

GEOGRAPHY 3911 – Food Systems and Food Security (F15)

Instructor: Dr. Bradley A. Wilson
Office: RC-2006A
Office hours: Mon: 10:30-11:20am
Tues: 10am-noon
Wed: 10:30-11:20am
Thurs: 10am-2:20pm

Text: Critical Perspectives in Food Studies (2012)

Required Reading: (other assigned readings available online or on course website)

Grading:	*Midterm Exam #1	20%	(Oct. 27)
	*Midterm Exam #2	20%	(Nov. 26)
	Food Source Mapping Exercises	20%	(10% each: due Oct. 8 <u>and</u> Nov. 19)
	Food Recall Presentation	5%	(Oct. 29 <u>or</u> Nov. 3)
	Term Paper Abstract & 5 Ref's	5%	(due Oct. 13, lates not graded)
	Term Paper	30%	(due at noon on Dec. 3)

Late penalties on all due material: 10% per day.

*If you choose to miss an **exam** for any reason other than those deemed acceptable in Lakehead University calendar, then you will be given the opportunity of a essay-based makeup exam that is significantly longer and more difficult.

Course Description:

This course will cover the following topics:

- history of agriculture
- global food production and resources
- issues industrial-style food production systems
- alternate food systems
- food system challenges
- national and regional food security issues
- household level studies in food security

Student Responsibilities:

- attend all classes
- complete assigned readings before class
- participate in class discussions

Weekly Topics and Readings

1. Changing Food Systems (text: chapt. 2, 6)
 - history of agriculture
2. Changing Food Systems (text: chapt. 2, 6)
 - agricultural revolutions
3. World Resources
 - soils, types of agricultural methods
 - (www.nature.com/scitable/knowledge/library/soil-the-foundation-of-agriculture-84224268)
4. Politics of Industrial Food Production (text: chapt. 7, 12; Pfeifer, 2004)
 - term paper discussion
 - **ASSIGNMENT:** Food Source Mapping Project #1 - Due Oct. 8
5. Alternative Food Systems (text: chapt. 20, 22)
 - rise of local food movements (www.sleepyfarm.ca)
 - **Term Paper Abstract** and 5 research paper abstracts - Due Oct. 13
6. Food Safety (www.cfig.ca & www.inspection.gc.ca)
 - Exam Review
7. **Midterm #1 - Oct. 27**
 - **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:** food recalls in Canada - Oct. 29
8. - **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS:** food recalls in Canada - Nov. 3
 - Challenges in the Industrial Food System (text: chapt. 10, 11)
 - farming crisis
 - ocean fisheries
 - food wastage (FAO Report, 2012)
9. National Food Security Issues (2012 UN Report on FS in Canada)
 - building local/national food sovereignty
 - food security information systems
10. Regional/Local Food Security Issues (text: chapt. 21)
 - food desert research in Canada (Wilson and McKenzie, 2014)
 - video: A Place at the Table
 - **ASSIGNMENT:** Food Source Mapping Project #2 - Due Nov. 19
11. Exam Review
 - Midterm #2 - Nov. 26**
12. Household Food Security in Remote Areas (text: chapt. 13; Skinner et al., 2013)
 - video: Fed Up!!!