**[Department of Anthropology](https://anthropology.unc.edu/)**

**ANTH 897-037. Environment, Population, and Wellbeing (4)**

Instructor: Paul Leslie, PhD

Being Offered Spring 2025

Concern over the relationship between population and environment abounds, but the most salient research and discussion has focused on one aspect of the relationship --human impact on the environment. In this seminar, we will be concerned with the other side of the relationship as well -- how environmental characteristics (certainly the physical and biotic environments, but also the social/economic/political environments as they interact with the above) affect population characteristics and dynamics. These two "directional arrows" (population - environment, and environment - population) are of course ultimately inseparable. We will be concerned not only with how environmental characteristics affect human population dynamics (reproduction, family formation, movement, survival), but also with how responses to those environmental characteristics -- through mitigation or coping -- in turn affect the environment (biodiversity, land use and degradation, changes in infectious diseases, and more). That is, we will whenever possible take a systems view. A special emphasis will be on the biological and behavioral consequences of environmental fluctuations and unpredictability.  
*(Approved December 2005)*

**ANTH 898.** **Human Biology and Population Health (3)**

Instructor: Amanda Thompson, PhD

Last offered: Spring 2020

This course explores the biological and behavioral characteristics of human populations from a biocultural and evolutionary perspective. We will examine the environmental and social factors that shape human biology and health from the cellular to the societal levels, from conception to old age, and across a range of comparative settings. Topics will include: epigenetics, nutrition and metabolism, growth and development, fertility and reproduction, immunology, cardiovascular health, and aging. Throughout the class, we will draw on classic studies and modern approaches from human biology, public health and medical anthropology to explore the multi-faceted determinants of human biology and health.   
*(Approved January 2016)*

**Department of Economics**

**ECON 775. Applied Econometric Analysis (3)**

Instructor: TBD

Last offered: Spring 2022

Econometrics is the application of statistical methods and economic theory to the problem of identifying, estimating, and testing economic models. This course covers concepts and methods used in empirical economic research. Topics include the classical single‐equation regression model, multiple regression models, discrete and categorical dependent variables, instrumental variables and longitudinal data. Students will learn the theory and assumptions behind each of the estimation methods so that they can determine the appropriate method for any particular analysis. The target audience for the course is primarily graduate students from outside economics such as students from the Business School and policy focused departments in Arts and Sciences and the School of Public Health who want a comprehensive introduction to econometric methods.

**ECON 850. Health Economics (3)**

Instructor: Andres Hincapie

Last offered: Fall 2024 (will only count as credit if taught by CPC fellow, Donna Gilleskie, PhD)

Measurement and modeling of the demand for medical care, the demand for and supply of health insurance, and the incorporation of health, medical care, and health insurance in determining both short and long run labor supply.

Pre-requisites: ECON 710 and 771; permission of the instructor for students lacking the prerequisites. *(Approved December 2011)*

**ECON 880. Labor Economics I (3)**

Instructor: Klara Peter, PhD

Last Offered: Fall 2020

Analysis of short- and long-run aspects of supply and demand of labor, including empirical analysis of labor force behavior of males, females, blacks, and whites. Microeconomic effects of marriage, fertility, mobility on labor supply, and macroeconomic effects of unemployment on inflation.

Pre-requisites: ECON 710; permission of the instructor for students lacking the prerequisite.

*(Approved December 2003)*

**ECON 881. Labor Economics II (3)**

Instructor: Jane Cooley Fruehwirth, PhD

Last offered Fall 2023

This course covers a range of topics in labor economics, with a unifying theme of understanding how economics informs policies for alleviating inequality. Topics include social interactions, education, early childhood intervention, and discrimination.

*(Approved December 2003)*

**[Department of Epidemiology](https://sph.unc.edu/epid/epidemiology-landing/)**

**EPID 757. Problem Solving Seminar in Advanced Infectious Disease Epidemiology. (3)**

Instructor: DPprete\Lessler\Levintow

Being offered Spring 2025

In this seminar, we will explore how a combination of the biological understanding of disease processes and advanced methods in infectious disease analytics are essential to understanding critical problems in infectious disease, including the interpretation of surveillance data, the design of control measures and projecting the course of epidemics. We will take a 'problem based' approach to learning about these issues, with a focus on a rotating set of disease systems. Restricted to Epidemiology PhD students, though others may be admitted with permission of the instructors.

