

Food and Culture
Dr. Susan D. deFrance
Anthropology 3467, sec. 2A73/2A74
Spring 2020
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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

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 – count as attendance 15

(no makeups without documentation for approved absences)

Foreign Food Film Review (on approved film list) 4/7 10

Three Food and Culture Exercises –~2 pages (5% each) 15

Due Feb 4, Feb 25, March 17

Extra Credit – can do up to 2 additional Food and Culture Exercises (2.5% each of final grade), due dates TBA

3 Exams - online exams during class time (with take-home essays)

2/11, 3/19, 4/21 (last class non-cumulative) 60 (20% each)

In-class and essay portion = 50% each

Essays (~2 double-spaced pages) are due 2/16 (Sunday), 3/24, 4/28

Use Turnitin on elearning/canvas to submit essays

NO LATE essays accepted without medical excuse

3rd take home essay prompt posted last class, due during exam week

Final essays **are due on Tuesday 4/28 - 9:30 a.m.**

Use Turnitin on elearning/canvas to submit final essay answer

Final essays can be turned in ahead of time.

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. 7	Introduction	
Jan. 9	Defining Foodways	Barthes; Sutton in F&C Introduction to F&C Farb and Armelagos on UFe-I
Week 2		
Jan. 14, 16	Human Evolution and Diet Meat Consumption and Brain Development Teeth: Evolution and Function Scavenging vs. Hunting The Role of Fire and Tools	
Human use of fire: http://www.sci-news.com/othersciences/anthropology/paleoanthropology/earliest-europeans-fire-cooking-04452.html		
Hunting and scavenging: https://phys.org/news/2013-05-earliest-evidence-human-ancestors-scavenging.html		
Early fat consumption: https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2019/02/19/new-yale-study-claims-human-ancestors-chose-fat-not-meat/		
Early fishing in China: https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/07/090706171544.htm		
Week 3		
Jan. 21, 23	The Archaeology of Foodways Hunter/Gatherers and Foragers Food Production/Domestication Feeding Ancient Civilizations	Van der veen UFe-I Staller chapters UFe-I
Evolution of the human diet: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/foodfeatures/evolution-of-diet/		
Early salmon fishing: https://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org/earliest-evidence-of-ancient-north-american-salmon-fishing/		
Week 4		
Jan. 28, 30	European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy	Potato chapter- Messer UFe-I
Chocolate: https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/archaeology-chocolate-180954243/		

Week 5

Feb. 4, 6

Sugar, Labor

Food Exercise #1 due

Mintz in F&C

Levenstein; Poe UFe-I

Roseberry UFe-I

Week 6

Feb. 11

EXAM 1 online and take home essay distributed

Each portion (in-class exam and essay) = 50% of grade

Essay answer is due Sunday Feb. 16 at 5:00 pm

Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning/canvas class site

Feb 13

Food and Cognition - Dietary Taboos/Restrictions, Contamination

Irrational Behavior vs. Human Adaptation

Sacred Cows, Prohibited Pork

Harris in F&C

Jewish Dietary Laws – guest lecture

Cannibalism- Fact and Fiction

Jones et al. UFe-I

Week 7

Feb. 18

Food and Identity

Cuisines and Meal Structure

Douglas; Levi-Strauss in F&C

Bourdieu; Narayan in F&C

Siskind UFe-I; Cronin and McCarty UFe-I

Feb. 20

Food and Identity

Gender and Food

Allison; Walmsley in F&C

Ehrhardt; Zafar in F&C

De Certeau and Giard in F&C

Counihan in F&C; Davis UFe-I

Freedman and Jurafsky in F&C

Week 8

Feb. 25, 27

Secular and Religious Rituals

Food and Ritual

Nahum-Claudel UFe-I

Feasting, Fasting

Read rules regarding Ramandan fasting

Guest Lecture – religious fasting Catholic Fasting statement on UFe-I

Food Exercise #2 due 2/25**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, Eating Disorders

Fat in Island Cultures

Sobo UFe-I

Body Form and Health

Wangsgaard Thompson in F&C

The Obesity Epidemic

Julier in F&C

Week 11

March 17

**Food and Health
Food Exercise #3 due**

Nabhan; Allen in F&C;
 Poppendieck; Van Eserik in F&C
 Hadley and Patil UFe-I;
 Weidman UFe-I
 Sherman and Billing UFe-I

March 19

EXAM 2 online and take-home essay distributed

Essay = 25% of grade

Essay answer is due March 24 at the start of class, 10:40 am

Submit essay answer via Turnitin

Week 12

March 24

Commodities from Latin America
 What is Fair Trade - guest lecture

Pilcher; Barndt in F&C
 Dickinson UFe-I

Essay answer is due March 24 at the start of class, 10:40 am**Submit essay answer via Turnitin on elearning**

March 26

Pets vs. Food in South America
 S. Am cattle

deFrance on UF e-I

Week 13

March 31

Food Security – Africa, Politics and Food

Coffee in Ethiopia

Howard - online article:

https://www.anthropologymatters.com/index.php/anth_matters/article/view/510/634

April 2

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 14

April 7

Population Expansion and Food in Asia

Fast Food in Asia, esp. Japan
 Japan and Food Identity

Allison in F&C

4/7 FOOD FILM REVIEW DUE AT START OF CLASS TIME**Use Turnitin on elearning – due 4/7 at 10:40 am**

April 9

China and Food Security
 Exported Asian Foodways

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

Week 15

April 14

Food and Political Economy

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

April 16

Food Insecurity

Modern Food challenges - guest lecture
Course summary

Markowitz, Leitch; Levkoe F&C

Week 16

April 21

Thrid exam – online - non- cumulative – same format as previous exams
TAKE HOME ESSAY for Exam 3 prompt posted online

Exam Week

April 28

Tuesday, April 28 9:30 a.m.

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)**