Course Description
Understanding population change contributes to our understanding of society. At various different levels, directly or indirectly, many secondary school subjects link to population studies. In Liberal Studies, we think of public health and the reduction of mortality as well as understanding Hong Kong society through its unique demographic characteristics. In PSHE, we consider the movement of people in geography; the role of population ageing in economics; and the number of people who subscribe to different religions in sociology and anthropology. At university, population studies forms a central part of understanding many different courses of study; not only in the social sciences such as sociology, geography, economics, but also in biology, medicine, business, public health and engineering.

In this course, we aim to provide a more systematic understanding of population studies.

Topics
1. Why we bother studying population issues?
2. Basics of how to study population issues
3. Why does Hong Kong have the lowest fertility rate in the world?
4. Why does Hong Kong have the longest life expectancy in the world?

Grading Scheme
- Group Presentation (100%) 

[Topics and grading schemes are subject to change as deemed appropriate. Students will receive information and guidelines in class on how they will be assessed for the course.]

Instructor
Prof. Gietel-Basten STUART
Prof. Stuart joined HKUST in 2017 as Associate Professor of Social Science and Public Policy. He has a joint appointment between the Division of Social Science in the School of Humanities and Social Science and the Division of Public Policy under the Interdisciplinary Programs Office. Prior to joining HKUST, he was Associate Professor of Social Policy at the University of Oxford.

Prof. Stuart’s research covers the links between population and policy, with a regional focus on Asia. In particular, he is interested in the emergence of low fertility across the region, and the consequences of this in terms of population ageing and growth.