Pre-requisites: EPID 751, 755, and 799A.  
*(Approved December 2007)*

[**EPID 826**](https://www.cpc.unc.edu/training/population-science-training-program/predoc/appcourse/epid-826-fall-2015)**. Introduction to Social Epidemiology (2)**

Instructor: Joanna “Asia” Maselko

Being offered Spring 2025\*

This course provides an overview of key concepts, methods and findings in research on social determinants of population health. Classes will consist of a didactic presentation followed by in-class group work modules and large group summary discussion.

Pre-/co-requisites: EPID 600.

*(Approved December 2006)*

\*Conflicts with Friday seminar

**EPID 827. Social Epidemiology: Design and Interpretation (3)**

Instructor: TBD

Last offered: Spring 2020 (will only count as CPC credit if taught by CPC fellow)

Approaches to social epidemiologic research, with a focus on study design and interpretation of analytic techniques common in social epidemiology. Topics include causal inference for socially patterned exposures, racial equity research, and place effects on health.

Pre-requisites: EPID 710 (or equivalent) and EPID 826; Co-requisites: EPID 715/6.  
*(Approved December 2011)*

**Department of Geography**

**GEOG 541: GIS in Public Health (3)**

Instructor: Michael Emch, PhD

Last Offered Fall 2024

GEOG 541 is an advanced course covering the theory and application of geographic information systems (GIS) in public health. The course includes an overview of the principles of GIS in health studies and practical experience in its use. The practical component involves the use of desktop GIS software packages including ArcGIS and other spatial analysis software including GeoDa and SaTScan.

**GEOG 803. Research Seminar in Nature-Society Studies and Human-Environment Interactions (3)**

Instructor: Clark Gray, PhD

Last offered Fall 2023

The research topic/s in this course will fall within the area of climate change and human health, but will be interpreted broadly to encompass various aspects of environmental change and human well-being. We will take advantage of new population-representative data sources on human health and well-being (e.g., IPUMS, DHS, LSMS) as well as new high-resolution environmental data sources on climate and other aspects of environmental change.

*(Approved December 2018)*

[**Department of Health Behavior and Health Education**](https://sph.unc.edu/hb/health-behavior-home/)

**HBEH 753. Qualitative Research Methods (3)**

Being offered Spring 2025

Instructors: Suzanne Maman/Mayo-Wilson (2 sections offered)

By the end of the course students will develop skills in how to formulate appropriate qualitative research questions, collect qualitative data using interviews and focus group discussions, and analyze qualitative data. Students will be exposed to different styles of presenting qualitative research results and will consider different ways in which qualitative data is used in practice. The course has objectives related to both qualitative data collection as well as qualitative data analysis and writing.

Approved 10/2024

**HBEH 754. Advanced Qualitative Research Methods (3)**

Last Offered Fall 2023

Instructor: Clare Barrington, PhD

This course provides advanced graduate students in public health and related fields the opportunity to explore different analytic approaches and techniques and develop analysis and writing skills. Students will apply methods they learn to analyze, interpret and write-up the results of their own qualitative research.

[**Department of Health Policy and Management**](https://sph.unc.edu/hpm/health-policy-and-management-home/)

**HPM 758: Underserved Populations and Health Reform (3)**

Instructor(s): Zachary/Ramseur and McDonald/Zachary (2 sections offered, remote only)

Being offered Spring 2025

This course gives students a greater understanding of programs available to serve underserved populations, and how the ACA (or any replacement) will impact on care provided to underserved populations. The course is designed to help students think critically about the impact of policy changes on different populations.

[**Department of Maternal and Child Health**](https://sph.unc.edu/mch/maternal-and-child-health/)

**MHCH 716. International Family Planning and Reproductive Health (3)**

Instructor(s): Sian Curtis, PhD

Being offered Spring 2025

This course will provide an overview of the critical issues in international family planning and reproductive health, including major theoretical frameworks, patterns and trends over time, and family planning and reproductive health policy development. We will trace the evolution of the field from its demographic roots through the current expansion to a broader reproductive health perspective. The main theoretical models to explain the determinants of fertility and reproductive mortality and morbidity will be presented. Demographic data will be used to describe the trends and patterns of family planning and reproductive health within the global context. The development of population, family planning and reproductive health policy through the last three decades, along with a more recent focus on the field within the context of health and human rights, will be discussed.   
*(Approved December 2006)*

**MHCH 722. Global Maternal and Child Health (3)**

Instructor: Kavita Singh Ongechi, PhD

Last Offered Fall 2024

The focus of this population-based course includes emphases on measurement, trends, theory and both the biological and social determinants of maternal and child health. In the course, the main causes of maternal and under-five morbidity and mortality in developing countries are presented as well as the interventions, policies and research which address these causes. Students learn how to use conceptual models and theory to understand how biological and social factors interact to influence health outcomes. The main social factors studied are poverty, education, and gender equality.  
*(Approved December 2012)*

**MHCH 724. Abortion Care and Policy (2)**

Instructor(s): Amy Bryant, MD and Sian Curtis, PhD

Last offered Fall 2024  
This course will provide an overview of the critical issues in abortion care and policy, both in the US and globally. We will cover the major theoretical frameworks defining abortion care and policy, and the epidemiology of abortion globally and nationally.

