

INR 4931/ WST 3930
Gender and Transnational Food Politics
Fall 2016
Fridays F 4-6 (10:40am-1:40pm)
WEIMER Room 1094

Instructor

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Brief Course Description

This class is about the politics of food, the business of food, and the struggle for food justice. Terms like sustainability, localism, ethical consumerism, etc. are popular in many activist agendas, while businesses use these same terms for a different set of purposes: i.e. how profit and benefit might come together. At first this may seem counter intuitive: how is it possible to be ecologically minded and socially progressive while growing a global business? Yet there is a real impetus to change the face of business and many socially progressive organizations are leading the way. We will focus on "game-changers" in the food industry and analyze the strategies these organizations/companies/individuals have taken to grow their profits while remaining committed to social justice agendas.

The readings for this course will draw upon a wide range in disciplines from business, political science, economics, film and media studies, popular culture, and gender studies. These readings will provide a theoretical structure to out-of-class service learning experiences and work assignments.

Service Learning Requirement

This class will require a service-learning component. Most of our service-learning time will be outside of class—so please organize your time well or you will be hurting at the end of the term. Students are expected to work on a project with an organization for at least 40 hours over the duration of one semester (roughly 10 hours per month between September-December).

Learning Objectives, Questions & Themes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:

- Explain why and how gender and race intersect with the study of food
- Describe why and how governments cooperate with one another to manage food politics
- Define the political challenges to globalization
- Explain how to begin feminist analyses of global political economy
- Trace the uneven effects of food politics on men and women
- Theorize how local practices and activism impact and shape global movements
- Relate service learning to theories of gender and food politics through first-hand experience

Course Requirements and Student Assessment

Grade point averages will be determined according to the UF guidelines noted on the following registrar's page: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

Assessment

10%: Attendance and Participation
20%: Assessments (4 in-class reading quizzes (5% each))
40%: Timely completion of service-learning project (FULL CREDIT OR ZERO;
APPROVAL/VERIFICATION OF HOURS COMPLETED FROM SUPERVISOR OVERSEEING SERVICE-
LEARNING IS REQUIRED)
30%: Final write-up of project (6-8 pages)

Please note: Grades of C- will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, or General Education credit

Attendance Policy

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Student Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation

A Note on Academic Integrity

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor 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." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are

obliged to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor of TAs in this class.

Course and Faculty Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Important Phone Numbers

Phone number and contact site for university counseling services and mental health services
Mental Health Services: 392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> University
Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Readings:

Articles—available in pdf format through CANVAS

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Weekly Readings

Breakdown of Readings/Schedule Week-by-Week

Week 1) Friday August 25th: Triple Bottom Line (Profit, Planet, People)

1. bell hooks, "Visionary Feminism" 110-118

Week 2) Friday September 2nd: Benevolent Benefits

1. Tagore, Home and the World (all)
2. Amy Bentley, Chapter from Eating for Victory
3. Elizabeth Gilbert, Selections from Eat, Pray, Love

Week 3) Friday September 9th: Employee Growth Ecosystems

1. Betty Freidan, "The Feminine Mystique"
2. Michael Pollan, "Out of the Kitchen"
3. Whitney Walton, "'To Triumph before Feminine Taste': Female Consumption, Gender, and Women at the Exhibition" 49-69. (Paris Crystal Palace Exhibition in 19 CE France)
4. Laura Shapiro, "Perfection Salad"

Week 4) Friday September 16th: Tribe Culture

1. Vandana Shiva, "The Violence of the Green Revolution"
2. Cynthia Enloe, "Carmen Miranda on my Mind: The international politics of the banana"

Week 5) Friday September 23rd: Freedom Focused Workplace

1. Caitlyn Flanigan "Cultivating Failure"
2. Goodman and DuPuis "Knowing Food and Growing Food"

3. Peggy Orenstein, "The Femivores Dilemma"

Week 6) Friday September 30th: Considerate Compensation

1. Yvonne Liu and Domique Apollon "The Color of Food"
2. John Bowe "Nobodies: Does Slavery Exist in America?"

Week 7) Friday October 7th: Remarkable Customer Care

1. [service learning day-no class-work on your projects]
2. [Dr. A will be at a conference]

Week 8) Friday October 14th: no school Homecoming

Week 9) Friday October 21st: Earth Friendly Energy

1. Julia Child, "My Life in France"
2. Laura Shapiro "Julia Child: A Life"

Week 10) Friday October 28th: Water and Waste Minimizer

1. Susan Bordo, "Reading the Slender Body"
2. Marion Nestle, "Eating Made Simple"

Week 11) Friday November 4th: Eco Minded Materials

1. Mahasweta Devi, "The Hunt"
2. Appudurai, "How to make a national cuisine"
3. Lucy Long, "Culinary Tourism"

Week 12) Friday November 11th: no school Veterans Day

Week 13) Friday November 18th: Planet Friendly

1. Raj Patel, "Can the World Feed..."

Week 14) Friday November 25th: no school Thanksgiving

Week 15) Friday December 2nd: Caring Through Sharing

1. Student presentations and celebration of accomplishments!