

DEMOGRAPHY OF AGING AND THE LIFE COURSE

Health Studies 352

Winter Quarter 2009 – Monday 3:00-5:50 PM

Room: The President's Conference Room, NORC

Faculty

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Overview

This is a course in population aging and its social, economic and political ramifications. It will examine basic models of demographic and health transitions, trends in aging and health status, characteristics of medical care and long-term care, and the implications of these for the development of public policy. Emphasis will be placed on life course approaches to the study of aging. Specific topics include health, functional status, and well-being; socioeconomic status and inequality; family structure and living arrangements; formal and informal long-term care; early life predictors of health and longevity; generational equity; neighborhood social context. We will begin with micro-level considerations such as health and functional status. We then shift the unit of analysis to family formation and social networks. Finally, we close with neighborhood effects. We will use the City of Chicago as case study. We will examine the extent to which age, and aging neighborhoods, shape political and social forces in our community. To extend this theme, we will explore in depth the 1995 Chicago heat wave; we will pay particular attention to the roles that social isolation and neighborhood social context play in the lives of older adults.

Text/Readings

Required:

Binstock, R.H. and George, L.K., (eds), *Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences*, (6th edition) San Diego: Academic Press, Inc., 2005.

Klinenberg, E., *Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2002.

Readings will be posted on the Chalk website.

Suggested resources:

Shyrock, E.S., Siegel, J.S., and associates, *The Methods and Materials of Demography*, San Diego: Academic Press, Inc., 1976.

Preston, S.H., Heuveline, P., Guillot, M., Malden, M.L., *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*: Blackwell Publishers, 2001.

Hochschild, A. R., *The Unexpected Community: Portrait of an Old Age Subculture*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1973.

Course Requirements

For the course to be successful, all readings must be completed prior to class. Each student is expected to lead the discussion for one session, using the required and/or suggested readings to create a framework (suggested readings will be determined by course participants). To lead the discussion, the student should prepare a brief overview of the session and its readings and create a list of at least four discussion questions for the group. These should be posted to the Chalk Discussion Board prior to class. Students are encouraged to bring in supplemental materials to round out the discussion. Students are also encouraged to respond to Discussion Board postings.

Students will write a paper on a topic of their interest related to the demography of aging. The paper may be a review of the literature or an empirical investigation. It may be an extension of a work-in-progress, but must be an original contribution to that greater project. A three to five-page proposal for the paper is due Feb 16. The proposal should include a statement of the problem, the theoretical or conceptual framework, and the methodological approach. Students will share the proposal with two classmates. These “reviewers” will prepare a one-page critique of the proposal, with specific questions and suggestions for the paper. The critiques are due Feb 23. Students will present the paper topic and any findings during the last two course sessions of the quarter. The final paper is due Mar 20.

Evaluation

Class participation	30%
Paper proposal	10%
Critiques of student proposals	10%
Paper presentation	10%
Final Paper	40%

COURSE OUTLINE

01 JAN 12

COURSE OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTIONS

DISCUSSION OF GENERAL THEMES IN POPULATION AGING

SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES OF AGING

Giele, J.Z., Elder, G.H., *Life course research: Development of a field*, In *Methods of Life Course Research*. Janet A. Giele and Glen H. Elder, Jr., eds. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc. Pp. 98-127, 1998.

Riley, M.W., *On the significance of age in sociology*, *American Sociological Review*. 52:1-14. 1987.

Bengtson, V.L., Rice, C.J., and Johnson, M.I., *Are theories of aging Important? Models and explanations in gerontology at the turn of the century.* In Vern I. Bengtson and K. Warner Schaie (eds.) *Handbook of Theories of Aging*, New York: Springer Publishing Company, Pp. 3-20, 1999.

O'Rand, A.M., Krecher, M.L., *Concepts of the life cycle: Their history, meanings, and uses in the social sciences.* *Annual Review of Sociology*, 16: 241-62. 1990

Prologue and Introduction in *Heat Wave*

02 JAN 19

DEMOGRAPHIC APPROACHES/ASSESSMENT

Alwin, Hofer, and McCammon, Chap 2 in *Handbook*

Land and Yang, Chap 3 in *Handbook*

Yang, Y. *Age/period/cohort distinctions*, in *Encyclopedia of Health and Aging*, K.S. Markides (ed), Sage Publications, 2006.

Yang, Yang. 2007. *Is Old Age Depressing? Growth Trajectories and Cohort Variations in Late Life Depression.* *Journal of Health and Social Behavior* 48:16-32.

Preston, S.H., Heuveline, P., Guillot, M., *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes.* Chapters 1 and 3, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2001.

03 JAN 26

MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY/CHRONIC CARE/DISABILITY

George, Chap 18 in *Handbook*

Freedman VA, Martin LG, Schoeni RF, et al. *Declines in late-life disability: The role of early- and mid-life factors*, *Social Science and Medicine*, 66: 1588-1602.

