

## Programme Specification

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### Population and Geography (2018-19)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the 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	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	3
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Bachelor of Science in the Social Sciences with Honours (BSc SocSci (Hons))
Name of award	Population and Geography
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	L701
Programme code	4681
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Geography 2007
Programme Lead	Agnese Vitali (av2f12)

### Programme Overview

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#### Brief outline of the programme

BSc Population and Geography provides students with excellent analytical and generic skills and in-depth subject knowledge, which are essential to a range of employers, both in the public and private sectors.

For students interested in geography, the programme provides a unique specialisation in population subjects, and a solid analytical basis that distinguishes them from other human geographers.

For students interested in population issues, it provides a broader theoretical and substantive background that will widen their career opportunities. The programme is interdisciplinary, which is important for understanding a broader range of social, demographic and geographic issues in a variety of contexts.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

## Learning and teaching

This is a three-year, full-time programme.

Teaching is based on a system of two 12-week semesters, spread out over three terms each year. You will usually study four modules in each semester, a total of eight modules per year.

Each module is designed to increase your knowledge and skills of one aspect of population science and human geography.

In the first year, you will take six compulsory modules from Demography and Social Statistics and from Geography, as well as two option modules. The choice of options includes introductory modules in economics, sociology or other social sciences, history, philosophy or modern languages. A similar pattern, with one option module, and a dedicated field trip, is followed in the second year.

By the third year, you will have a considerable choice of options available in Demography and Social Statistics and in Geography, where you can follow up the specialist interests developed in your first two years of study. In addition, a key element of the programme is the requirement to undertake a piece of independent study. This takes the form of a research project on a demographic or geographic or cross-cutting topic of your choice under the supervision of a member of staff. Recent examples include research on the fertility intentions of young people in the UK, maternal mortality and abortion in sub-Saharan Africa, the demographic impact of Eastern European migration on the UK, and population projections of the future 'young adult' workforce in the UK. A particular feature of our learning environment is research-led teaching. Our staff members undertake research in areas of important demographic and geographic significance and bring to their teaching modules experience of working in the wider world.

Modules are taught using a variety of methods, including lectures, seminars, group work or project work, computer workshops and a dedicated field trip.

Lectures offer an overview of a topic, an explanation of difficult concepts or a discussion of key issues. They presume a certain amount of additional reading, so it is often a good idea to read references before attending the corresponding lecture.

Seminars provide an interactive forum for closer examination of particular aspects of a module and are an important part of the learning process. You will do background readings before the seminar and lead discussions or debates, and so develop your written and presentational skills during seminars.

Tutorials and problem classes involve small groups of students working on exercises, with close instruction from teaching staff.

Reflecting the strong applied nature of the degree programme, many modules include regular computer workshops, where you will gain valuable experience in the analysis of demographic and geographic datasets.

The increasing use of web-based, video-based and PowerPoint-based teaching methods demonstrates our commitment to the effective use of available equipment and resources.

## Assessment

Modules are assessed through a mixture of coursework and end-of-semester examinations. Coursework can take the form of a written essay, small project, computer exercise, or a poster or oral presentation. Your final degree classification is based upon marks from the second- and third-year modules.

## Special Features of the programme

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The special features of this programme include a dedicated field trip abroad, during which you will develop abilities to undertake research in population and geography through being introduced to a number of research techniques and data sources used in the subject area. This will prepare you for the undergraduate dissertation and future employment. The field trip are typically organised by the University.

**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's [programme validation process](#) which is described in the University's [Quality handbook](#).

## 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.

## Programme Learning Outcomes

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### Knowledge and Understanding

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On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- 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. 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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On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

- 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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On successful completion of 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).

## Programme Structure

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The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

### Part I

#### Typical programme content

Your first year will consist of foundation modules in both population and human geography, along with modules which introduce generic study skills as well as analytical methods for studying social and geographic data.

Your second-year modules will further expand your population and human geography knowledge, and you will take modules which will develop more advanced analytical and methodological skills. In particular, during the second year you will take part in a dedicated field trip (see 'Special Features of the Programme' above)

In your third year, you will have the flexibility to develop a specialisation of your own through optional modules in both population and geography, and through your research project. The research project, leading to the BSc dissertation, will give you the opportunity to carry out a substantial piece of individual research on an area of your choice either within demography or human geography or a cross-cutting topic. You will also continue developing more advanced analytical and methodological skills.

In addition to compulsory and core modules, you will take other optional modules available each year, either to engage with some topic areas in more depth, or to broaden the curriculum.