**MHCH 862. Program Impact Evaluation (3)**

Instructor: Hannah Silverstein

Being offered Spring 2025

The focus of this course is developing the skills for examining data in order to assess whether a program had an impact on demographic or health outcomes or behaviors of a given population group. Even though a good part of the course will be spent reviewing evaluation designs and the application of statistical techniques for evaluating programs, this is not a course in statistics, this is a course on program evaluation, therefore, the interest is in understanding what are the main issues involved in correctly answering the question: Does a program have an impact? and, if the answer is yes, by how much? We will review how to design and carry out a program evaluation and developing the criteria for selecting the appropriate analytical procedure for evaluating a program given the characteristics of the outcome under examination, the program, and the data available to the evaluator. Of course, students should know how to apply the chosen analytical procedure. Emphasis is given to the appropriate interpretation of results in the context of evaluating a program. This course examines the challenges for implementing program impact evaluations in developing countries. Most applications are drawn from impact evaluations of population and MCH programs in Africa, Asia and Latin America.  
*(Approved December 2006)*

**[Department of Nutrition](https://sph.unc.edu/nutr/unc-nutrition/)**

**NUTR 745. International Nutrition (3)**

Instructor(s): Linda Adair, PhD

Last Offered Fall 2024

Provides a broad overview of international nutrition research issues, programs, and policies. Topics will include micronutrient deficiencies, child feeding and growth, determinants of under- and over-nutrition, chronic disease and nutrition, food fortification and supplementation, and nutrition intervention programs and policy.  
*(Approved December 2003)*

**[Department of Public Policy](https://publicpolicy.unc.edu/)**

**PLCY 895. Topics in Poverty and Human Resources (3)**

Instructor: Sudhanshu (Ashu) Handa, PhD

Last Offered: Spring 2012 (TBD for next offering)

This course covers topics in poverty, welfare and human resources from an economic perspective, and will be of interest to students who want to specialize in social and behavioral approaches to the study of population and demographic phenomena.  
*(Approved November 2004)*

**PLCY 710: The Discipline and Practice of Public Policy (3)**

**Instructor(s): Douglas Lauen**

Being offered Spring 2025

This course introduces students to the theoretical foundations and the analytical techniques to examine policy problems and design policy solutions. The course provides opportunities to put these foundations and techniques into practice by examining cases and by completing a set of memo writing assignments. It also conveys an appreciation for the ethical issues, values, and political context of government policy. Requires instructor permission to enroll.

**[Department of Sociology](https://sociology.unc.edu/)**

**SOCI 818: Race and Ethnicity (3)**

Instructor: Taylor Hargrove

Last Offered Fall 2024

This course reviews the historical and contemporary sociological literature on race and ethnicity. Students will gain an advanced state-of-the-art understanding of how racial and ethnic groups emerge and evolve, how these constructs shape societies, how they influence intergroup relations, and their role in identity formation.

**SOCI 820. Seminar in Marriage and the Family (3)**

Instructor: Lisa D. Pearce, PhD

Last Offered Fall 2024

This graduate seminar will introduce students to a wide range of studies in the sociology of family, improving their ability to critically analyze work in this field and inspiring students' own family-related research. The course materials draw on a variety of theoretical, historical, cultural and methodological perspectives to examine topics such as union formation and dissolution, family relationships, childbearing, parenthood, and intergenerational exchanges.   
*(Approved December 2003)*

**SOCI 825. The Life Course and Aging: Theories and Methods in Social and Epidemiologic Research (Cross listed as EPID 799C)**

Instructor: Y. Claire Yang, PhD

Last offered Spring 2025

This seminar surveys the major methodological tools and empirical studies of aging and cohort analysis that are of enduring importance to the understanding of social change, epidemiologic trends, and related population and life course processes and dynamics. It aims to provide useful guidelines on how to conduct such analysis. It first introduces the theoretical background and principles of the aging and cohort analysis paradigm.  
*(Approved December 2012)*

