

## Econ 432

**POPULATION ECONOMICS**

MW 1:30-2:45

*Professor Andrew Mason***Issues to be addressed:**

- Should the US close its borders to immigrants?
- Should US Foreign Aid support family planning programs abroad?
- What is the answer to the coming Social Security crisis? Privatization?
- Should the government subsidize the costs of bearing and rearing children?

**Oral Intensive Course (half of grade is based on oral presentations):**

**A Country Report.** A five minute oral report on population trends in a country of the student's choice.

**A Current Affairs Summary.** An oral presentation summarizing an article relevant to the course drawn from the *New York Times*, the *Economist*, or the *Wall Street Journal*. The student will be expected to prepare a one-page summary of the article.

**Public Policy Hearings.** The final two weeks of the course will be devoted to a series of public policy hearings on important contemporary issues. Each student will be expected to testify and to answer questions posed by a panel of 'Senators' drawn from class members.