

Economics of Population

Module Code: ECO00015I **Credits:** 10 **Year:** 2 **Terms:** 1
Contact Hours: 8 Lectures, 3 Seminars (11 contact hours)
Module Organiser: Dr W A Jackson

Overview:

The module deals with theoretical, ethical and policy issues in population economics. Among the topics covered are Malthus and Malthusianism, the economics of population growth, population optimality, economic theories of fertility, economic influences on mortality, the economics of migration and the economic consequences of population ageing.

Aims:

- To provide a critical introduction to population economics that gives a broad overview of the field
- To highlight and analyse key debates within population economics

Objectives:

On completing the module a student will be able to:

- Understand how population interacts with the economy
- Compare and evaluate the main arguments and theories within population economics
- Apply economic analysis to population questions
- Reach an independent critical judgement about the economic aspects of population

Assessment:

The module will be assessed by two essays chosen from a list of six titles, to be submitted by 4pm on Monday of Week 5 of the Summer Term of the second year.

Main References:

Relevant as preliminary reading are:

- Simon, J.L. (1998). *The Ultimate Resource 2*. Princeton University Press.
- Cain, L.P. and Paterson, D.G (2012). *The Children of Eve: Population and Well-being in History*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Livi-Bacci, M. (2012). *A Concise History of World Population*. 5th ed. Blackwell.
- Newbold, K.B. (2007). *Six Billion Plus*. 2nd ed. Rowman and Littlefield.