

# ANT3467 FOOD AND CULTURE

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Anthropology 3467  
2A74,2A75(23621,27397)  
& PHPB(31860)

Spring 2021

Office Hours online Wed 1:00-3:00

Thursday 1:30-2:30

and by appt. – [sdef@ufl.edu](mailto:sdef@ufl.edu)

TA/Grader: Dominique Sorresso

Online Office hours: Tuesday 9-11am

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## FOOD AND CULTURE

### Required Texts

**Carole Counihan, Penny Van Esterik, Alice Julier, editors**

2019 *Food and Culture: A Reader*. Fourth Edition. Routledge Press.

\*\*\* on syllabus as F&C

Additional readings will be available as pdf files on the course canvas/e-learning site.

\*\*\* on syllabus as UFe-I

### Course Objectives

All ideas, beliefs, and rules regarding food are cultural; they are learned behavior. Food is a universal, yet highly diverse, feature of the human condition. Foodways function to create social unity, but also to distinguish cultures. How and why do cultures develop unique methods of food preparation and consumption? How do food rules develop and how are they maintained? The goal of this class is to gain an understanding of foodways in different cultures and how food habits function beyond providing calories and sustenance. We use information from biological anthropology, archaeology, cultural anthropology, and human ecology to understand the historical development of foodways and modern cultural variation in food habits in different areas of the world. We also examine issues related to modern disparities in health and nutrition in light of globalization and the political factors that result in differential production and access to food resources.

### Student Learning Outcomes

- Know the evolutionary and biological basis of human diet
- Identify the historical development of food habits and consequences of global colonization
- Recognize cultural origins and rationales for food prohibitions
- Describe modern cultural obstacles to food selection and the resulting health consequences
- Analyze the role of modern political systems on food production, distribution, and consumption

## Course Requirements and Assessments

WEAR a MASK – please cover your nose!  
Do NOT come to class if you feel ill.

### CLASS COMPUTER USE ONLY

Cell phones to mute; no texting; students who disregard cell phone policy will be asked to leave class.

### Grading

<b>Quizzes-</b> ONLINE (11 quizzes, lowest one dropped, 10 @ 2% each)	20	
<b>Foreign Food Film Review</b> (on approved film list) 4/6	10	
<b>Three Food and Culture Written Exercises</b> (10% each)	30	
~2 pages (2x spaced)		
Due Feb 4, Feb 25, March 11		
<b>Extra Credit</b> – can do up to 2 additional Food and Culture Exercises (2 % each of final grade), due dates TBA		
<b>3 Exams</b> - online exams during class time (with take-home essays)		
2/11, 3/18, 4/15 (all are non-cumulative)	30	(10% each)
In-class and essay portion = 50% each		
Essays (~2 double-spaced pages) are due 2/16, 3/23, 4/20		
Use Turnitin on elearning/canvas to submit essays		
<b>Final Project</b>		
<b>Unessay</b> – creative project on food		
or		
<b>Powerpoint presentation</b> (10 slides - food topic presentation)		
Due exam week, 4/27 by noon	10	

**NO LATE essays, written assignments, exams, exam essays accepted without approved excuse (medical or official UF business)**

### Grading scale:

<b>A = 92-100</b>	<b>C = 72-77.00</b>
<b>A- = 90-91.99</b>	<b>C- = 70-71.99</b>
<b>B+ = 88-89.99</b>	<b>D+ = 68-69.99</b>
<b>B = 82-87.99</b>	<b>D = 62-67.99</b>
<b>B- = 80-81.99</b>	<b>D- = 60-61.99</b>
<b>C+ = 78-79.99</b>	<b>E = &lt;60</b>

UF grading policy: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/staff/grades.html#grading>

Students are required to follow the UF honor code. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:

"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

PLAGARISIM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. IF YOU PLAGARIZE SOURCES, I WILL FILE A FORMAL GRIEVANCE WITH THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE FOR JUDICIAL AFFAIRS AND IT WILL BECOME PART OF YOUR PERMANENT RECORD. YOU WILL RECEIVE A ZERO ON THE ASSIGNMENT.

