

ANT3467 FOOD AND CULTURE

Dr. Susan D. deFrance

Anthropology 3467

Spring 2024

Office Hours – 1350B Turlington

Tuesday – 2-4 pm; Thursday 9:30-10:30 am

and by appt. – sdef@ufl.edu

TA/Grader: TBA

Online Office hours:

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 Assessment

Grading	percent final grade	
Quizzes- ONLINE (11 quizzes, lowest one dropped, 10 @ 2% each)	20	
Foreign Food Film Review (on approved film list) 4/9	10	
Three Food and Culture Written Exercises (10% each) ~2 pages (2x spaced) Due Feb 1, Feb 20, March 14	30	
Extra Credit – can do up to 2 additional Food and Culture Exercises (2 % each of final grade), due dates TBA		
3 Exams - online exams during class time (with take-home essays) 2/8, 3/21, 4/18 (all are non-cumulative) In-class and essay portion = 50% each Essays (~2 double-spaced pages) are due 2/13, 3/26, 4/23 Use Turnitin on elearning/canvas to submit essays	30	(10% each)
Final Project Unessay – creative project on food or Powerpoint presentation (10 slides - food topic presentation) Due exam week, 4/30 by midnight	10	

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

Grading scale:

A + = 97-100	C+ = 78-79.99
A = 94-96.99	C = 72-77.00
A- = 90-93.99	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
	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, religious holiday or approved UF participation in sports or activity [e.g., band]). 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. 9	Introduction	
Jan. 11	Defining Foodways	Barthes; Sutton in F&C Introduction to F&C Farb and Armelagos on UFe-I
Week 2		
Jan. 16, 18	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. 23, Jan 25	The Archaeology of Foodways	
	Hunter/Gatherers and Foragers	
	Food Production/Domestication	Van der veen UFe-I
	Feeding Ancient Civilizations	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 30, Feb 1	European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy	
		Potato chapter- Messer UFe-I
	Feb. 1 Assignment #1 due by midnight	
	Chocolate: https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/archaeology-chocolate-180954243/	

Week 5

Feb. 6 Sugar, Labor Mintz in F&C

Feb. 8 **EXAM 1 online and take home essay distributed**
Each portion (in-class exam and essay) = 50% of exam grade

Week 6

Feb 13, Feb 15 **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

Exam 1 - Essay answer is due Tuesday, Feb 13 at midnight
Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning/canvas class site

Please view – *Holy cow* –

<https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/06ebed55c1b446c49e62cd9967222f061d> (use your UF vpn if needed)

Week 7

Feb. 20 **Food and Identity** Douglas; Levi-Strauss in F&C
Cuisines and Meal Structure Bourdieu; Narayan in F&C

Food Exercise #2 due 2/20 at midnight

Feb. 22 **Food as Cultural Heritage/Food Appropriation**

<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 8

Feb 27, 29 **Food and Identity** Allison; Walmsley in F&C
Gender and Food Ehrhardt; Zafar in F&C
De Certeau and Giard in F&C
Jones et al. UFe-I; Davis UFe-I
Counihan in F&C
Freedman and Jurafsky in F&C

Week 9

March 5, 7

Secular and Religious Rituals

Food and Ritual

Nahum-Claudel UFe-I

Feasting, Fasting

Ramandan and Catholic fasting rules UFe-I

Guest lecture – Buddhist food rules and rituals - Yuan Zhang

Food Exercise #3 due 3/7 at midnight

Week 10

March 12, 14 **BREAK WEEK – eat something different and unusual**

Week 11

March 19

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

March 21

EXAM 2 online and take-home essay

Essay = 50% of Exam 2 grade

Essay answer is due March 26 at midnight, Submit essay via Canvas

Week 12

March 26

Food and Health

Nabhan; Allen in F&C;

Poppendieck; Van Eserik in F&C

Weidman UFe-I

Sherman and Billing UFe-I

Exam 2, Essay answer is due March 23 at midnight

March 28

Pets vs. Food in South America

deFrance on UF e-I

Commodities from Latin America

Pilcher; Barndt in F&C

S. Am cattle

Week 13

April 2

Food Security – Africa, Politics and Food

Coffee in Ethiopia - Guest lecture

Howard - online article:

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 4 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 9, 11 **Population Expansion and Food in Asia**
Fast Food in Asia, esp. Japan Allison in F&C
Japan and Food Identity
Please view *The Colonel comes to Japan* = <https://youtu.be/uwwmKcFVji8>

4/9 Food Film Review due at midnight

China and Food Security Imbruce in F&C
Exported Asian Foodways Matejowsky in F&C
Padoongpatt in F&C
Please view *China Rises – Food is Heaven* = https://youtu.be/6YlQajYeC_g

Week 15

April 16 **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 18 **Third exam – online - non- cumulative – same format as previous exams**

Week 16

April 23 Course summary
Exam 3 essay due at midnight

Exam Week

April 30 Unessay or Powerpoint presentation
Tuesday, April 30 at midnight
(NO Late assignments accepted without medical excuse)