

WORLD POPULATION AND FOOD SUPPLY

Geography 346U

Spring 2008

Professor Martha A. Works
Department of Geography
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Office Hours: MWF 12:45-2:00 and by appointment

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Class meeting time: 11:30-12:35

Textbooks: Gary Peters and Robert Larkin. 2005. *Population Geography: Problems, Concepts, and Prospects*. Kendall Hunt Publishing.

L.T. Evans. 1998. *Feeding the Ten Billion, Plants and Population Growth*. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.

Population Data Sheet. 2007. Population Reference Bureau: Washington, D. C.
Available on web page: <http://www.prb.org>

FYI: Arthur Haupt and Thomas Kane. 2004. *Population Handbook*. Population Reference Bureau: Washington, D. C Available as PDF on the web page <http://www.prb.org/> (about 80 pages)

This class is an introduction to the global spatial patterns of population growth and food production. Population growth, agricultural responses to meet the needs of this growing population, and the consequences of the ensuing land use/land cover change are vital to an understanding of global issues. Course material will cover the range of adaptations human communities have made to population growth, how humans have transformed landscapes in an effort to meet their basic need for food, and the role of population growth and agricultural development as it relates to global environmental change.

Lecture, Exam and Assignment Schedule:

Date	Topic	Reading (readings roughly correspond to topics covered during the section)	Assignment Due
March 31	Introduction to class	Intro & Chap 1/Population Geography	
April 2	Theories of population growth/food supply	Chap 4/Population Geography	
April 4	History of population growth		
April 7	History of population growth		
April 9	Mechanics of population growth	Chap 5/Population Geography	
April 11	Factors affecting pop growth/projections	Chap 6/Population Geography	
April 14	Spatial patterns of population growth	Chap 3/Population Geography	Stage 1 report due
Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment Due

April 16	Consequences of rapid population growth	Chap 9/Population Geography	
April 18	Controlling population growth/examples: Mexico/	Chap 8/ Population Geography, skim pp 195-211	
April 21	Western Europe/Sub-Saharan Africa, others	Chap 7/Population Geography	
April 23	Population planning and future population growth		
April 25	In-class exercise – population dynamics		
April 28	Evolution of agriculture/population growth	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 1	Stage 2 report due
April 30	History of agricultural production	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 2	
May 2	EXAM		
May 5	Distribution of agricultural resources/ag types	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 3	
May 7	Global patterns of food production	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 4	
May 9	Regional variation in food supply	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 5	
May 12	Changes in agricultural productivity	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 6	
May 14	Technology, innovation, expansion	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 7	Stage 3 report due
May 16	Green revolution and genetic engineering	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 8	
May 19	Nutrition, hunger and poverty – exercise	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 9	
May 21	What the world eats/ food aid and trade	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 10	
May 23	Environmental impacts of food production	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 11	
May 28	Future Trends: Food supply and population	<i>Feeding the Ten Billion</i> Chapter 12	
May 30	In class exercise: staple foods, income, and wellbeing		
June 2	Globalization of food; Changes in food preferences	Chap 9/ Population Geography	
June 4	Industrialization of food production	Chap 10 / Population Geography	
June 6	Integrating population and food Regional studies: France and Brazil		Project due
June 12	Thursday FINAL 12:30-2:20 (Comprehensive)		

If you have a legitimate scheduling conflict and need to arrange an alternate time for any of the exams please let me know well ahead of time and arrange to take the exam prior to the scheduled time.

Requests for Academic Accommodation: If you are a student with a documented disability and are registered with the Disability Resource Center, please contact me as soon as possible to arrange needed supports.

