

## Programme Specification

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### BSc (SocSci) Population and Geography

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the joint degree programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	Social Sciences Academic Unit, Faculty of Social and Human Sciences
Accreditation details	N/A
Final award	BSc (Social Sciences)
Name of award	Population and Geography
UCAS code	L701
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	N/A
Programme Leader	Dr Jakub Bijak
Date specification was written	Written on 12 January 2010 by Dr James Raymer; updated by Dr Dave Holmes, 27 August 2010, 7 July 2011; Dr Jakub Bijak 25 July 2011, 27 February 2012)

### Educational Aims of the Programme

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The programme offers you the opportunity to study population sciences and human geography, two subjects which are concerned with the ways in which human populations change and the causes and consequences of that change. It equips you with knowledge and understanding of both disciplines, as well as their core methods and applications that will allow you to pursue a future career as a population analyst, regional planner or social researcher and to undertake graduate study in demography, geography and related fields.

The programme aims:

- To equip you with a knowledge and understanding of the core areas of population sciences and human geography;
  - To equip you with appropriate conceptual and analytic tools of population and geography, and to provide opportunities for the development and application of these tools to a range of problems;
  - To equip you with knowledge and understanding of the relationships between population change and economic, social and geographic processes;
  - To enable you to develop critical and evaluative thinking in the context of population and geography;
  - To enable you to develop, through the study of population and geography, a range of skills and abilities that will contribute to your effectiveness in employment after completing the programme;
  - To support you in becoming an independent learner, and in planning your studies and subsequent career.
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## Knowledge and Understanding

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This programme will give you the ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the core areas of Population Sciences and Human Geography. Also, you will understand the relationships between population change and economic, social and spatial processes. Specifically, having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following:

- A1. The central theoretical and practical concepts of demography and human geography.
- A2. Tools for demographic and spatial analyses, including the underlying assumptions and data.
- A3. The application of core demographic and human geographic theories and reasoning to population issues in both developed and developing countries.
- A4. The social, biological and economic determinants of population change, and the ways in which changes to the population size and structure have social, economic and environmental impacts.
- A5. In-depth knowledge of a particular demographic or geographic research topic as an outcome of the dissertation project.

### *Teaching and Learning Methods*

Lectures (A1-A4), seminars (A1-A5), practical classes (A1 and A2), group projects (A1 and A5) and independent research (A5).

### *Assessment Methods*

A range of formative and summative written assessment exercises are designed to enable you to demonstrate and apply your knowledge and understanding (A1-A5).

## Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

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Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate the following key intellectual skills:

- B1. Ability to evaluate and assess the effects of policy and other important effects on demographic trends over space, such as fertility, mortality and migration.
- B2. Familiarity with principal sources of demographic and geographic data, and the ability to organise and present such data in an informative manner.
- B3. Ability to select and apply appropriate demographic, geographic, statistical, and qualitative techniques to analyse demographic issues by selecting appropriate methods of design and analysis.
- B4. Ability to analyse large and complex quantitative data sets.
- B5. Ability to interpret and explain the results of analyses and communicate them to a non-technical audience.
- B6. Ability to evaluate critically and to assess the validity and importance of findings reported in the demography and human geography research literature.

### *Teaching and Learning Methods*

Lectures (B2, B3 and B5), seminars (B1, B5 and B6), practical classes (B2, B3, B4 and B5), group projects (B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5) and independent research (B1-B6).

### *Assessment Methods*

A range of formative and summative written assessment exercises are designed to enable you to demonstrate the range of skills (B1-B6).

## Transferable and Generic Skills

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Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- C1. Identify and use library and bibliographic resources relevant to your work.
- C2. Collaborate with others and contribute effectively to the achievement of common goals.
- C3. Manage an individual research project.

### *Teaching and Learning Methods*

Information skills workshops (C1), practical classes (C1), group projects (C1, C2) and independent research (C1, C3).

### *Assessment Methods*

A range of formative and summative written assessment exercises provide opportunities for you to demonstrate and apply these skills (C1-C3).