**NO makeup exams or quizzes** will be administered and no late assignments will be accepted without a signed excuse for medical illness or documentation for absence (such as a family death notice). If you will be away from campus on official university business, you must make arrangements in advance.

No LATE ASSIGNMENTS will be accepted without documentation (as specified above).

### ***Accommodation for Students with Disabilities***

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. **Please make any requests by the second week of class.**

### ***UF Counseling Services***

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. [University Counseling and Wellness Center](#), 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575, personal and career counseling
2. [Sexual Assault Recovery Services](#) (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling
3. [Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling
4. [Reading & Writing Center](#), Broward Hall, 392-0791, writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

Date	Topic	Readings
<b>Week 1</b>		
Jan. 11	<b>Introduction</b>	
Jan. 13	Defining Foodways	Barthes; Sutton in F&C Introduction to F&C Farb and Armelagos on UFe-I
<b>Week 2</b>		
Jan. 19, 21	<b>Human Evolution and Diet</b>	
	Meat Consumption and Brain Development	
	Teeth: Evolution and Function	
	Scavenging vs. Hunting; The Role of Fire and Tools	
Human use of fire: <a href="http://www.sci-news.com/othersciences/anthropology/paleoanthropology/earliest-europeans-fire-cooking-04452.html">http://www.sci-news.com/othersciences/anthropology/paleoanthropology/earliest-europeans-fire-cooking-04452.html</a>		
Hunting and scavenging: <a href="https://phys.org/news/2013-05-earliest-evidence-human-ancestors-scavenging.html">https://phys.org/news/2013-05-earliest-evidence-human-ancestors-scavenging.html</a>		
Early fat consumption: <a href="https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2019/02/19/new-yale-study-claims-human-ancestors-chose-fat-not-meat/">https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2019/02/19/new-yale-study-claims-human-ancestors-chose-fat-not-meat/</a>		
Early fishing in China: <a href="https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/07/090706171544.htm">https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/07/090706171544.htm</a>		
<b>Week 3</b>		
Jan. 26, Jan 28	<b>The Archaeology of Foodways</b>	
	Hunter/Gatherers and Foragers	
	Food Production/Domestication	Van der veen UFe-I
	Feeding Ancient Civilizations	Staller chapters UFe-I
Evolution of the human diet: <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.com/foodfeatures/evolution-of-diet/">https://www.nationalgeographic.com/foodfeatures/evolution-of-diet/</a>		
Early salmon fishing: <a href="https://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/earliest-evidence-of-ancient-north-american-salmon-fishing/">https://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/earliest-evidence-of-ancient-north-american-salmon-fishing/</a>		
<b>Week 4</b>		
Feb 2, 4	<b>European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy</b>	
		Potato chapter- Messer UFe-I
	<b>Feb. 4 Assignment #1 due by midnight</b>	
	Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning/canvas class site	
Chocolate: <a href="https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/archaeology-chocolate-180954243/">https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/archaeology-chocolate-180954243/</a>		

**Week 5**

Feb. 9	Sugar, Labor	Mintz in F&C
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Feb. 11	<b>EXAM 1 online and take home essay distributed</b> Each portion (in-class exam and essay) = 50% of exam grade	
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**Week 6**

Feb 16, Feb 18	<b>Food and Cognition - Dietary Taboos/Restrictions, Contamination</b> Irrational Behavior vs. Human Adaptation Sacred Cows, Prohibited Pork                      Harris in F&C Jewish Dietary Laws – guest lecture <b>Cannibalism- Fact and Fiction</b> Jones et al. UFe-I <b>Exam 1 - Essay answer is due Tuesday, Feb 16 at midnight</b> Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning/canvas class site Please view – <i>Holy cow</i> – link to be provided	
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**Week 7**