#### Programme details

The structure of the programme and the modules currently offered are set out in the tables below. Of the modules shown against each year of your programme, some are core, some are compulsory and others are optional. Against each year, you are directed to which modules are core, which are compulsory and which are optional. In Year 1, two

modules are core: STAT1003 Introduction to Quantitative Methods and GEOG1007 Skills for Population and Geography. In Year 2 DEMO2015 Applied Population Research Methods is core, and in Year 3 the dissertation module DEMO3011 is core. The optional modules listed in the table below constitute an indicative list. There will always be choice but the options might vary from year to year. The full list of optional modules will be available to you via the Student Record Self-Service system once you enrol at the University.

The programme comprises three parts, each corresponding to one year of full-time study. You will normally have to take 4 modules (30 ECTS/60 CATS) each semester, i.e. 8 modules (60 ECTS/120 CATS) in each year of the programme. Each ECTS credit point can be considered as the equivalent of approximately twenty hours of study. All the modules offered in this programme (except the dissertation module) are 7.5 ECTS/15 CATS modules. This means that each module comprises around 150 hours of study, divided into contact time (e.g. lectures, seminars, workshops) and non-contact time when you will be engaged in directed study (preparation for classes) and independent study when you will be involved in producing assignments and preparing and taking examinations.

The dissertation/research project is a 15 ECTS/30 CATS module comprising 300 hours of study divided into contact time (workshops and supervisory tutorials) and a significantly larger portion of hours allocated to non-contact, independent study time. This is because the research project is designed to foster independent inquiry and is the culmination of three levels of study, enabling you to apply theories and methods explored at all years and to examine one area of the discipline in detail.

#### Part I Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
GEOG1004	A Global World	7.5	Compulsory
DEMO1001	Introduction to Demographic Methods	7.5	Compulsory
DEMO1003	Population and Society	7.5	Compulsory
GEOG1003	Society, Culture and Space	7.5	Compulsory

#### Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
STAT1003	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	7.5	Core
GEOG1007	Skills for Population and Geography	7.5	Core

#### Part I Optional

You may be most interested in choosing a Geography option module. These are the modules beginning with "GEOG" and can be accessed by clicking "Show Electives" next to the "GEOG----" option.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ANTH1001	Exploring Other Cultures	7.5	Optional

SOCI1014	Foundations in Social and Anthropological Theory	7.5	Optional
ECON1009	Introduction to Economics For Non-Economists	7.5	Optional
SPAN9073	Spanish Language Stage 2A	7.5	Optional
GEOG1011	Dangerous World	7.5	Optional
GEOG1002	Dynamic Landscapes	7.5	Optional
PAIR1001	Introduction to International Relations	7.5	Optional

## Part II

### Part II Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
GEOG2010	Introductory Geographic Information Systems	7.5	Compulsory
DEMO2014	Population Analysis	7.5	Compulsory
DEMO2010	Population in Developing Societies	7.5	Compulsory
DEMO2005	Population Processes in the Developed World	7.5	Compulsory
STAT2009	Research Methods in The Social Sciences	7.5	Compulsory
GEOG2008	Researching Human Geography	7.5	Compulsory

### Part II Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
DEMO2015	Applied Population Research Methods	7.5	Core

## Part II Optional

You may be most interested in choosing a Geography or Demography option module. These are the modules beginning with "GEOG" or "DEMO" in this list and additional choices can be accessed by clicking "Show Electives" next to the "GEOG----" or "DEMO----" option.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
UOSM2001	Business Skills for Employability	7.5	Optional
ANTH2001	Cosmology, Ritual and Belief	7.5	Optional
CRIM2006	Criminology: Policy & Practice	7.5	Optional
SPAN9073	Spanish Language Stage 2A	7.5	Optional
SPAN9075	Spanish Language Stage 3A	7.5	Optional
UOSM2017	Intercultural Communication in a global world	7.5	Optional
DEMO2008	Population and Reproductive Health	7.5	Optional
DEMO2013	Population History	7.5	Optional

## Part III

### Part III Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
STAT3004	Multivariate Data Analysis	7.5	Compulsory

### Part III Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
DEMO3011	Project/Dissertation	15	Core

### Part III Optional

You must select 1 module from each of the following categories:

- A Semester 1 Option Geography Module.



- A Semester 1 Option Module from a relevant subject area.
- A Semester 2 Option Demography Module.
- A Semester 2 Option Geography Module.
- A Semester 2 Option Module from a relevant subject area.