## **Graduate Attributes**

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Graduate Attributes are the personal qualities, skills and understanding you can develop during your studies. They include but extend beyond your knowledge of an academic discipline and its technical proficiencies. The Graduate Attributes are important because they equip you for the challenge of contributing to your chosen profession and may enable you to take a leading role in shaping the society in which you live. The University of Southampton identifies a set of undergraduate attributes that aspire to support graduate employment:

- D1. **Global Citizenship:** Global Citizens recognise the value of meaningful contribution to an interconnected global society and aspire to realise an individual's human rights with tolerance and respect
- D2. **Ethical Leadership:** Ethical Leaders understand the value of leading and contributing responsibly to the benefit of their chosen professions, as well as local, national and international communities
- D3. **Research and Inquiry:** Research and Inquiry underpin the formulation of well-informed new ideas and a creative approach to problem resolution and entrepreneurial behaviour
- D4. **Academic:** Academic attributes are the tools that sustain an independent capacity critically to understand a discipline and apply knowledge
- D5. **Communication Skills:** Communication Skills encompass an individual's ability to demonstrate knowledge, and to express ideas with confidence and clarity to a variety of audiences
- D6. **Reflective Learner:** The Reflective Learner is capable of the independent reflection necessary to continuously learn and meet the challenge of pursuing excellence

We offer you the opportunity to develop these attributes through your successful engagement with the learning and teaching of your programme and your active participation in University life. The skills, knowledge and personal qualities that underpin the Graduate Attributes framework are supported by your discipline. As such, each attribute is enriched, made distinct and expressed through the variety of learning experiences you will experience. Your development of Graduate Attributes presumes basic competencies on entry to the University. A list of graduate attributes mapped to the module's learning outcomes can be viewed in Appendix

## **Programme Structure**

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The programme is studied over three years full-time. Study is undertaken at three levels, each corresponding to one year of full-time study. There are 30 study weeks in each year, divided into two semesters. The programme is divided into modules and in each year you take a number of modules totalling 60 ECTS (120 CATS). These modules comprise compulsory modules that cover the core of the programme together with a number of option modules. At each level, some of these option modules may be from disciplines other than Population and Geography. Exit awards after successful completion of Years 1 and 2 are made if a student chooses not to progress further on the programme. A Cert. HE will be awarded after successful completion of 60 ECTS (120 CATS) and a Dip. HE will be awarded after successful completion of 120 ECTS (240 CATS).

## Compulsory Modules

Code	Module Title	ECTS (CATS)
Year 1		
DEMO1001	Introduction to Demographic Methods	7.5 (15)
DEMO1003	Population and Society	7.5 (15)
GEOG1003	Economy, Culture and Space	7.5 (15)
GEOG1004	Globalisation and Uneven Development	7.5 (15)
GEOG1007	Geographic Skills	7.5 (15)
STAT1003	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
<b>Potential award: Cert HE</b>		<b>60 (120)</b>
Year 2		
DEMO2005	Population Processes in the Developed World	7.5 (15)
DEMO2010	Population in Developing Societies	7.5 (15)
GEOG2008	Critical Human Geographies	7.5 (15)
GEOG2010	Introductory Geographic Information Systems	7.5 (15)
GEOG2024	Cultures of Globalisation	7.5 (15)
STAT2009	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
<b>Potential award: Dip HE</b>		<b>60 (120)</b>
Year 3		
DEMO3011 or GEOG3018	Research Project	15 (30)
DEMO3xxx	Population module 1**	7.5 (15)
DEMO3xxx	Population module 2**	7.5 (15)
GEOG3xxx	Human geography module 1***	7.5 (15)
GEOG3xxx	Human geography module 2***	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
	Option*	7.5 (15)
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>60 (120)</b>
<b>Potential Award: BSc (Soc Sci)</b>		<b>180 (360)</b>

\* These optional modules may be taken from a list of recommended modules provided by the Social Sciences Academic Unit. Other modules not on the Academic Unit's list may be taken after consultation with your Academic Tutor, and subject to availability and timetabling constraints.

\*\* The list of Population options includes: Migration (DEMO3003), Population and Health (DEMO3007), Population and the Environment (DEMO3008), Reproductive Health (DEMO3014) and Applied Population Analysis (DEMO3015)

\*\*\* The list of Human Geography options includes: Advanced Geographic Information Systems (GEOG3006), Geographies of Health & Health Care (GEOG3010), Census and Neighbourhood Analysis (GEOG3025) and Global Urbanism (GEOG3050).

## Support for student learning

There is support for student learning within Population and Geography, in the Academic Units, from the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences, and central University Facilities.

In the Social Sciences Academic Unit, you will have access to:

- An academic tutor who can help you select your optional modules and advise you on other academic issues.
- An Education Manager with specific responsibility for student support.
- Programme and module materials (available either in hardcopy or electronic format).
- Access to the intranet, e-learning resources on Blackboard and student email.
- A dissertation supervisor (when appropriate).
- Information regarding access to a range of support services through the Academic Unit's Baseline for Student Support document.