Fries, J.F., *Aging, natural death, and the compression of morbidity*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, 303: 130-135, 1980.

Kaplan, G.A., *Epidemiological observations on the compression of morbidity*, *Journal of Aging and Health*, 3:155-171, 1991.

Vaupel, J.W. *The biodemography of aging.* In Linda J. Waite (ed). *Aging, Health, and Public Policy: Demographic and Economic Perspectives*, Pp. 19-47, 2005.

Blackwell, D. L., Hayward, M. D., & Crimmins, E. M., *Does childhood health affect chronic morbidity in later life?* *Soc Sci Med*, 52(8), 1269-1284, 2001.

Hayward, M.D., Heron, M., *Racial inequality in active life among adult Americans*, Demography, 36(1): 77-91, 1999.

Chap 1 in *Heat Wave*

04 FEB 2

HEALTH CARE AND THE AGING POPULATION

Moon, Chap 21 in *Handbook*

Cornwell, B, Laumann, E.O., and Schumm, L.P. *The social connectedness of older adults: A National Profile*, American Sociological Review, 73:185-203, 2008.

Cutler, D.M., Rosen, A.B., and Vijan, S. *The value of medical spending in the United States, 1960-2000*, the New England Journal of Medicine, 355:920-7, 2006.

Cutler, D.M., and Meara, E., *The medical costs of the young and old: A forty year perspective,* In *Frontiers in the Economics of Aging*, David A. Wise, ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, Pp. 215-246, 1998.

Guralnik, J.M., Alexih, L., Branch, L.G., and Wiener, J.M., *Medical and long-term care costs when older persons become more dependent*, American Journal of Public Health, 92(8): 1244-1245, 2002.

Fogel, R.W. *Changes in the process of aging during the twentieth century: Findings and procedures of the Early Indicators project.* In Linda J. Waite (ed). *Aging, Health, and Public Policy: Demographic and Economic Perspectives*, Pp. 19-47, 2005.

Chap 2 in *Heat Wave*

05 FEB 9

LONG-TERM CARE/FAMILY STRUCTURE AND CAREGIVING

Himes, C.L., *Future caregivers: projected family structures of older persons*, Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, 47: S17-26, 1992.

Charles, K. K., & Sevak, P. (2005). *Can family caregiving substitute for nursing home care?* Journal of Health Economics, 24(6), 1174-1190.

Dilworth-Anderson, P., Williams, P.I., and Gibson, B.E., *Issues of race, ethnicity, and culture in caregiving research: a 20- year review (1980-2000)*, Gerontologist, 42(2), 237-272, 2002.

Rossi, A., *Social responsibility to family and community*, In *How Healthy Are We? A National Study of Well-Being at Midlife*, Brim, Ryff, & Kessler (eds), Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press. Pp 550-585, 2004.

Stone, Chap 22 in *Handbook*

Grabowski, D. C. 2004. *The admission of blacks to high-deficiency nursing homes*. *Med Care*, 42(5), 456-464.

Mellor, J., *Long-term care and nursing home coverage: Are adult children substitutes for insurance policies?* *Journal of Health Economics* 20(4):527-547, 2001.

Akamigbo, A. B., & Wolinsky, F. D. (2007). *New evidence of racial differences in access and their effects on the use of nursing homes among older adults*. *Med Care*, 45(7), 672-679.

Chap 3 in *Heat Wave*

06 FEB 16

SOCIAL NETWORKS AND SOCIAL SUPPORT/INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONS

Moren-Cross and Lin, Chap 7 in *Handbook*

Silverstein, Chap 10 in *Handbook*

Krause, Chap 11 in *Handbook*

Holden and Hatcher, Chap 13, in *Handbook*

House, J.S., Landis, K.R., and Umberson, D., *Social relationships and Health*, *Science*, 241 (July 29): 540-545, 1998.

McPherson, M., Smith-Lovin, L., Brashears, M.E., *Social isolation in America: Changes in core discussion networks over two decades*. *American Sociological Review*, 71:353-375, 2006.

Putnam, R.D. *Bowling Alone*. (Chapter 20, Health and happiness).

Couch, K.A., Daly, M.C., and Wolf, D.A., *Time? Money? Both? The allocation of resources to older parents*, *Demography*, 36(2): 219-232, 1999.

McGarry K. and Schoeni, R.F., *Transfer behavior within the family: results from the Asset and Health Dynamics Study*, *Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 52 Spec No:82-92, 1997.

Pampel, *Population aging, class context, and age inequality in public spending*, *American Journal of Sociology*, 100(1):153-195, 1994.

Chap 4 in *Heat Wave*

07 FEB 23

RACE, ETHNICITY, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS AND INEQUALITY

House, J.S. et al. *The social stratification of aging and health*, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 35: 213-234, 1994.

Burton, L., *Black grandmothers: Issues of timing and continuity of roles*, Grandparenthood, (Bengtson and Robertson, eds.) Beverly Hills: Sage, 1994.

Williams, D.R. *The health of U.S. racial and ethnic populations*. Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, 60B: 53-62, 2005.

Marmot, M.G., Fuhrer, R. *Socioeconomic position and health across midlife*, In How Healthy Are We? A National Study of Well-Being at Midlife, Brim, Ryff, & Kessler (eds), Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press. Pp 64-89, 2004.

Robert, S. A., & Ruel, E. (2006). Racial segregation and health disparities between Black and White older adults. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci*, 61(4), S203-211.

Palloni A, Arias E. *Paradox lost: Explaining the Hispanic adult mortality advantage*. Demography, 41(3):385-415. 2004.

Markides, K.S., Eschbach, K. *Aging, migration, and mortality: Current status of research on the Hispanic Paradox*, Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences, 60:68-75. 2005.

Small, M., *Culture, cohorts, and social organization theory: Understanding local participation in a Latino housing project*, American Journal of Sociology, 108: 1-54, 2002.

08 MAR 2

NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL CONTEXT: SOCIAL STRUCTURE, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DISORDER

Longino and Bradley, Chap 5 in *Handbook*

Wolf, D.A. and Longino, C.F., *Our "increasingly mobile society"? The curious persistence of a false belief*, The Gerontologist, 45(2):5-11, 2005.

Chap 5 in *Heatwave*

Glass, T.A. and Balfour, J.L., *Neighborhoods, aging, and functional limitations*. In I. Kawachi and L. F. Berkman (eds.). Neighborhoods and Health. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Pp. 303-334, 2003.

Krause, N., *Neighborhood deterioration, religious coping, and changes in health during late life*, The Gerontologist, 38(6), 653-664, 1998.

Ross, C.E., and Mirowsky, J., *Neighborhood disadvantage, disorder, and health*, Journal of Health and Social Behavior, 42(3), 258-276, 2001.

Cagney K.A., Browning C.R., Wen M., *Racial disparities in self-rated health at older ages: What difference does the neighborhood make?* Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences. 2005;60B:S181-S190.

Conclusion and Epilogue in *Heat Wave*

09 MAR 9

NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL CONTEXT: SOCIAL NETWORKS, COLLECTIVE EFFICACY AND THE CASE OF THE CHICAGO HEAT WAVE

Guest Lecture:

Christopher Browning
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Ohio State University

Browning C.R., Wallace, D., Feinberg, S., and Cagney K.A., *Neighborhood social processes, physical conditions, and disaster-related mortality: The case of the 1995 Chicago heat wave*. American Sociological Review, 71:661-678, 2006.

Duneier, M. *Ethnography, the ecological fallacy, and the 1995 Chicago heat wave*. American Sociological Review, 71:679-688, 2006.

Klinenberg, E. *Blaming the victims: Hearsay, Labeling, and the hazards of quick-hit disaster ethnography*. American Sociological Review, 71:689-698, 2006.

Sampson, R.J., *Neighborhood-level context and health: Lessons from sociology*, In I. Kawachi and L. F. Berkman (eds.). *Neighborhoods and Health*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 132-146, 2003.

10 MAR 16

LIFE COURSE APPROACHES/ LIFE COURSE METHODS AND MEASUREMENT

O'Rand, Chap 9 in *Handbook*

Hayward, M.D., & Gorman, B.K., *The long arm of childhood: The influence of early-life social conditions on men's mortality*, Demography, 41(1), 87-107, 2004.

Cagney K.A., Agree E.M., *Racial differences in formal long-term care: Does the timing of parenthood play a role?* Journal of Gerontology: Social Sciences: 60B:S137-S145, 2005.

Scott, J., Alwin, D., *Retrospective versus prospective measurement of life histories in longitudinal research*, In *Methods of Life Course Research*. Janet A. Giele and Glen H. Elder, Jr., eds. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc. Pp. 98-127, 1998.

Laub, J.H., and Sampson, R.J., *Integrating quantitative and qualitative data*, In *Methods of Life Course Research*. Janet A. Giele and Glen H. Elder, Jr., eds. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications, Inc. Pp. 213-230, 1998.

Laub, J.H., and Sampson, R.J., Chapters 1 and 2, *Shared Beginnings, Divergent Lives: Delinquent Boys at Age 70*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2003.

Park, D., *Cognitive aging, processing resources, and self-report*, *Cognition, Aging, and Self-Reports*, Chapter 3, Pp. 45-70, 1999.

11 MAR 16 (DISCUSS MEETING DATE/SCHEDULE)

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS