Demography is about how populations change across space and time. Demographers study not only the size and composition of populations, but also what factors lead to a changing population. Many countries face pressing population problems, and demographers seek to understand the dynamics behind these issues, and help solve them.

Future cohorts of population analysts will improve the capacity for population policy research, and contribute to health and social issue professions, market research, government departments, international agencies, and any organisation which needs to understand our changing world.

Career opportunities
Demographers study population change and its causes and effects. This means that their knowledge is sought after by many different types of organisations. Population change is affected by changes in the birth rate, health and illness, and immigration and spatial movement. Demographers also project future scenarios. As such, career opportunities are often within, or for government, who need high quality population information for decision-making. This is also true of many non-government organisations who provide services to populations in need.

Professional outcomes
Students and researchers in the ANU School of Demography examine some of the most important issues facing the world today, including fertility, family formation and change; mortality, ageing and health; and both national and international trends.

CRICOS Code: 086219C
Master of Demography (Advanced)
CRICOS Code: 093292B

ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences
international migration. You will develop the following skills to contribute to these issues:

- Formulate demographic research questions
- Locate demographic data and evaluate their quality and utility
- Implement appropriate methods for demographic analysis and interpret the results
- Use demographic research to inform policy
- Complete an internship based on a demographic question for policy makers.

Demography at ANU

The ANU School of Demography is a world-class demographic research centre, and the Master of Demography applies a research-led approach to teaching. Many of our researchers are involved in international projects in the areas of fertility and family studies; mortality, ageing and health; and migration and spatial demography. You will learn from our specialist researchers to study population change and address population issues.

The Master of Demography offers small group teaching and many courses include an opportunity to apply your learning to real-world issues. We focus on issues concerning both developed and developing nations with a program that provides the theories and methods to study population change.

Admission requirements

- A three year Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a GPA of at least 5/7 for the Master of Demography
- A cognate Bachelor degree or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 6/7 and the approval of an identified supervisor for the thesis for the Master of Demography (Advanced)
- All applicants must meet the University’s English Language Admission Requirements for Students
- Applicants with a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Certificate in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 24 units (1 semester) of credit
- Applicants with a Graduate Diploma or Honours in a cognate discipline may be eligible for 48 units (1 year) of credit.

Qing Guan
Higher Degree by Research (PhD Candidate)

Qing came to Australia from China seven years ago and studied as a Masters student in demography. While completing her Masters thesis, Qing found the intense research on a single question inspired her to pursue it further.

Now a PhD student, Qing is exploring a topic close to her heart, the demographics and experiences of Chinese migrants to Australia.

Cognate disciplines


Further information

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