Readings

Course Description and Goals
This course provides an introduction to regional population and economic analysis with applications to California. The major course goals are (1) to build substantive knowledge of the analytic tools available to practicing regional planners, while (2) developing contextual knowledge of the population, economic, and environmental interactions in California. The primary text for the course provides a historical account of human development within the major bio-regions of California. Students will work in teams to extend and update those regional analyses using a range of secondary data sources and analytic methods.

Assignments, Papers, and Grades
Since all practicing planners work in teams, group projects will be a major element in the course. Each group will work on a different region and the assignments will provide the basic building blocks to develop an integrated analysis. The major elements of analysis will be carried out in computer lab sections with progress reports due every other week. The regional analysis grade will be based on two oral presentations (30%), the progress reports (10%), and the final report (50%). There will also be three to five in-class quizzes (10%) to gauge your understanding of the lecture material.

Major Topics and Lecture Plan
• Forecasting and the Regional Planning Process (1)
• Regional population and economic accounts (2-3)
• Extrapolation, ratio, and share methods (5-6)
• Cohort survival methods (uniregional and multiregional) (4-5)
• Settlement structure analysis (2-3)
• Economic base and linkage analysis (7-9)