**SOCI 826. Using Add Health to Study Health and Developmental Trajectories Across the Life Course (3)**

Instructor: Kathleen Mullan Harris, PhD

Last offered Fall 2024

This course is designed to integrate the theory and research literature on health and developmental trajectories across the life course from early adolescence into adulthood based on the design and data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health). Within the broad life course framework focusing particularly on the transition to adulthood, this course will facilitate student research using Add Health (and other population-representative longitudinal datasets upon approval). Add Health was designed to study the causes of health and health behavior in adolescence and the transition to adulthood with special emphasis on the effects of the social contexts of young people’s lives. The study was designed by population researchers at the Carolina Population Center at UNC, and has been funded through the Demographic and Behavioral Science Branch of NICHD as three program projects from 1994-2013. The design evolved from theoretical notions of how the social and physical environment influence individual health and health behavior among adolescents and their outcomes in young adulthood. In addition to comprehensive demographic, social, behavioral, and biological data on individuals, independent measurement of contextual data on the family, siblings, the school, friends, the peer network, romantic and sexual partners, the neighborhood, the community, and state laws and policies have been collected for rich multilevel analyses of main and interactive environmental influences on health and health behavior.  
*(Approved December 2012)*

**SOCI 830. Demography: Theory, Substance, Techniques, Part I (3)**

Instructor(s): Barbara Entwisle, PhD; Elizabeth Frankenberg, PhD

Last Offered Fall 2024

This is the first part of a two-course sequence that is designed as a basic graduate-level introduction to demography. This part of the course will cover basic concepts and tools, sources of demographic data, and the study of mortality and fertility. The second semester will cover stable population theory, migration, population distribution, population policy, and estimates and projections. Class-time will be devoted to both lecture and discussion, depending on the nature of the topic.

**SOCI 832. Migration and Population Distribution (3)**

Instructor: Barbara Entwisle, PhD

Last offered Fall 2023

Treats migration trends, patterns, and differentials and their effects on population distribution in continental and regional areas. Attention is given to theoretical and methodological problems in the study of population movement.   
*(Approved December 2005)*

**SOCI 833. Socioeconomic Factors in Fertility (3)**

Instructor: Yong Cai, PhD

Last offered Spring 2023

Study of fertility differentials by social and economic factors, changes over time, the manner in which these factors affect fertility, and the implications thereof for fertility-control programs.

**SOCI 835. Mortality: Social Demographic Perspectives (3)**

Instructor: Robert Hummer, PhD

TBD for next offering

This advanced seminar covers mortality date and measurement, the inequality of death, trends in morbidity and mortality, and explanations of mortality decline. Social demographic perspectives receive primary emphasis.

Pre-requisites: SOCI 830; by permission of the instructor for students lacking the prerequisite.

**SOCI 851. Sociology of Gender (3)**  
 Instructor: Katherine Weisshaar, PhD

Last offered: Spring 2022

The course covers major classical and current approaches to social stratification in sociology, with some special emphasis on evolutionary approaches, issues related to the evolution of social inequality with industrial development and globalization, and comparative social mobility.  
*(Approved January 2018)*

**SOCI 863. Sociology of Health, Illness, and Healing (3)**

Instructor: Liana Richardson, PhD

Last Offered: Fall 2020

This seminar provides a broad introduction to the sociology of health and illness. Classic and contemporary perspectives, as well as empirical evidence, are covered. Questions such as, "how (and why) are health and illness socially constructed and socially distributed?" and "what can be done to address these phenomena?" are examined.  
*(Approved January 2015)*

**SOCI 855: Poverty in America (3)**

Instructor: Regina Baker, PhD

Last Offered: Spring 2024

This seminar provides a graduate-level overview of and training in the sociology of poverty, with a focus on the U.S. We will examine poverty across different dimensions, theoretical perspectives, contexts, and substantive domains.

**SOCI 950-009. Interdisciplinary Population Science Proseminar (1)**

Instructor: Lisa Pearce, PhD

Last offered Spring 2024

This one-credit hour course provides trainees with a context and forum to advance their understanding of the scientific challenges, ethical issues, and professional activities associated with interdisciplinary population science research.

**SOCI 950. Population Health (3)**

Instructor: Lauren Gaydosh, PhD

Offered Spring 2025

Population health is the multi- and interdisciplinary study of the patterns, distributions,

and causes of health in geospatially and/or socially defined populations. In this course

we will emphasize demographic and biosocial approaches to the most pressing

contemporary population health problems. The goals of the course are to: 1) introduce

students to the study of population health; 2) provide students with an overview of

current problems in population health; and 3) teach students how to design and conduct

their own population health research. By the end of the semester, students should

complete an independent empirical investigation that is situated in the literature and

draws on biosocial frameworks for understanding how social and biological processes

combine to influence population health outcomes.