Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Population and Urban Geography (C003624)

Course

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course offerngs and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 1)

Dutch

seminar: coached exercises 60.0 h

lecture 22.5 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020

Bachelor of Science in Geography and Geomatics (main subject Geography) 5 A

Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology 5 A

Bachelor of Science in Geography and Geomatics 5 A

Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Architectural Design and Construction Techniques) 5 A

Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Urban Design and Architecture) 5 A

Linking Course Master of Science in Geography 5 A

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Meeus, Bruno

WE12 lecturer-in-charge

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0
Study time 150 h
Contact hrs 82.5 h

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Human geography, population geography, urban geography

Position of the course

The students are introduced in two important domains of human geography: population geography and urban geography. The course provides an overview of the main demographic and urbanization trends at various scales, the way in which geographers approach these trends (spatial patterns and man/environment interactions), and the most important concepts and theoretical frameworks used in this context.

Contents

The course consists of two parts, i.e. (i) population geography and (ii) urban geography. In the part on population geography, attention is paid to the analysis of demographic variables and migration. The focus is on key datasets and indicators, an overview of principal spatial patterns on different scales, and an overview of the most important typologies and theories. Attention is also paid to the interrelations between migration/demographics on the one hand, and economic developments and use of the physical environment on the other hand.

The part on urban geography provides an overview of the most important theories on inter-city dynamics (i.e. city systems) and intra-city dynamics (the city as economic and social system). The different theoretical models are elaborated through an overview of urbanization processes in different settings, whereby special attention is paid to the Belgian case. Based on these perspectives, a number of topical issues are discussed, a.o.: living in cities; segregation and concentration of population groups; gentrification; transport and logistics within and between urban areas (congestion); interaction city/region; supply and usage of leisure infrastructure; and the design and development of cities and urban areas.

A number of topics addressed in this course will be elaborated in practice through a field excursion.

(Approved)
Initial competences
Basic principles of social and economic geography

Final competences
1. Handle population data and statistics.
2. Interpret the scientific debate on population and migration problems.
3. Interpret the scientific debate on cities and urban systems.
4. Analyze and interpret the complex debate regarding urban policy (economic and societal developments in cities).

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment.

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract.

Teaching methods
Lecture, seminar: coached exercises

Learning materials and price
Syllabus of lecturer at cost price (+/- 10 euro), slides used during lectures are made available via Ufora.
Cost excursion: 7 Euro / day

References
Recommended literature (for the part on population geography):

Recommended literature (for the part on urban geography):

Course content-related study coaching
Study coaching by teaching assistants (Ufora and scheduled appointment).

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods
Oral examination with written preparation, questions aimed at testing a student’s overall insight.
Students must pass both the periodical and the non-periodical evaluation in order to be able to pass for the course at large: if a student receives an overall satisfactory grade according to the standard calculation of the final score but did not pass for both evaluation moments (i.e. <10), then she/he receives a final score of 9.
Students who did not pass the course in the first exam period and did not pass for the exercise associated with the fieldtrip, will be asked to hand in another assignment with roughly the same workload in the second exam period.

Calculation of the examination mark
Permanent (25%) and periodical (75%) evaluation, but students must pass both parts of the evaluation to pass for the course at large: if a student receives an overall
satisfactory grade according to this standard calculation of the final score but did not pass for both evaluation moments (i.e. <10), then she/he receives a final score of 9.