Feb. 23	<b>Food and Identity</b> Cuisines and Meal Structure	Douglas; Levi-Strauss in F&C Bourdieu; Narayan in F&C
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**Food Exercise #2 due 2/23 at midnight – submit via Canvas**

Feb. 25	Recharge day – no class!
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**Week 8**

March 2, 4	<b>Food and Identity</b> Gender and Food	Allison; Walmsley in F&C Ehrhardt; Zafar in F&C De Certeau and Giard in F&C Jones et al. UFe-I Counihan in F&C Freedman and Jurafsky in F&C
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<https://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20210104-the-chef-preserving-canadas-indigenous-identity?ocid=ww.social.link.email>

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/alaska-hospital-native-food>

**Week 9**

March 9, 11	<b>Secular and Religious Rituals</b> Food and Ritual                      Nahum-Claudel UFe-I Feasting, Fasting                      Read rules regarding Ramandan fasting Guest Lecture – religious fasting      Catholic Fasting statement on UFe-I <b>Food Exercise #3 due 3/11 at midnight – submit via Canvas</b>	
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**Week 10**

March 16

**Cultural Variation in Body Form, Eating Disorders**

Fat in Island Cultures

Sobo UFe-I

Body Form and Health

Wangsgaard Thompson in F&amp;C

The Obesity Epidemic

Julier in F&amp;C

March 18

**EXAM 2 online and take-home essay distributed**

Essay = 50% of Exam 2 grade

Essay answer is due March 23 at midnight, Submit essay via Canvas

**Week 11**

March 23

**Food and Health**

Nabhan; Allen in F&amp;C;

Poppendieck; Van Eserik in F&amp;C

Weidman UFe-I

Sherman and Billing UFe-I

**Exam 2, Essay answer is due March 23 at midnight, Submit essay via Canvas**

March 25

Pets vs. Food in South America

deFrance on UF e-I

Commodities from Latin America

Pilcher; Barndt in F&amp;C

What is Fair Trade - guest lecture

S. Am cattle

**Week 12**

March 30

**Food Security – Africa, Politics and Food**

Coffee in Ethiopia

Howard - online article:

[https://www.anthropologymatters.com/index.php/anth\\_matters/article/view/510/634](https://www.anthropologymatters.com/index.php/anth_matters/article/view/510/634)

Please view this short film – Coffee is the Backbone of Ethiopian Culture—Even in Brooklyn

<https://youtu.be/echYUZMCZbs>

April 1

Africa- climate change

Zimbabwe case study (ban on street food news article:

<https://www.dw.com/en/zimbabwe-street-food-vendors-banned-over-typhoid-cholera-fears/a-37104481>

Zimbabwe agricultural change – read online article

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23311886.2019.1622485>**Week 13**

April 6, 8

**Population Expansion and Food in Asia**

Fast Food in Asia, esp. Japan

Allison in F&amp;C

Japan and Food Identity

Please view *The Colonel comes to Japan* = <https://youtu.be/uwwmKcFVji8>

**4/6 Food Film Review due at Midnight, Submit via Canvas**

China and Food Security  
Exported Asian Foodways

Imbruce in F&C  
Matejowsky in F&C  
Padoongpatt in F&C

Please view *China Rises – Food is Heaven* = [https://youtu.be/6YlQajYeC\\_g](https://youtu.be/6YlQajYeC_g)

**Week 14**

April 13

**Food and Political Economy**

Goody; Nestle; Kloppenburg in F&C  
Friedmann in F&C  
Feeding the cities FAO on UFe-I

Please view *Holy chicken* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSyicDf9UvI>

**Food Insecurity**

Markowitz, Leitch; Levkoe F&C

April 15

**Third exam – online - non- cumulative – same format as previous exams**

**Week 15**

April 20

Course summary

**Exam 3 essay due at midnight, turn in via Canvas**

**Exam Week**

April 27

Unessay or Powerpoint presentation  
**Tuesday, April 27 at midnight**  
**(NO Late assignments accepted)**