



School of Economics and Management

## EEH019F, Historical demography, 7.5 credits

*Historisk demografi, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Third Cycle / Doktorandnivå

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### Details of approval

Approved by the Board of the Department of Economic History, Lund University School of Economics and Management 2021-03-09.

### General Information

This is an optional course at the PhD programme.

The language of instruction is English.

### Learning outcomes

On a general level the student shall acquire advanced knowledge of historical demographic processes and their interactions with economic and societal factors.

Specifically, students will be able to:

#### Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a deeper knowledge of core aspects of historical demography relating to patterns of mortality, fertility, marriage, migration and family in the past

#### Competence and skills

- demonstrate a deeper knowledge of the sources and methods of historical demography

#### Judgment and approach

- individually discuss, in writing and in smaller groups, different theories and explanations of demographic processes in a historical perspective
- interpret empirical findings and relate these to various theoretical models
- perform a comprehensive analysis of a relevant issue in historical demography and present the results of this analysis in oral or written form

## Course content

The course gives an introduction to historical demographic sources and methods as well as the fundamental demographic developments in a historical perspective. An important part of the course also deals with historical demographic data and methods with the aim to conduct empirical analysis in historical demography. This part involves both data management and statistical analysis and aims to give students the tools to conduct an independent analysis of core historical-demographic issues. The course focuses on the preindustrial population system, the demographic transition in the Western countries and economic-demographic interactions at the micro level. An important aspect of this development concerns mortality patterns in the past, related both to the overall mortality development and to differentials in mortality across groups and across space. Another core theme deals with fertility in preindustrial society and why fertility declined all over the Western world from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Depending on the interest of individual students, different additional topics will be covered, for example relating to marriage patterns, household dynamics, and socioeconomic stratification and mobility.

## Course design

The course consists of a number of group meetings where the literature is discussed. During the first part of the course, a number of different theories and empirical cases presented in the literature will be discussed in depth during course meetings. In the second part, the students will write a paper in which they analyse one, or more, historical-demographic problem.

## Assessment

The grading is based on individual performance in the form of written summaries, papers, presentations, and other required activities. The examination is ongoing. The assessment can be based on both teaching and literature.

The University views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practice in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

## Grading scale

Marking scale: Fail or Pass.

## Prerequisites

PhD students applying for this course should have at least 60 credit points in either economic history, business administration, economic and social geography, economics, history or the equivalent knowledge.

## Further information

This course cannot be included in the same degree as EKHT21.