Our discussion of populations begins with some terminology!

1. What is a population and what are some characteristics of populations?
2. What determines geographic range of a species?
3. How do we define and quantify abundance of a population? Why is measuring abundance tricky?
4. What are three major types of spatial distribution and what factors explain these patterns?

One way in which populations are dynamic are related to age structure:

1. How is the age structure of a population determined and what type of data would you need to determine the age structure of a population?
2. What does an age pyramid describe?

Another way in which populations are dynamic are related to dispersal:

1. What is dispersal?
2. Why do organisms disperse?
3. How is dispersal different from geographic distribution?
4. How can dispersal change the distribution of a species?

What equation describes the four major factors that influence population growth?

1. What two factors increase population size?
2. What two factors decrease population size?