You may be most interested in choosing a Geography or Demography option module. These are the modules beginning with "GEOG" or "DEMO" in this list and additional choices can be accessed by clicking "Show Electives" next to the "GEOG----" or "DEMO----" option

Please note: You may only take a maximum of 2 modules from 2nd year modules within your 3rd year of study. Please do NOT select modules you have taken and passed previously. If you do, you will be contacted by your Student Office and asked to amend your choices.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI3073	Cyber Lives? New Technologies and Social Change	7.5	Optional
GEOG3041	Geographies of Nature	7.5	Optional
DEMO2008	Population and Reproductive Health	7.5	Optional
SPAN9073	Spanish Language Stage 2A	7.5	Optional
SPAN9075	Spanish Language Stage 3A	7.5	Optional
UOSM2033	Living and Working on the Web	7.5	Optional
GEOG3063	The Creative Economy	7.5	Optional
LAWS3098	Violence and Sex in Law, Literature and Culture	7.5	Optional

## Progression Requirements

The programme will follow the University's regulations for [Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes](#) or the University's regulations for [Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters Programmes](#) as set out in the General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar: <http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html>

## Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources

- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- Module co-ordinators support. Module co-ordinators will be available at designated times during the week to discuss issues related to the particular modules you are studying at the time. This will be in addition to class contact time.
- Academic/personal tutor. As soon as you register on this programme, you will be allocated a personal tutor. S/he is a member of the academic team and will be available to discuss general academic issues related to the programme as well as offer advice and support on any personal issues which may affect your studies.
- Module handbooks/outlines. These will be available at the start of each module (often in online format). The Handbook includes the aims and learning outcomes of the module, the methods of assessment, relevant background material to the module and a session-by-session breakdown of the module together with appropriate reading lists.
- Within the Faculty, administrative support is provided by your Student Office which deals with student records and related issues and with queries related to your specific degree programme.

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

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

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

- Completing student surveys for each module of the programme.
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff-Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation.
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty

Scrutiny Group.

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty.
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report.
- A national Research Excellence Framework (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience).
- Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency.

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the [Quality Handbook](#).

## Career Opportunities

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Demographers and human geographers are needed in the local and national government departments, market research and life insurance companies, international organisations and many other agencies and businesses requiring a sound social analytical basis for decision-making.

Employability is embedded into modules from the first year onwards and right from the first lecture. We explain the degree skills which are taught throughout the modules and offer a number of optional employability modules. We keep our students informed about interesting career opportunities, including internships. Population and Geography is part of the Year in Employment scheme which is run at University level - previous students have been successful in securing competitive internships or placements with e.g. the Office for National Statistics, Department for Communities and Local Government, Food Standards Agency.

## External Examiner(s) for the programme

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Name: Professor Paul Clarke - University of Essex

Name: Dr Paul Norman - University of Leeds

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the 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. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.



## Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

### Additional Costs

Type	Details
Software Licenses	Software licenses are available on the University's public workstations. You may choose to purchase additional personal copies for use on your own computers. The University has site licences for some statistical software which will allow you to download a copy for free via the website <a href="https://www.software.soton.ac.uk">https://www.software.soton.ac.uk</a> .
Hardware	Computer workstations are available on the University campus. You may wish to purchase your own personal laptop to undertake work at home.
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc. Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	<p>Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source.</p> <p>Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.</p>
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved model is Casio FX-570 This may be purchased from any source and no longer needs to carry the University logo.
Fieldwork: logistical costs	<p>There is a compulsory overseas field course that is held in the second year of your programme (DEMO2015), for which the department covers the majority of the cost including travel and accommodation.</p> <p>Students are asked to contribute the costs of entry visas (where relevant), malaria tablets (where relevant), as well as any associated immunisation and vaccination costs. For the trip to Ghana in 2016-17, the cost of the visa was approximately £65 and the average cost of vaccinations was approximately £100. These costs will vary depending on the precise location of the trip and the individual needs of the student. In addition, students are expected to bear the cost of some meals during non-working time..</p>
Field course clothing	You will need to wear suitable clothing when attending, e.g. waterproofs, walking boots, sunhats, and sun cream. You can purchase these from any source.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In the majority of cases, coursework such as essays and reports and your dissertation are submitted on line. In addition you will be asked to provide a printed copy. Information about generic University printing, including printing costs, can be found here: <a href="https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/">https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/</a>

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at [www.calendar.soton.ac.uk](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk)