australia's international student population; the ageing of the population; the histories of immigration and population growth in Australia; population and health; the use of demography in urban and regional planning; and population policy.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- Demonstrating skills in accessing and using demographic data and literature
- Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
- Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making
- Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic

https://unitguides.mq.edu.au/unit_offerings/7792/unit_guide/print
Demonstrating an ability to make a verbal presentation and engage in group discussion on relevant demographic topics

Demonstrating an ability to use an appropriate academic referencing style

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Week 5 and Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Weeks 8-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>University Examination Period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Assignments

Due: **Week 5 and Week 10**
Weighting: **45%**

One short written assignment on a specified topic (e.g., a summary and discussion of a journal article or book chapter) plus an essay drawn from a choice of topics.

Extension Requests

Extensions to timelines for submission of components of the assignment will be granted in cases where the student has a satisfactory record of attendance (defined as 75% of the lectures and tutorials at which attendance is recorded) and provides satisfactory evidence of illness or some other unavoidable disruption. Students requesting an extension are advised to contact the Convenor as soon as possible to provide notice of their circumstances and to provide a formal written request for an extension together with supporting documentation when practicable.

In the event of assignments being submitted late without an agreed extension penalties will apply at a rate of 10% per working day late or part thereof commencing from the scheduled due date and time for submission. Assignments will not normally be accepted if more than one week late unless an extension of this duration has been granted.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrating skills in accessing and using demographic data and literature
- Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
- Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making
- Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic
Demonstrating an ability to use an appropriate academic referencing style

Presentation

Due: **Weeks 8-11**  
Weighting: **15%**

Students are expected to prepare a brief individual presentation and to submit a short written summary based on one of a range of topics. Presentations will be made in a designated week during the tutorial time. A component of the assessment will be reserved for class participation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrating skills in accessing and using demographic data and literature
- Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
- Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making
- Demonstrating an ability to make a verbal presentation and engage in group discussion on relevant demographic topics
- Demonstrating an ability to use an appropriate academic referencing style

Final Examination

Due: **University Examination Period**  
Weighting: **40%**

Examination

A final examination is included as an assessment task for this unit to provide assurance that:

i) the product belongs to the student and

ii) the student has attained the knowledge and skills tested in the exam.

A two-hour final examination for this unit will be held during the University Examination period.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
- Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making
Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic

Delivery and Resources

Classes

- Number and length of classes, that is 3 hours face-to-face teaching per week consisting of for example; 1 x 2 hour lecture and 1 x 1 hour tutorial
- A statement that: The timetable for classes can be found on the University website at: http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/

Required and Recommended Texts and/or Materials

- There is no prescribed textbook for this unit. A list of recommended readings and the lecture notes/slides and other relevant materials can be accessed via iLearn@MQ http://ilearn.mq.edu.au/. Recommended journal articles are accessible via the University library database. Recommended books will be placed in the library Reserve Section.
- Please note that the lecture overheads provide only a skeletal coverage of topics covered in lectures that must be augmented by additional note-taking during the lectures or using the recommended readings.

Technology Used and Required

- Students may access unit materials online through the Macquarie University online learning facility iLearn at http://ilearn.mq.edu.au using your Student ID Number and your Online Learning @ MQ password. This page supports the lecture notes, unit outline, assignments, Echo360 recordings and any other information that is deemed relevant to the unit. Students who experience technical problems accessing this page should contact Ms. Yang in the Department of Marketing and Management or by email yang.yang@mq.edu.au.

Teaching and Learning Strategy

- The teaching strategy consists of the provision of information in the weekly lectures and weekly tutorials. Tutorial times will be used for to test and develop students’ understanding of the lecture material, to develop skills to help them research and write the major essay, for group discussions on topics relevant to the unit, and also for student presentations. The topics for student presentation will be given in advance, so students have sufficient time to research their topics and to prepare. It is expected that each student will have opportunity to make one spoken presentation.
- In addition all students are strongly encouraged to participate in group discussions in
tutorials. These should provide an excellent platform for students to practise and improve their communication skills and demonstrate their understanding of the material.

## Unit Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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| 1    | Introduction  
Some useful demography sites on the internet |
| 2    | Landmarks in the population history of Australia |
| 3    | The history of migration to Australia (includes videos) |
| 4    | The birthplaces and ancestries of Australia’s population |
| 5    | The languages and religions of Australia’s population |
| 6    | Population and regional planning in NSW |
| 7    | The dimensions, causes and economic implications of population ageing in Australia |
| 8    | The sex ratio of Australia’s population |
| 9    | Presentations by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (date to be confirmed) |
| 10   | 1. Trends in the education of Australia’s population.  
2. The demography of international students in Australia. |
| 11   | Population and health in Australia |
| 12   | Population-related policy in Australia |
| 13   | Conclusion and unit evaluation |

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- **Special Consideration Policy** [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html)
In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

**Academic Honesty**

The nature of scholarly endeavour, dependent as it is on the work of others, binds all members of the University community to abide by the principles of academic honesty. Its fundamental principle is that all staff and students act with integrity in the creation, development, application and use of ideas and information. This means that:

- all academic work claimed as original is the work of the author making the claim
- all academic collaborations are acknowledged
- academic work is not falsified in any way
- when the ideas of others are used, these ideas are acknowledged appropriately.

Further information on the academic honesty can be found in the Macquarie University Academic Honesty Policy at [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

**Grades**

Macquarie University uses the following grades in coursework units of study:

- HD - High Distinction
- D - Distinction
- CR - Credit
- P - Pass
- F - Fail

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the Macquarie University Grading Policy which is available at:


**Grading Appeals and Final Examination Script Viewing**

If, at the conclusion of the unit, you have performed below expectations, and are considering lodging an appeal of grade and/or viewing your final exam script please refer to the following website which provides information about these processes and the cut off dates in the first instance. Please read the instructions provided concerning what constitutes a valid grounds for appeal before appealing your grade.


**Special Consideration Policy**

The University is committed to equity and fairness in all aspects of its learning and teaching. In stating this commitment, the University recognises that there may be circumstances where a student is prevented by unavoidable disruption from performing in accordance with their ability. A
special consideration policy exists to support students who experience serious and unavoidable disruption such that they do not reach their usual demonstrated performance level. The policy is available at:

http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/special_consideration/policy.html

**Student Support**

Macquarie University provides a range of Academic Student Support Services. Details of these services can be accessed at: [http://students.mq.edu.au/support/](http://students.mq.edu.au/support/).

**UniWISE provides:**

- Online learning resources and academic skills workshops [http://www.mq.edu.au/learning_skills/](http://www.mq.edu.au/learning_skills/)
- Personal assistance with your learning & study related questions.
- The Learning Help Desk is located in the Library foyer (level 2).
- Online and on-campus orientation events run by Mentors@Macquarie.

**Student Services and Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Support Unit](http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**Student Enquiries**

Details of these services can be accessed at [http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/](http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/).

**IT Help**

If you wish to receive IT help, we would be glad to assist you at [http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/](http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/).

When using the university's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students and it outlines what can be done.

**Graduate Capabilities**

**Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Demonstrating skills in accessing and using demographic data and literature
• Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
• Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making
• Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic
• Demonstrating an ability to make a verbal presentation and engage in group discussion on relevant demographic topics

Assessment tasks

• Assignments
• Presentation
• Final Examination

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systematically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
• Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic

Assessment tasks

• Assignments
• Final Examination

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:
Learning outcomes

• Demonstrating skills in accessing and using demographic data and literature
• Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic
• Demonstrating an ability to use an appropriate academic referencing style

Assessment task

• Assignments

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrating an ability to write an essay on a relevant demographic topic
• Demonstrating an ability to make a verbal presentation and engage in group discussion on relevant demographic topics
• Demonstrating an ability to use an appropriate academic referencing style

Assessment tasks

• Assignments
• Presentation
• Final Examination

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
• Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making

Assessment task
• Presentation

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible
We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes
• Demonstrating an awareness of and critical appreciation of certain major population trends and issues for Australia
• Demonstrating an ability to appreciate the importance of demographic elements in social policy-making

Assessment tasks
• Assignments
• Presentation
• Final Examination

Changes since First Published

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26/07/2012</td>
<td>The Description was updated.</td>
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