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
*** on syllabus as CPFE

Additional readings will be available as pdf files on the course e-learning site.
*** on syllabus as UFe-l

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 15
   (no makeups without documentation for approved absences)

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 40 (20% each)
   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

Exam 3 - April - last class (non-cumulative) 4/21 20
   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.

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/scr/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
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Jan. 6</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Jan. 8</td>
<td>Defining Foodways</td>
<td>Mead in F&amp;C</td>
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<td>Counihan and Van Esterik in F&amp;C</td>
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<td>Farb and Armelagos on UFe-1</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>Human Evolution and Diet</td>
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<td>Jan. 13, 15</td>
<td>Human Evolution and Diet</td>
<td>Meat Consumption and Brain Development</td>
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<td>Teeth: Evolution and Function</td>
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<td>Scavenging vs. Hunting</td>
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<td>The Role of Fire and Tools</td>
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<td>Early fire – Bower on UF e-l</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>The Archaeology of Foodways</td>
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<td>Jan. 20, 22</td>
<td>The Archaeology of Foodways</td>
<td>Hunter/Gatherers and Foragers</td>
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<td>Food Production and Domesticication</td>
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<td>Food to Feed Ancient Civilizations</td>
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<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy</td>
<td>Chocolate, Potatoes</td>
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<td>Jan. 27, 29</td>
<td>European Colonization, Food Migrations and their Legacy</td>
<td>Potato chapter UFe-l</td>
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<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>Mintz in F&amp;C</td>
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<td>Feb. 3</td>
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<td>Levenstein; Poe UFe-l</td>
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<td>Big Sugar</td>
<td>Roseberry in CPFE</td>
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<td>Food Exercise #1 due</td>
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<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>EXAM 1 in-class and take home essay distributed</td>
<td>Essay = 50% of grade</td>
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<td>Essay answer is due Feb. 10 at the start of class, 12:50 pm</td>
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<td>Submit answer via Turnitin on elearning</td>
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<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>Food and Cognition - Dietary Taboos/Restrictions, Contamination</td>
<td>Irrational Behavior vs. Human Adaptation</td>
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<td>Feb. 10</td>
<td>Food and Cognition - Dietary Taboos/Restrictions, Contamination</td>
<td>Sacred Cows, Prohibited Pork</td>
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<td>Jewish Dietary Laws – guest lecture – David Markus</td>
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Feb. 11  Cannibalism - Fact and Fiction
See reading “The Edible Dead” at Jones et al. UFe-
http://www.britarch.ac.uk/ba/ba59/feat1.shtml

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-l; Cronin and McCarty UFe-l

Feb. 19  Food and Identity
Gender and Food Williams-Forson in F&C
Holden in F&C; Swenson in F&C
Counihan in F&C; Davis UFe-l

Week 8
Feb. 24, 26  Secular and Religious Rituals
Food and Ritual Bynum in F&C;
Feasting, Fasting Read rules regarding Ramandan fasting and
Guest Lecture – religious fasting Catholic Fasting statement on UFe-l

Food Exercise #2 due 2/26

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 Bordo in F&C; Parasecoli in F&C
Body Form and Health O’Connor in F&C; Julier in F&C
The Obesity Epidemic Wangsgaard Thompson UFe-l

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-l; Weidman UFe-l
Sherman and Billing UFe-l

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 Pilcher in CPFE
What is Fair Trade Dickinson UFe-l
Essay answer is due March 24 at the start of class, 12:50 pm
Submit essay answer via Turnitin
March 26  Pets vs. Food in South America  Massara in F&C  
Goldfrank in CPFE  
deFrance on UF e-l

Week 13  Food Security – focus on Africa, Politics and Food  
March 31  Africa – Diversity of a continent  Freidberg in CPFE

April 2  Africa  Hughes in F&C  
Zimbabwe case study

Week 14  Population Expansion and Food  
April 7  China and Food Security  Miller in CPFE  
Japan and Food Identity

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  Allison in F&C  
Effects on Health and Culture  Heldke in F&C, Cerrarini in F&C  
Miller in CPFE; Watson in CPFE  
Yan in CPFE; Lozada in CPFE

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 UF e-l

April 16  Food Insecurity-guest lecture  Fitchen in F&C; Belasco in CPFE  
Phillips in CPFE; Ritvo in CPFE

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  
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)