In the Geography Academic Unit, you will have access to:

- Link Tutor familiar with the joint degree programme.
- A dissertation supervisor (when appropriate).

The University provides

- Access to a wide range of Library resources.
- Academic skills support via the University's study skills website: <http://www.academic-skills.soton.ac.uk/>.
- Access to University computer workstations and software.
- Computing support from iSolutions in the form of organised, subject-specific sessions and on-line tutorials and help desks.
- A dedicated Student Services Centre, which provides a 'one-stop shop' for enquires on accommodation, admissions, exams, graduation, student fees and student funds.
- A dedicated Education Support Service to provide assessment and support (Wessex Needs Assessment Centre, Dyslexia Services, Assistive Technology Service, Enabling Services and the University Counselling Service): <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/>.
- Career Destinations: <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/careers/>.
- An Advice and Information Centre within the Students' Union (SUAIC), which provides advise on financial matters, housing queries, academic difficulties, immigration questions, legal advice, etc: <http://suaic.susu.org/>.
- Assistance for students whose first language is not English through the Centre for Language Study: <http://www.soton.ac.uk/cls/english/index.html>.
- On campus NHS GP Practice.
- Chaplaincy (non-denominational).
- Day Nursery.

Details about many of these services can be found on the University website: [www.soton.ac.uk](http://www.soton.ac.uk).

Although students are admitted on academic criteria alone, all reasonable adjustments are made to accommodate applicants and students with disabilities. Such students are asked to discuss issues with their Academic Tutor and raise matters with the University's Educational Support Services.

In line with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy, individuals are treated on their relevant merits and abilities and are given equal opportunities within the module, Academic Unit, Faculty and University. The aim of the policy is to ensure that no prospective or current student should receive any less favourable treatment on any grounds which are not relevant to academic ability and attainment. Every effort is made to ensure that disabled students are aware of and assisted in making use of the support provided by the University; to ensure access to lectures, classes, learning materials; and to ensure that where necessary appropriate variations to normal examining arrangements are made.

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

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You will have the opportunity to comment on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- An anonymous student evaluation questionnaire for each module on the programme, to which the lecturer is required to respond.
- Annual UG Student Experience Questionnaire.
- UG National Student Survey.
- Input into 5-yearly module and programme reviews.
- Acting as a student representative on the Population and Geography Staff-Student Liaison Group, Academic Unit SSLG, BSc Population and Geography Programme Board, Academic Unit Education Committee or Programme Board.
- Informal discussion with academic tutors, Population and Geography Programme Co-ordinator, and the Deputy Head of Academic Unit (Education).

The ways in which the quality of your programme is monitored, both internally and external to the University, are through:

- Programme Examination Board.
- External Examiners, who produce an annual report.
- Periodic programme and module reviews.
- Peer observation/development of teaching.
- Staff personal performance and development review.
- Annual Learning and Teaching Enhancement Review and Action Plan to the Faculty.
- Academic Unit, Faculty and University committees with responsibility for monitoring quality and standards.
- Institutional audit by Quality Assurance Agency.

## Criteria for admission

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Candidates offering three A level subjects: AAB or points equivalent. One of the A level subjects must be in Geography. General Studies is not accepted.

GCSE Mathematics and GCSE English at grades C or above or equivalent qualifications are also necessary.

Alternative qualifications of a similar standard to A Levels are also suitable. Each application will be considered individually. Applications are welcomed from candidates offering qualifications other than A levels, such as European Baccaulaureate, GNVQ, International Baccaulaureate, Scottish Highers, Irish Leaving Certificate. You will be required to attain an equivalent standard to an A-level candidate.

We positively welcome applications from mature candidates and there is considerable flexibility in the entrance requirements for such applicants.

Applicants whose first language is not English are required to fulfil the University's regulations concerning competence in the English language which are set out at [http://www.soton.ac.uk/international/entry\\_reqs/english\\_language.shtml](http://www.soton.ac.uk/international/entry_reqs/english_language.shtml). Applicants whose test results fall short of the prescribed level are required to successfully resit the test or complete the five (or ten) week pre-session course in English for Academic Purposes at the University's Centre for Language Study, subject to eligibility criteria.

## Progression

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Progression is in line with the University's General Regulations on Progression, Determination and Classification of Results, located at <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs.html>.