

**Ph.D. in “Life Course Research” – Socio-demographic curriculum  
Academic Year 2024-2025**

**Family demography**

**Prof. E. Pirani**

**Objectives**

The course aims to provide insights into the dynamics of family formation and dissolution in contemporary societies. After an illustration of the Second Demographic Transition process, the course will focus on union formation and dissolution processes, considering their correlates, times, and ways of diffusion in the European context. Also, a general overview of the process of transition to adulthood will be considered.

During the course, a “debate” will be organized, assigning specific lectures to groups of students.

**Program**

*January 20, Monday 10.00-12.00* (E. Pirani)

– The Second Demographic Transition

*January 21, Tuesday 10.00-13.00* (E. Pirani)

– Partnerships dynamics: Union formation and dissolution

*January 22, Wednesday 10.00-13.00* (E. Pirani)

– Debate around the question “Is the Second Demographic Transition a useful concept for demography?”

*January 23, Thursday 14.00-17.00* (T. Nazio)

– Transition to adulthood

**Suggested lectures**

Aassve A., Mencarini L., Pirani E., & Vignoli D. 2024. The last bastion is falling: Survey evidence of the new family reality in Italy. *Population and Development Review*.

Bernhardt E. 2004. “Is the Second Demographic Transition a Useful Concept for Demography?” *Vienna Yearbook of Population Research* 2: 25–28.

Billari F. C., & Liefbroer A. C. 2004. Is the Second Demographic Transition a useful concept for demography? Introduction to a debate. *Vienna yearbook of population research*, 2, 1-3.

Coleman D. 2004. “Why We Don’t Have to Believe Without Doubting in the ‘Second Demographic Transition’—Some Agnostic Comments.” *Vienna Yearbook of Population Research* 2: 11–24.

Lesthaeghe R. 2010. The unfolding story of the second demographic transition. *Population and development review*, 36(2), 211-251.

Lesthaeghe R. 2020. “The Second Demographic Transition, 1986–2020: Sub-Replacement Fertility and Rising Cohabitation—A Global Update.” *Genus* 76 (1): 1–38.

Micheli G.A. 2004. “Claiming for a Demologic Approach to Demographic Change.” *Vienna Yearbook of Population Research* 2: 29–34.

Perelli-Harris B., & Gerber T. P. (2011). Nonmarital childbearing in Russia: Second demographic transition or pattern of disadvantage?. *Demography*, 48, 317-342.

Van de Kaa, D. J. (2004). Is the Second Demographic Transition a useful research concept Questions and answers. *Vienna yearbook of population research*, 2, 4-10.

**Requirements**

None