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Review of the HE programs in migration, diaspora and border studies - Croatia

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Overview of HE Programs and/or Courses

- What are the major characteristics of HE programs/courses?

At the moment, there is only one HEI program that fits into scheme of Migration, Diaspora and/or Border Studies within the Croatian HE system. It is the integrated double-major study program (BA+MA) of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora”, which started in the academic year 2019/2020 at the University of Zagreb, University Department for Croatian Studies, at the newly established (Sub)Department of Demography and Croatian Diaspora. A double major study means studying in pairs with another study-group at the University Department for Croatian Studies. Integrated study means that there are no bureaucratic obstacles in enrolling MA after finished BA level, and that is also possible to transfer from another BA to this study by taking difference exams for the previous year(s), or enrolling in the preparatory year. The study lasts for ten semesters, and it includes a total of 69 courses, 50 compulsory and 19 offered as optional (of which 7 must be chosen as elective) and a final thesis, counting for 300 (180+120) ECTS, in sum. It seems that due to dynamic historical processes characterized by overtly emigration, timid immigration and more recently transit character of Croatian territory newly established integrated program of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” tries to overbridge a potential lack of academic expertise in outflow mobility themes.

This study program advertises itself as “a novel concept in science and higher education in Croatian universities in terms of subject matter, theoretical approach, methodology employed, multidisciplinary elaboration, and in terms of importance and general interest for researching applied demography and emigration”. It proclaims that “the decision to establish this study program in Croatia originates from major academic, social, economic, cultural, and national necessity”, which seems to be, first and foremost, to have an understanding and effect on very negative demographic trends in Croatia due to depopulation by natural decrease and by mechanic outflow (emigration), in order to research processes of population dynamics, as well as social, economic and spatial (regional) development, homeland security, and geopolitical strategic positioning of the Republic of Croatia. On the other hand, great emphasis is put on understanding entire potential of Croatian diaspora onto domestic affairs. Thus, analytical-scientific methods of predicting and modelling the future pertains to partake in policy-making in order to “contribute to the development of personal traits of a student, particularly by developing a value system. This value system is defined by Croatian identity values (...) the student will have extensive knowledge employable to safeguard Croatian national interests”,¹ while in the same time it is not discussed and/or critically assessed what those values or national interests actually mean.

Aside from this programme there are 15 other HEI courses that are within the thematic scope of migration, diaspora and border studies. Majority of them (13 of 15) are conducted on public HEIs, while two courses are at the private Catholic University of Croatia (although being private, it is also donated and financially assisted by the Government). There seems to be strong centralization of the courses in the capital (reflecting the fact that most of HEIs in Croatia are located here) because only two courses are taught outside of Zagreb’s HEIs, one at the University of Zadar, and another one at the University of Osijek. Courses which in more or less extent deals with migration, diaspora and border studies’ issues range from those directly

¹ https://www.hrstud.unizg.hr/Division_of_Demography_and_Croatian_Diaspora/academic_achievements

focused on these topics, such as Sociology of Migration or Anthropology of Migration courses, to those more oriented to legal or security aspects of migration phenomena, and lastly to those which less directly tackle the issues whether through prism of ethnicity (dealing with emigrants and diaspora), or through historical and contemporary demographic scope (migration as mechanical movement i.e. part of population dynamic in the past or in nowadays).

- At which levels and languages are these programs/courses available? Are they obligatory or voluntary?

Most (nine) of the courses are on undergraduate (BA) level, four of them on graduate (MA) level, and two on post-graduate (PhD) level. Program of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” is available on Croatian, and all but two of the courses are in Croatian; the course “EU Migration Law and Policy” is offered to international students of law in Zagreb in English, and the course “Migration and Security Studies” for the students of Political science and Journalism in Zagreb could be taught bilingually (depending on fulfilment of quota for the group/s of students from the Erasmus or other exchange programs). All courses except one are voluntary (elective, optional), while “Sociology of Migration” in Osijek is the obligatory one, and all of them last for one semester.

- What is the thematic and geographic scope of the programs/courses, what kind of problems and regions do they cover?

For the programme of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” many different thematic scopes are covered but focus is mostly twofold: on internal (domestic) demographic processes and secondly, on emigration and diaspora role(s) in the domestic affairs. Theory of migration, ethnic relations, diaspora studies (especially transnationalism), and demographic modelling are particularly salient in the curriculum of the programme. Geographic scope is local (national) but also global (international) with specific regions covered through optional courses, practically encompassing all continents where Croatian descendants reside (Europe, North and South America, Australia and Oceania).

As for individual courses, thematic scope is mostly on migration topics (causes and effects of migration, motives, patterns, flows, mobility, transnationalism, etc.), and significantly visible part of focus is put on post-migration phenomena of inclusion of newcomers. Law courses as well as sociological ones also tackle and discuss the important issues of statuses, rights and integration of refugees in(to) Croatian society, as well as public policies aiming at this goal (migration, asylum, integration policy). Ethnic and demographic components are fairly represented especially in dealing with emigration issues as part of population dynamics, as well as international and transnational dimension of diaspora studies. Only one course is dealing more in depth with border studies, but mostly through perspective of state (national) security. Geographic scope is mostly national and regional (West-Balkan, Central and South-East European), although there are also more of global perspectives in the courses oriented to diaspora studies.

- Which scientific approach, discipline is used in the programs/courses (i.e. political science, public administration, security studies, economics, sociology, law, history, pedagogy etc.)?

Regarding the structure of courses all but one of them fall within the scope of Humanities and Social sciences, five at Sociology, three at Legal studies (including public administration), two at History science, one at Political science (more precisely in Security studies), one at Economics, one at Anthropology, and one as interdisciplinary venture of History, Sociology, Psychology and Communication Science. There is one course at the Faculty of Science at the (Social) Geography Department. However, by theme four courses are within the discipline of demography, looking either at historical traces of ‘great migration(s)’ in antiquity and medieval times, or analysing recent migration as part of population dynamics. It is a rather difficult to tell that most of these study courses have interdisciplinary approach. This could be to some extent stated for sociological ones, for Anthropology of Migration and Migration and Security Studies courses. Some topics on migration and especially integration were also in few syllabuses of University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences courses in Pedagogy (for example “Fundamentals of intercultural pedagogy”) and in one psychology course (“Social identity and intergroup relations”). However, these topics were scattered through these courses only as examples of the main subject of these courses: interculturalism and ethnic relations. Few courses in the thematic scope of the Ethnic studies (“Sociology of Ethnic Relations” or “Identities of Minority Cultures”, both at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb) are still predominantly dealing with the issues of traditional national minorities, leaving out of focus most of the new immigrant groups. This is somewhat reasonable to expect regarding the fact that only around 1% of population are those second or third country nationals, i.e. foreigners residing in Croatia.

- What are the skills these programs/courses try (or promise) to develop, which parts of the labour market (professions, occupations) are targeted or indicated as possible job opportunities after finishing the given program/course?

Most of the BA courses does not promise developing aimed skills beside the general knowledge, and academic skills of writing, analysing and presenting seminars, nor they specify any particular employment opportunities for students after finishing. The course “Sociology of Migration” at the University of Osijek mentions few important practical learning outcomes and skills as applying acquired knowledge in the field of migration in state and civil agencies and media; developing migration strategies; and getting familiar with migration management. Graduate course “Migration and Security Studies” aims at specific employment opportunities referring to skills of migration management within public administration which is dealing with issues of national security. Graduate professional course for the Law students “Migration, Asylum and Foreigners” mentions practical skills in discussing various legal aspects of migrations, foreigner status and asylum system, as a part of the public administration. While in most of these courses, career opportunities and future job market is mainly located in Croatia, be it a part of state administration, education system, media, public sector, some could be applicable to the European Union level, or the level of surrounding regional states.

Integrated BA+MA study of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” promise few very concrete, yet debatable skills and opportunities in the domestic as well as inter/transnational frame, mostly of the states’ multilateral and diaspora networks: “To enable through the study

programme the development of necessary expert and scientific skills and competences which will facilitate continuous contribution to efficient activities related to the value system of demography and diaspora, and to provide job opportunities after the completion of the study programme and thus increase social and scientific responsibility and permanently contribute to national and populational concepts of development in accordance with the entire spatial and population wealth of Croatia.” and further-on: “The recent emigration of the young and educated Croatian population, and a long term demographic decline, is not just an academic question, but a vital question for homeland security and upon completion of the study program, the student will have extensive knowledge employable to safeguard Croatian national interests.” and also: “The knowledge of demography and diaspora issues on national topics, combined with related fields of study, will enable a wider perspective necessary for participating in social, political, scientific, diplomatic, consular and educational activities in Croatian and Croatian representative bodies throughout the world. The integrated study of demographics and Croatian diaspora is particularly important in the social, promotional, diplomatic and similar activities in the Croatian diaspora. Upon graduation, besides from the academic title, the student will be competent to find employment in professional and scientific developmental challenges.”

- How the nationwide structure of programs/courses looks like (e.g. are there some typical ones, it is possible to separate them to some groups with common characteristics, which type/types of programs dominate and which are rather exceptional or non-existing)?

The higher education system in Croatia has undergone a comprehensive reform within the framework of the Bologna Process, structured according to three cycles (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate), and to the system of transferable credits (ECTS). Majority of BA-study programs last six semesters and most of MA programs last for four more semesters. Core of the study curricula are obligatory, while others subjects offer a wider range of non-mandatory, elective courses. Usually, the last semester of MA programs is dedicated to writing of master thesis.

Higher education in Croatia is provided by higher education institutions (HEI) including universities and their constituents (faculties, academies of arts, university departments), polytechnics, and colleges. According to the Ministry of Science and Education, there are 129 HEIs in Croatia (out of which 105 as public HEIs). The majority of higher education institutions in Croatia are publicly-owned, which means that the State has established them by law and they are publicly financed from the State budget in the form of government subsidy allocated for every full-time student. Public institutions of higher education may also secure additional funding through tuitions from part-time students or through study programmes that are not government-funded, different projects, and other sources of income.

Professional studies are consisting of professional programmes conducted at polytechnics or colleges of applied sciences (exceptionally, some professional programmes can also be implemented at universities). Private institutions of higher education (currently 24) are established by their founders' decision and funded from their own sources. Even though most Croatian universities are public institutions, private university education has recently started to develop in Croatia with the establishment of three private universities and numerous colleges

of applied sciences. Almost all polytechnics are public institutions, while most colleges of applied sciences are private institutions.

Undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate university study programmes are enabled in the following subjects: Arts; Biomedicine and health; Biotechnical sciences; Humanities; Social sciences; Natural sciences; Technical sciences; and Interdisciplinary Sciences. It seems there is a lack of international Joint MA and PhD degree programs that could attract international candidates and make more dynamic exchange of domestic and students from abroad. Teaching languages in Croatian HEIs are dominantly Croatian, with a fair share of programs or individual courses offered on English,² and there are also some of the study programs on Italian language (for example, at the Faculty of Education, University of Pula), or bilingual on Italian and Croatian due to the multi-ethnic composition of the Istrian region, populated with the Italian national minority. Because the Republic of Croatia has 22 recognized national minorities on its territory, comprising almost a 10% of population, similar model of studying completely on Hungarian language is enabled for Hungarian minority (and others interested) at the University of Osijek, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences MA programme of Hungarian Language and Literature.

Within our thematic scope it is important to remind that the Faculty of Law, at the University of Zagreb, offers MA courses in both English and Croatian language, as part of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, coordinated by the Department for European Public Law. Also, there is the International Joint PhD Programme “Human Rights, Society, And Multi-Level Governance” as a three-year, interdisciplinary, joint academic programme managed by Universities in Australia, Croatia (Faculty of Law at the University of Zagreb), Cyprus, Italy, and coordinated by the University of Padua (Italy). Some issues of foreigners’ status are also part of the Administrative Law at several Law faculties in the country. At the University of Zagreb’s Faculty of Law, the course “International Legal Protection of Human Rights” deals with international refugee rights, while the course “Protection of unaccompanied children in Family Law” deals with legal rights and statuses of unaccompanied and separated migrant and refugee children, as particularly vulnerable group of persons on the move.

There are also some other specific courses that only tackle our scope of interests having specific praxis of students such as courses on Social Work Study (in Zagreb, as part of the Faculty of Law). For example, in the course “Marginal Groups” at the Chair for Social Policy, one of the lectures is dedicated to social status of migrants and challenges of social integration of migrant population. The same could apply for the course called “Community Work” at the same faculty, or the course “Social Justice and Human Rights in Social Work”, at the Faculty of Law, University of Osijek. All those are for future social workers and tackle the issues from the perspective of inclusion and integration phenomenon for (m)any marginalized and excluded group(s), yet, none of them is distinguished academic course related only to migrant or refugee population. Nevertheless, their added value is in students’ task to work their praxis in local communities meeting and assisting vulnerable groups including migrants and refugees. The Law Clinic of the University of Zagreb Faculty of Law is one example of more structured and organized group of students assisting to diverse marginalized groups.³ Second one refers to

² Please check: <https://www.azvo.hr/en/studies-in-foreign-languages>

³ <http://klinika.pravo.unizg.hr/law-clinic-zagreb>

students of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, in their student praxis work in elementary schools with refugee children.

Furthermore, slightly more of research, and partly of teaching focus is put on integration processes for persons under international protection in Croatia, nowadays especially those coming through the EU resettlement scheme. And lastly, situation on the borders with Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina marked by border surveillance, deterrence and push-backs of irregular migrants who try to enter and transit through Croatia further West, opens a new space for more critically oriented border studies approach, at the moment employed only by non-formal courses by NGOs or some public research institutes, or within the academia through the scope of Security Studies. Lastly, in 2020 the University of Zagreb became a member on the UNIC project, which partly deals with issues of mobility-related superdiversity in the post-industrial cities.⁴

- What is the role and importance of these programs/courses within the tertiary educational system? How many HEIs are having (or had) such programs or at least courses? Is the number of programs/courses large (across the country) or rather limited? How large is the number and share of students attending these programs/courses (if available)?

With 9 HEIs in Croatia that offer such courses and one such program within thematic scope of Migration, Diaspora, and Border (also Integration and Ethnicity) studies, it seems that the number of programs is definitely still limited, while number of courses is relatively underrepresented, mostly concentrated at the University of Zagreb, and with a rather diverse focus from demographic, to historical to contemporary sociological, anthropological, law and political science approaches. The role and importance of the only integrated BA and MA program of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” is yet to be evaluated, because it started recently in the academic year of 2019/2020. The role and importance of individual courses vary with an indicative fact that all of them (except one) are not obligatory but elective courses.

From the period of 1970s and legacy of research of emigration from Yugoslavia of guest workers to Western European countries, to 1980s focus on migration and development, all the way to early 1990ies and topics of forced migration, researching of migration has had a firm ground in the Croatian academic community. Legacy of the war brought new topics closer to Forced migration and Refugee studies, especially among the researchers and teachers from the Faculty of Humanities and Social sciences at the University of Zagreb where the first Chair for Migration and Ethnic Studies was established in 2006, within the Department of Sociology. Some other researchers on public research institutes such as the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies are also actively individually involved into teachings at the level of universities.⁵ Increased interest for migration topics came with the accession of Republic of Croatia into the EU, which had triggered huge emigration flows, and secondly with issues of “new refugees”, third country nationals applying for asylum in Croatia, and struggling their way through Croatian integration system, especially after the episode of the Balkan corridor. There are no exact numbers about the real share of student attending these courses. It is known that usually maximum of 30 students can take a course, so it would be some 450 per year for all 15 courses

⁴ <https://www.unic.eu/our-universities/university-of-zagreb/>

⁵ <http://www.imin.hr/en/povijest-zadaca-i-planovi>

listed, however, it could also mean less because of the electivity of the courses. In the last years there is a noticeable, fair interest of students to attend these courses. As for the programme of “Demography and Croatian Diaspora” it’s quota is 25 full-time students per year, combined with other double-major group(s).

Overview of Non-Academic Programs or Courses

“Peace Studies” program is a one-year interdisciplinary non formal education program, run by the NGO Centre for Peace Studies in Zagreb, continuously organized since 1997.⁶ It draws its’ expertise from a number of social sciences and humanities, as well as the activist and advocacy experience of lecturers and attendants. Participants are individuals of different backgrounds (students, teachers, civil society organizations’ members and volunteers, others) motivated to actively contribute to building of a democratic and more just society, while guest lecturers are experts usually with an activist background. Within a course “Human Security and Migration” students deconstruct the relationship between security and the migration process, paying special attention to current discourses on migration, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees as a problem, threat or danger, and on challenges and pitfalls of integration in Croatian society.

It is also worth mentioning the series of lectures at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split.⁷ They were held by associates on the project “Building a Welcoming Society” (as part of the EuropeAid project “Developing capacities together: European CSO-university networks for global learning on migration, security and sustainable development in an interdependent world – InterCap”), implemented by the NGO “Mi” (“Us”) with the support of the UNHCR Croatia. Series of lectures were held at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split, in 2019, including: Politics of Migration; Ethics of Migration; Migration and Art; Migration Research Methodology.

The Second Summer School in Migration⁸ is joint project and out-of-curricular program for MA and PhD students yet to be co-organized (postponed from 2020 to 2021) by the several academic actors including the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research (Croatia), the University of Göttingen, Department of Cultural Anthropology/European Ethnology (Germany), the Institute of Ethnography of the Serbian Academy of Sciences (Serbia), the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Slovenia), the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Cultural Studies and Center for Advanced Studies of South-eastern Europe (Croatia). It strives to explore the analytical potential of critical migration and border regime studies in the context of the EU periphery or more precisely in the context of research of/along the co-called Balkan route.

⁶ https://www.cms.hr/system/article_document/doc/696/Program___Mirovni_studiji_23.pdf

⁷ <https://www.unist.hr/natjecaji/ciklus-predavanja-na-filozofskom-fakultetu-u-split-politika-migracija-etika-migracija-umjetnost-i-migracije-metodologija-istrazivanje-migracija> and for the InterCAP project please check: <http://www.unist.hr/en/science-and-innovation/projects-office/university-projects/intercap>

⁸ <https://schoolmigration.ief.hr>

Annex

Detailed information on study programs and course manuals in Croatia on Migration, Diaspora and Border Studies

PROGRAMS

1. Demography and Croatian Diaspora

University of Zagreb, University Department for Croatian Studies
(Sub)Department of Demography and Croatian Diaspora

https://www.hrstud.unizg.hr/demografija-i-hrvatsko-iseljenistvo/studijski_program

The study of demography and Croatian emigration is a two-subject integrated five-year university study. A double major means that you enrol and study in pairs with another study at Croatian Studies. The student chooses the combination himself, so demography and Croatian emigration can be studied at the same time as: philosophy and culture, Latin, communication, Croatology (Croatian culture), history or sociology. It is possible to transfer to this study by taking the difference exam for the previous year / years or enrolling in the preparatory year. Integrated means that there are no bureaucratic obstacles between the 3rd and 4th year of study, the preparation of the final thesis in the 3rd year and the enrolment in the graduate study in the 4th year of study. The study lasts five years. It consists of ten semesters and lasts for five years. It includes a total of 69 courses, 50 compulsory and 19 elective (of which 7 must be chosen) and a thesis.

The study program of Demography and Croatian diaspora is a novel concept in science and higher education in Croatian universities in terms of subject matter, theoretical approach, methodology employed, multidisciplinary elaboration, and in terms of importance and general interest for researching applied demography and emigration.

This study program is founded on the idea that the population is key factor in all subsequent human activities, from children and young people as the carriers of the future development of Croatia, and it also acknowledges the Croatian diaspora as a cultural capital, to the adverse effects of cultural decadence upon the civilization in general, and Croatian in particular (especially since all of the major demographic indicators and trends have turned negative). Following this, the decision to establish this study program in Croatia originates from major academic, social, economic, cultural, and national necessity. This necessity is only compounded by the cumulative adverse effects of negative demographic trends on key government systems of the Republic of Croatia.

Emigration waves in the 20th and early 21st century have resulted in a larger number of ethnic Croats abroad than in the Republic of Croatia, which makes the study of Diaspora not just a key academic field, but also an important contributor to the demographic survival. By acknowledging the complexity of demography, Diaspora and migration in general, with its natural socio-spatial constraints and the need for a new developmental conception based on Croatian diaspora, a new study program is proposed at the Faculty of Croatian Studies of the University of Zagreb with lecturers coming from the best Croatian scientific institutions.

Study Programme

List of required courses of the study program in Demography and Croatian Diaspora

1st Semester

Demography 1

Methods for Researching the Croatian Diaspora

Fundamental Mathematics in Demography

Fundamental Statistics in Demography

History of Croatian Emigration

Theory of Migration

2nd Semester

Demography 2

Demographic Measures and Models

Croatian Minority Communities

Public Systems and Population

Historical Demography

Typology of Emigration

3rd Semester

GIS Population Analysis

Philosophical and Theological Approach to Population

Croatian Emigrant Art and Culture

Croatian Diaspora and Entire Development

Cultural Identity of Croatian Diaspora

Software for Demographic Research

4th Semester

Demographic Databases

Prominent Croats in Emigration

Integrative Bioethics

New Concept of the State

Legal Aspects of Emigration and Return Migration

5th Semester

Global Strategy

Croats in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Integration of Croatia with its Diaspora

Population Policy

Croatian Population

6th Semester

Theoretical and Methodological Concepts in Demography

Croatian Political Emigration

Organisations of Emigration and Return Migration

Education in the Croatian Diaspora

Fieldwork 1

7th Semester

Croats in Germany
Economic Potential of the Diaspora
Croatian Women in the Diaspora
Corporate Demography
Croatian Catholic Missions

8th Semester

Croatian Diaspora and the Homeland War
Integration Approach
Electoral Systems
Regional Economics
Fieldwork 2

9th Semester

World Population
Regional Demography
Population and Financial Systems
Population, Migration and National Security

10th Semester

Diplomatic and Consular Relations
Demographic Revitalization Patterns
Immigration Models
Diploma Thesis

List of elective courses of the study program in Demography and Croatian Diaspora
Graduate Seminar *[principles and instructions in making the diploma thesis, if the thesis is to be written within this study program]*
Demographic Case Study *[if the student chooses to write the diploma thesis in the second study program]*
Demographic Projections and Simulations
Demographic Aspects of Aggression against Croatia 1990–1998
Labour Economics
Geopolitics and Geostrategy
Croats in Australia and New Zealand
Croats in South America
Croats in North America
Croatian Media Abroad
Croatian Diaspora and Public Action
Identity of Molise Croats
Integration of the Croatian Immigrants
Migration of Highly Educated Young People
Space and Population
European Population
Transition, State, Diaspora
Famous Croats Worldwide
Literary Heritage of the West-Hungarian Croats

Academic Achievements

General

Develop knowledge about the demographic conditionality of the overall development, together with the ability to analyse the issue concerned, understand the emigrant potential to demonstrate and prove its importance for Croatia and the fundamental approaches in the field of social, humanities and interdisciplinary scientific areas to enlighten the developmental concept based on the population. Allow all participants to understand the demographic and diaspora concepts and their use in expert-scientific and public exploration of issues and especially for the application of analytical methods and projection models in problem solving and development planning.

To increase the knowledge, skills and understanding of the key and functional relationship between the structure and movement of the population and the economic, social and geographical legitimacy and processes of the emigrant economic, financial, academic, demographic and any other wealth and the overall development of Croatia. This study programme would facilitate, by implementing academic approach. The development of thinking that would be grounded in analysis, projections, and that would entail a meticulous, critical, responsible, and scientifically independent approach and would enable students to apply thinking based on evaluation of issues pertaining to demography and diaspora within the context of demographic, economic, spatial, societal, political, and entire development of Croatia and its population.

To enable through the study programme the development of necessary expert and scientific skills and competences which will facilitate continuous contribution to efficient activities related to the value system of demography and diaspora, and to provide job opportunities after the completion of the study programme and thus increase social and scientific responsibility and permanently contribute to national and populational concepts of development in accordance with the entire spatial and population wealth of Croatia.

To develop and enable cognitive and operational skills, and competence for successful expert and scientific implementation of fundamental and empirical research pertaining to concepts of development, homeland security, strategic positioning, and by publishing research results in scientific journals and presentations pertaining to the subject field.

Cognitive

To plan, conceptualise, propose, implement and analytically explain in public the necessity and importance of scientific research, elaborates, and similar papers relating to the research field of demography and emigration, based on recent data continually submitted by public services and statistics of the United Nations and the European Union. To formulate, make hypotheses, and validate relevant research tackling Croatian population in Croatia (and in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and in diaspora, with hypotheses based on previous research and laws relating to existing scientific knowledge. To understand, interpret, project, and use data on Croatian and world population and emigration analytically, including qualitative and quantitative indicators, all relevant research results and to be able to discuss and defend their necessity, validity, and objectivity in public.

Competence

To develop skills for scientific conceptualisation of the subject, as well as written and presentational skills required for presentation at scientific and all other types of public meetings relating to the issue of demography and diaspora. To acquire strength and ability to negotiate

on the significance of issues related to demography and diaspora in all concepts and activities pertaining to development with the system responsible for decision-making. Have the necessary knowledge and skills to write, defend and present, at the level of scientific relevance, reports on demographic and emigrant content, patterns, links, and relationships in the forecasting and modelling of the Croatian future as well as propose appropriate political and legal solutions. To equip students with competences and skills to handle statistical, quantitative, graphic, and geographical (GIS, cartography, etc.) programme requirements and to implement them in the analysis of demographic and emigrational issues, population dynamics issues, and in the analysis of entire potential of Croatia and diaspora.

Operational

To develop the ability to recognize, identify, clarify, implement and defend the need for the analysis of population and diaspora in service of societal and political decision-making. To acquire analytical competences required for independent and unbiased research in order to evaluate total competences of the study programme in the favour of total population of Croatia. To develop a sense of security and accuracy of scientific method in order to defend, present, and solve fundamental correlation between diaspora and economy.

Reasoning

Special attention is paid to the analytical-scientific methods of predicting and modelling the future. Reasoning based on elementary analytical results related to population and diaspora may only be facilitated through research and higher education. Developing competences and skills to reason during and after the completion of the study programme is considered as one of the fundamental academic competences, and to reason and understand the gravity of the problem in relation to the level of demographic negativity and emigrant separation from the home country today is of crucial importance.

Value

To contribute to the development of personal traits of a student, particularly by developing a value system. This value system is defined by Croatian identity values within the framework of total population of Croatia without which it would be impossible to further analyse and focus the issues of demography and diaspora within academic and general frameworks. To analyse, recognise, define, and handle ethical and bioethical questions pertaining to research in demography and diaspora stands out as a value characteristic of the study programme and it also represents one of the accomplishments of the study programme that is characterised as a permanent value on both individual and collective levels. To cover in a comprehensive manner and to develop a critical review of statistical and other data in literature relevant to the research of population and Croatian diaspora and all structures formed by them in space, time, society, economy, and in other segments. To compare values and to evaluate potential of various methods used in expert and scientific research pertaining to population and diaspora for planning and development.

Subject Motivation

The study program of Demography and Croatian diaspora is a novel concept in science and higher education in Croatian universities in terms of subject matter, theoretical approach, methodology employed, multidisciplinary elaboration, and in terms of importance and general interest for researching applied demography and emigration.

This study program is founded on the idea that the population is key factor in all subsequent human activities, from children and young people as the carriers of the future development of Croatia, and it also acknowledges the Croatian diaspora as a cultural capital, to the adverse

effects of cultural decadence upon the civilization in general, and Croatian in particular (especially since all of the major demographic indicators and trends have turned negative). Following this, the decision to establish this study program in Croatia originates from major academic, social, economic, cultural, and national necessity. This necessity is only compounded by the cumulative adverse effects of negative demographic trends on key government systems of the Republic of Croatia.

Emigration waves in the 20th and early 21st century have resulted in a larger number of ethnic Croats abroad than in the Republic of Croatia, which makes the study of Diaspora not just a key academic field, but also an important contributor to the demographic survival. By acknowledging the complexity of demography, Diaspora and migration in general, with its natural socio-spatial constraints and the need for a new developmental conception based on Croatian diaspora, a new study program is proposed at the University Department of Croatian Studies of the University of Zagreb with lecturers coming from the best Croatian scientific institutions.

New concept

The content is modelled after the best practices already established in nations with a majority of population living outside the national state, and aims to address the issues and potentials specific to Croatia. The exclusion of the Croatian diaspora from the economic, cultural, social and political aspects of Croatia is an unacceptable basis for future development, and this study program should establish the necessary framework for addressing these issues. Negative demographic trends in Croatia delineate the need for a comprehensive demographic revitalization and its priority. It is an academic duty towards future generations, as well as towards those who fought in dire times for the survival of the Croatian cultural and moral identity as well as the territorial integrity. The recent emigration of the young and educated Croatian population, and a long term demographic decline, is not just an academic question, but a vital question for homeland security and upon completion of the study program, the student will have extensive knowledge employable to safeguard Croatian national interests.

The knowledge of demography and diaspora issues on national topics, combined with related fields of study, will enable a wider perspective necessary for participating in social, political, scientific, diplomatic, consular and educational activities in Croatian and Croatian representative bodies throughout the world. The integrated study of demographics and Croatian diaspora is particularly important in the social, promotional, diplomatic and similar activities in the Croatian diaspora. Upon graduation, besides from the academic title, the student will be competent to find employment in professional and scientific developmental challenges.

Joint Challenge

The study of Demographics and Croatian Diaspora is a return to the fundamental idea upon which the University Department for Croatian Studies was formed in 1992, as an identity study of important national topics, and a return to a unique and distinguishable profile of the University Department for Croatian Studies. It is a joint challenge for the Department as well as the University, and the future generations.

Reasons for Starting the Study

Scientific need

The population is according to all scientific approaches the most fundamental part of any society and area, and the main actor in all social, economic and political affairs, and subsequently it should be considered one of the most important scientific research topics. The connectedness and causality of the population and all the systems and activities is always

present and is orders of magnitude different and therefore there is a substantial need for developing scientific models as developmental enablers. A scientific analysis of the patterns and projections of the social, spatial, political, regional development of Croatia or any other given nation is of fundamental importance. Contemporary reality confirms this on a daily basis through the great demographic depression in Croatia which is reflected in all segments of society, through extensive migration and the need for the developmental link between the domicile country and its wealth in diaspora. The scientific analysis of the fundamental relationship between Croatia and its diaspora is increasingly turning into a key prerequisite for the future of Croatia. However, crucial reason for launching this study program is the fact that Croatia is the only country in a narrower and wider region without an academic institution, study program or a strategic scholarship program and project pertaining to demographic issues as a crucial developmental factor.

Cultural need

It is estimated that today more Croatians live outside of Croatia than in Croatia, and they are displaced all over the world; practically across all continents and countries. It is a major demographic, economic, financial, academic, cultural, artistic and long-term asset of Croatia that should not be neglected, separated from the country of origin and dismissed without consideration. Cultural changes influenced by the immigration countries and the new value of the immigrant population for the domicile population are a great distinction and cultural asset for both countries, on which identity and new social and every other value is built upon. The analysis and research of the above has been identified as a major cultural need.

Social need

The societal need for this study in the still on-going transformation of the Croatian society after the liberation of the country and its departure from the former political system is confirmed almost on a daily basis. The society's understanding of the importance of the human population and the ties that it forms in its environment in society and space in Croatia is still insufficient, so every aspect of the research of human population arises from a great societal need. Setting up social relationships and all forms of social identity outside of the demographic and emigration processes and structures is ungrounded and does not provide an adequate foundation for complex social and related relations. Croatia, as well as any country with a predominant share of the population in diaspora rather than in the motherland, needs a new societal approach to statehood to benefit overall development. The study program in Demographics and Croatian Diaspora represents a novelty of strategic importance and a vital national need.

Economic need

Social spatial contents, processes, relationships, projections and models related to the population, together with all population bases, are the basis of the economic, spatial, regional and every other developmental planning. Population registers and territorial units are of major economic importance, as they are foundation of planning, and in the spatial plans the most important potential should be assigned the right value, rather than just propaedeutic one. This study program and accompanying scientific and expert research will help facilitate entire planned state approach to meet objective Croatian needs. Finally, the functional teaching and research will be focused on the issues of the workforce, as the basic factor and potential for the development of the economy. The Croatian population and, according to their relevance in this program, should be the basis of all economic development concepts and models.

COURSES

(listed as in the Excel table)

1. Academic graduate course “**Migration and Security Studies**” at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Zagreb, Croatia (<https://www.fpzg.unizg.hr/predmet/mis>), is an elective course for the students of Political Science, Political Science specializing in National security and Journalism graduate programmes. The course is held in English language and depending on demand (with multiple groups) it could be also held in Croatian. The course examines securitization of modern migrations: political and security issues that cause migrations, security problems posed by migrations, especially mass migrations for smaller receiving countries. It looks at these issues globally (push and pull factor and examples of forced and mass migrations, as well as the role of nation-states and international organizations in managing the causes and consequences of migrations), at the level of the European Union (political, legal and institutional framework for managing migrations) and locally (Croatia as a smaller country with limited receiving capacities). The primary approach is theoretical and empirical examples from political science, especially national security area, but there are also elements of Law, public administration, management and policy making. The course aims to give student knowledge and skills to identify and discuss the security issues surrounding modern migrations (push and pull factors, international and local contexts, legal, institutional and political frameworks, humanitarian and security issues). Specific employment opportunities targeted here refers to skills of migration management within public administration dealing with issues of national security.

2. Academic graduate professional course “**Migration, Asylum and Foreigners**” at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia (https://www.pravo.unizg.hr/UPRP/predmet/mas/opce_informacije_o_predmetu), is aimed at students of Specialized Graduate Professional Study in Administrative Law. The course is held in local (Croatian) language. The course primarily focuses on legal aspect of migrations: migration and integration politics, including unlawful and forced migrations, the way in which the legal status of foreigners is regulated regarding their entrance, stay, movement as well as employment and integration, as well as at the asylum system and protection of asylum seekers and refugees. It looks at these issues internationally but puts particular emphasis on the EU and local (Croatian) legal systems. The course does not specify specific employment opportunities for students besides abovementioned knowledge and skill in discussing various legal aspects of migrations, foreigner status and asylum system within the public administration.

3. Academic graduate course “**EU Migration Law and Policy**” at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia (https://www.pravo.unizg.hr/EJP/en/eu_migration_law_and_policy), is part of the Jean Monnet master program supported by the European Commission and it is held in English language for both ERASMUS and local (Croatian) students. The course focuses on the EU and examines the evolution and institutional framework (actors and instruments) of EU migration law and policy (EU external border controls, different migration status such as asylum seekers,

protected persons, refugees, subsidiary protection, asylum procedures, return and readmission policies and visa systems, as well as human rights issues and family reunification). The course does not specify specific employment opportunities for students.

4. Academic undergraduate course **“Demography”** at the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Zagreb, Croatia (<https://www.efzg.unizg.hr/default.aspx?id=16027>), is an elective course which covers the introduction to economic and social aspects of demography and population politics, including the movement of population (migrations and natural growth) as one of its topics. The course does not specify specific employment opportunities for students.

5. Academic undergraduate course **“Demogeography”** at the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia (<https://www.pmf.unizg.hr/geog/predmet/dem>), is an elective course as part of a joint programme in Environmental Sciences between the Department of Biology, Geography and Geology. It is an introductory course in demography, with a focus on global demographic situation, and locally (in Croatia). It gives an interdisciplinary perspective by looking at geographic placement of global population and population density, biological (age, sex) and socio-anthropological makeup of global populations, as well as their relation towards the natural environment. Within these topics it covers the topics of population movement (migrations, natural growth, circulation). The course does not specify specific employment opportunities for students.

6. The academic undergraduate course **“Sociology of Migration”** at the Department of Sociology, University of Zadar (<https://www.unizd.hr/Portals/13/Izvedbeni%20plan%20Sociologija%20migracija%202020.pdf>), is an elective course for Sociology students. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course focuses on: basic concepts (migration, spatial mobility, types of migration, migrant groups and post-migration social processes); Migrant networks and generation of migration flows; Migration and new forms of spatial mobility; Transnational social spaces; Forms of organizing migrants (ethnic colony, diaspora, ethnic minority); Classical and new approaches to explaining the incorporation of migrants (integration, assimilation, racism); Croatian migration and the Croatian diaspora. It also aims to provide students with the knowledge on different migration phenomena, emphasizing that consequences of migration and migrants’ activities point to limitations of classical sociological concepts such as society, social mobility and social integration. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

7. The academic undergraduate course **“Sociology of Migration”** at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Osijek (<https://sokrat.ffos.hr/ff-info/kolegiji.php?action=show&id=2372>), is a mandatory course for Sociology students. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course focuses on: introduction to the multidisciplinary field of international migration; basic terms, concepts, and theories of Migration studies; types of migration; the importance of international migration in history and in contemporary world; migration as one of the pillars of the EU's common policy; integration of immigrants into receiving societies; and future migration scenarios. The course does not specify employment opportunities for students, but quite importantly it mentions some practical learning outcomes and skills as following: apply acquired knowledge

in the field of migration in state and civil agencies and media; develop migration strategies; be familiar with migration management.

