

Food and Culture
Dr. Susan D. deFrance
Anthropology 3467, sec. 08BF
Spring 2015
Office Hours – T & Thur – 2:30-4:00
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FOOD AND CULTURE

Required Texts

Carole Counihan and Penny Van Esterik, editors

2013 *Food and Culture: A Reader*. THIRD EDITION Routledge Press.

*** on syllabus as F&C

James L. Watson and Melissa L. Caldwell, editors

2005 *The Cultural Politics of Food and Eating: a Reader*. Blackwell Publishing.

*** on syllabus as CPFE

Additional readings will be available as pdf files on the course 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

CELL PHONES TO OFF – NO TEXTING, CLASS COMPUTER USE ONLY

Students who disregard cell phone policy will be asked to leave class.

Attendance

Attendance is required, but is not recorded. There are 6 unannounced quizzes that count toward your grade. Students not in attendance will not be allowed to enter the class only to take quizzes.

Lecture PowerPoints are NOT posted on elearning.

Grading

Quizzes (6 quizzes, lowest one dropped, 5 @ 3% each) unannounced in-class (no makeups without documentation for approved absences)	15
Foreign Food Film Review (on approved film list) 4/7	10
Three Food and Culture Exercises (5% each) Due Feb 3, Feb 26, March 17	15
Extra Credit – can do up to 2 additional Food and Culture Exercises (2.5% each), due dates TBA	
3 Exams in class (with take-home essays) 2/5, 3/19 In-class and essay portion = 50% each Essays are due 2/10, 3/24 at start of class Use Turnitin to submit essays NO LATE essays accepted	40 (20% each)
Exam 3 - April - last class (non-cumulative) 4/21 Take home essay distributed last class, due at exam time Final essays are due on Tuesday 4/28 - 9:30 a.m. Use Turnitin to submit final essay answer Final essays can be turned in ahead of time.	20

Grading scale:

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

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
Week 1		
Jan. 6	Introduction	
Jan. 8	Defining Foodways	Mead in F&C Counihan and Van Esterik in F&C Farb and Armelagos on UFe-I
Week 2		
Jan. 13, 15	Human Evolution and Diet	
	Meat Consumption and Brain Development	
	Teeth: Evolution and Function	
	Scavenging vs. Hunting	O'Connell, Hawkes, and Jones UFe-I
	The Role of Fire and Tools	Blumenshine UFe-I Early fire – Bower on UF e-I Neanderthal diet- Guzik on UF e-I
Week 3		
Jan. 20, 22	The Archaeology of Foodways	
	Hunter/Gatherers and Foragers	Rick, Erlandson, and Vellanoweth UFe-I
	Food Production and Domestication	Van der veen UFe-I
	Food to Feed Ancient Civilizations	Gummerman UFe-I
Week 4		
Jan. 27, 29	European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy	
	Chocolate, Potatoes	Terrio in CPFE Potato chapter UFe-I
Week 5		
Feb. 3	Sugar	Mintz in F&C Levenstein; Poe UFe-I
	Big Sugar	Roseberry in CPFE
	Food Exercise #1 due	
Feb. 5	EXAM 1 in-class and take home essay distributed	
	Essay = 50% of grade	
	Essay answer is due Feb. 10 at the start of class, 12:50 pm	
	Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning	
Week 6		
Feb. 10	Food and Cognition - Dietary Taboos/Restrictions, Contamination	
	Irrational Behavior vs. Human Adaptation	
	Sacred Cows, Prohibited Pork	Harris in F&C; Gillette in CPFE
	Jewish Dietary Laws – guest lecture – David Markus	
	Essay answer is due Feb. 10 at the start of class, 12:50 pm	

Feb. 11	Cannibalism- Fact and Fiction See reading “The Edible Dead” at http://www.britarch.ac.uk/ba/ba59/feat1.shtml	Jones et al. UFe-I
Week 7		
Feb. 17	Food and Identity Cuisines and Meal Structure	Douglas; Levi-Strauss in F&C Barthes; Bourdieu; Carrington in F&C Yasmeen in F&C; Sutton in F&C Siskind UFe-I; Cronin and McCarty UFe-I
Feb. 19	Food and Identity Gender and Food	Williams-Forsen in F&C Holden in F&C; Swenson in F&C Counihan in F&C; Davis UFe-I
Week 8		
Feb. 24, 26	Secular and Religious Rituals Food and Ritual Feasting, Fasting Guest Lecture – religious fasting Food Exercise #2 due 2/26	Bynum in F&C; Read rules regarding Ramandan fasting and Catholic Fasting statement on UFe-I
Week 9		
March 3, 5	NO CLASS UF Spring Break (have an unusual food experience)	
Week 10		
March 10, 12	Cultural Variation in Body Form- Why some cultures value fat Fat in Island Cultures Body Form and Health The Obesity Epidemic	Bordo in F&C; Parasecoli in F&C O’Connor in F&C; Julier in F&C Wangsgaard Thompson UFe-I
Week 11		
March 17	Food and Health Food Exercise #3 due	Nabhan in F&C; Albritton in F&C Poppendieck in F&C; Van Eserik in F&C Hadley and Patil UFe-I; Weidman UFe-I Sherman and Billing UFe-I
March 19	EXAM 2 in-class portion and take-home essay distributed Essay = 25% of grade Essay answer is due March 24 at the start of class, 12:50 pm Submit essay answer via Turnitin	
Week 12		
March 24	Commodities from Latin America What is Fair Trade Essay answer is due March 24 at the start of class, 12:50 pm Submit essay answer via Turnitin	Pilcher in CPFE Dickinson UFe-I

March 26	Pets vs. Food in South America	Massara in F&C Goldfrank in CPFE deFrance on UF e-l
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Week 13	Food Security – focus on Africa, Politics and Food	
March 31	Africa – Diversity of a continent	Freidberg in CPFE

April 2	Africa Zimbabwe case study	Hughes in F&C
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Week 14	Population Expansion and Food	
April 7	China and Food Security Japan and Food Identity	Miller in CPFE

4/7 FOOD FILM REVIEW DUE AT START OF CLASS TIME
Use Turnitin on elearning – due 4/7 at 11:45 am

April 9	Fast Food in Asia Effects on Health and Culture	Allison in F&C; Heldke in F&C, Cerrarini in F&C Miller in CPFE; Watson in CPFE Yan in CPFE; Lozada in CPFE
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Week 15	Food and Political Economy:	
April 14	Subsidies, Food Aid, Commodities Schlosser, Pilcher, Clapp F&C Watson and Caldwell Intro. to CPFE Paarlberg in CPFE; Brownell in CPFE Feeding the cities FAO on UFe-l	

April 16	Food Insecurity-guest lecture	Fitchen in F&C; Belasco in CPFE Phillips in CPFE; Ritvo in CPFE
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Week 16	Course summary – first portion of class	
April 21	In class exam – non- cumulative – same format as previous exams TAKE HOME FINAL ESSAY DISTRIBUTED	

Exam Week	Tuesday, April 28 9:30 a.m.	
April 28	TAKE HOME ESSAY DUE AT 9:30 am Tuesday, 4/28 (NO Late papers accepted; emailed answers will receive a 0) Use Turnitin on elearning to turn in final essay when completed (you can turn in your essay anytime and from anywhere before the due date)	