8. The academic undergraduate course „**Anthropology of Migration**“ at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb (<https://theta.ffzg.hr/ECTS/Predmet/Index/147>), is an elective course for Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology students and other students of the University of Zagreb. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. Throughout the lectures, students acquire theoretical and empirical knowledge on migration theories and concepts, types of migrations and post-migration phenomena. The course addresses the topics of the push and pull factors, examples of migrations, and the causes and consequences of migrations from Croatian areas within the broader European and global context over the past five centuries. Croatia will be considered as an emigrant, transit, and immigrant country. The primary objective is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out the qualitative research of migration issues, define and identify types of migrations. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

9. The academic undergraduate course “**Sociology of Migration**” at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb (<https://theta.ffzg.hr/ECTS/Predmet/Index/5837>), is an elective course for Sociology students, and other students of the University of Zagreb. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course focuses on: the definition and types of migrations, spatial mobility, periodization of migrations, modern international migrations, European migration policy, post-migration processes and integration issues, refugee studies, transnationalism, diaspora and migrant networks, emigration from Croatia, and the migration policy of the Republic of Croatia. It also aims to provide students with the knowledge on global and local migration flows and trends, post-migration processes and phenomena, as well as other topics of special interest for understanding the complexity of modern societies and the ways in they are (re)shaped by migrations. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

10. The academic undergraduate course “**History of the Great Migration of Peoples**” at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb (<https://theta.ffzg.hr/ECTS/Predmet/Index/4686>), is an elective course for single-major History students. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The focus is on learning about the historical and archaeological perspective of the so-called Great Migration of Peoples (4th to 7th century). The aim is to provide students with the skills necessary to lead informed discussions on developing broader and more layered views on the historical processes in late antiquity and the early Middle Ages that had a decisive influence on the shaping of the European area. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

11. Academic graduate course “**Historical Demography**” at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb (<https://theta.ffzg.hr/ECTS/Predmet/Index/1666>), is an elective course for History students of research orientation, module: Modern and Contemporary History (19th-20th century). The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course focuses on the factors of demographic development and the population

structure of the Croatian area in the early modern period within the European regional contexts (Habsburg, Venetian, and Ottoman), especially on the influence of spatial mobility of the population (migration) on the sociodemographic, ethno-demographic and confessional demographic processes in the early modern period. Students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to work with a variety of early modern historical sources relevant for historical and demographic research (including different types of migration). The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

12. Academic undergraduate course **“Croatian Emigrants and Minorities”** at the Catholic University of Croatia, in Zagreb (<http://www.unicath.hr/hks2015/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/IZBP-47-Hrvatsko-iseljeni%C5%A1tvo-i-manjine.pdf>), is an elective course in the study programme of Sociology. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course focuses on Croatian emigrants and diaspora, as well as national minority communities in Croatia. Students will learn about the interdisciplinary research of migrations, emigrants, minority communities, integration processes and multiple identities. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

13. Academic undergraduate course **“Demographic Characteristics of the World”** at the Catholic University of Croatia, in Zagreb (<http://unicath.hr/izvedbeni-planovi-20-21/detaljni-izvedbeni-plan/2020-2021-izborni/demografska-obiljezja-svijeta>), is an elective course for the students of History, Psychology, Sociology, and Communication Sciences. The course is taught in the local (Croatian) language. The course deals with the topics of movement, distribution and structures of the global population, and demographic stages. Students learn about the most important forms and examples of pre-modern and modern migrations of the population, problems of overcrowding, causes of migrations, etc. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

14. The academic post-graduate course **“(De)Construction of sociological types on examples of Sociology of Migration”** at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb (<http://www.ffzg.unizg.hr/socio/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Poslijediplomski-doktorski-studij-sociologije-2020-21-1.pdf>), is an optional course for Sociology students enrolled in PhD program of Sociology. This course derives from Sociology of Migration as a starting point, and it provides further sociological insights to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary field of Migration Studies, including forced migration studies, asylum and refugee studies. In this way, it also necessarily touches on issues in the field of research on mobility, transnationalism, diaspora, post-migration phenomena, ethnicity and citizenship. The course does not specify any specific employment opportunities for students.

15. The academic post-graduate course **“Legal Position of Foreign Citizens in Croatian and Comparative Laws”** at the department for Public Law and Public Administration, at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb (<https://www.pravo.unizg.hr/images/50017278/Javnopravni%20polozaj%20stranaca%20u%20hrvatskom%20i%20poredbenom%20pravu.pdf>), is an optional course for Law student enrolled in PhD programme in Public Law and Public Administration. This course deals with historical development of asylum, refugee and immigration law(s), from classical to modern theories in Legal studies, with emphasis on legal rights of foreigners in domestic and European

context. The course promises to develop applicative knowledge and skills by handling the sources of administrative law governing the status of aliens in domestic, European and international level, and by using the acquired knowledge on practical examples of the status rights of foreigners.