



THE POLITICS OF FOOD

Instructor name: Dr. Douglas A. West	Time and date: 22/01/10 -22/04/08 MW – 10-11:30AM
Office location: OS 1028	Classroom location: Zoom
Email: dwest@lakeheadu.ca	Office hours: By Appointment

D2L link: <https://mycourselink.lakeheadu.ca/d2l/home/71579>

Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to the complexity of food systems in Canada and as a vehicle for Community Service Learning around the issue of Migrant Farmworker Justice in Simcoe County, Ontario.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify issues related to the corporate food system in Canada, Ontario, Thunder Bay and Simcoe County.
- Understand the fundamental elements of Food Security, Food Sovereignty, activism around social change making and social justice related to food systems.
- Demonstrate their ability to write reports and essays at a level commensurate with third year university standards.
- Engage in debate and discussion regarding the “politics of the day” when and where appropriate.
- Understand and contribute to discussions around fair legal practice, equity and justice in the workplace, political protest, mediation and resolution and diversity issues affecting women, people involved in the agri-food industries in Canada, Ontario, Thunder Bay and Simcoe County.

COURSE MATERIALS

There is no required text for this course. Readings and other materials will be placed on D2L site

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Course Evaluation and Assessment Weighting

GRADING:

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION.....20%

MID-TERM TEST.....30%

(A test consisting of a choice of 2 out of 5 essay questions will take place on **February 16th** online.)

RESEARCH PAPER30%

Topics cleared by Instructor - due **April 4th** at midnight dwest@lakeheadu.ca

TERM ASSIGNMENT20%

The TERM ASSIGNMENT will consist of a number of comparative essay questions (probably three of six) which require students to discuss the ideas we cover in the course. It will be available on **April 6th on the D2L site for this course and submitted by April 8th to dwest@lakeheadu.ca**

Late assignments will be deducted 1 grade per day and will not be accepted more than (2) days after the deadline. Assignments submitted more than (2) days after the deadline will result in a mark of 0.

COURSE SCHEDULE, READINGS AND KEY DATES

Week 1 : January 10th Food and Labour Discourse

PowerPoint and readings on D2L
Readings for the week: <i>Looking for Work: Placing Labor in Food Studies</i> Sarah Besky and Sandy Brown <i>Food Fixations: Reconfiguring class in contemporary us food discourse</i> Helene A. Shugart

Week 2: January 17th Theorizing Food

PowerPoint and readings on D2L
Readings for the week: <i>Fruit, Vegetables, Fatness, and Foucault: Governing Students and their Families through School Health Policy</i> Carolyn Vander Schee <i>Paradox of Transition: Two Reports on How to Move Towards Sustainable Food Systems</i> Harriet Friedmann <i>A food policy for Canada, but not just for Canadians: Reaping justice for migrant farm workers</i> Anelyse M. Weiler

Week 3: January 24th: Food Democracy and Neoliberalism

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

Neoliberalism and the Making of Food Politics in Eastern Ontario

Peter Andree, Patricia Ballamingie and Brynne Sinclair-Waters

Practicing Food Democracy: A Pragmatic Politics of Transformation

Neva Hassanein

Week 4: January 31st Food Banks and the Politics of Poverty

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

Countermovement, Neoliberal Platoon, or Re-Gifting Depot? Understanding Decommodification in US Food Banks

John Lindenbaum

The Role of Food Banks in Addressing Food Insecurity: A Systematic Review

Chantelle Bazerghi, Fiona H. McKay and Matthew Dunn

Week 5 : February 7th Food Security and Food Sovereignty

PowerPoint and readings on D2L - Readings for the week:

***Comparing Food Security
and Food Sovereignty Discourses***

Lucy Jarosz

***People, Power, and Land: New Enclosures on
a Global Scale***

Charles Geisler and Fouad Makki

***Pick-Your-Own Labor: Migrant
Workers and Flexibility in Canadian
Agriculture***

Kerry Preibisch

Week 6: February 14th Food and Indigenous Peoples

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

Farmers, Foodies and First Nations: Getting to Food Sovereignty in Canada

Annette Aurélie Desmarais & Hannah Wittman

***Keeping 'Our' Land: Property, Agriculture and Tensions Between Indigenous and Settler Visions of
Food Sovereignty in Canada***

Lauren Kepkiewicz and Bryan Dale

***"I Will Not Leave My Body Here": Migrant
Farmworkers' Health and Safety Amidst a Climate of Coercion***

C. Susana Caxaj and Amy Cohen

Week 7: READING WEEK FEBRUARY 21st -25th

Week 8 : March 7th Food Literacy and Food Action

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

The Political Action of Food Literacy: A Scoping Review

Kerry Renwick

Mary Gale Smith

Radical Food Resistance

Wayne Roberts

Food Literacy: Definition and Framework for Action

Tracey Cullen, et. al.

Positioning Food Cultures: 'Alternative' Food as Distinctive Consumer Practice

Jessica Paddock

Week 9: March 14th Food Politics, The City and The Commons

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

Can Food as a Commons Advance food sovereignty?

Eric Holt-Giménez and Ilja van Lammeren

The City in the Country: Growing Alternative Food Networks in Metropolitan Areas

Lucy Jarosz

The Relational Character of Urban Agriculture:

Competing Perspectives on Land, Food, People, Agriculture and the City

Chenae Neilson and Lauren Rickards

Barely Legal: Racism and Migrant Farm Labour in the Context of Canadian Multiculturalism

J. Adam Perry

Week 10: March 21st Exploring Food as a “Cause”

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Readings for the week:

Community Shared Agriculture

Paul Fieldhouse

The Food System and Climate Change: An Exploration of Emerging Strategies to Reduce GHG Emissions in Canada

Rod Macrae, et. al.

Discussion Suppers as a Means for Community Engagement

Linda A. Faust, et. al

Cultivating Equitable Ground: Community-based Participatory Research to Connect Food Movements with Migrant Farmworkers

Anelyse M. Weiler, Charles Z. Levkoe and Carolyn Young

Week 11: March 28th Food, Class Structure and Alternative Consumption

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Reading for the week:

Does social class predict diet quality?

Nicole Darmon and Adam Drewnowski

Short-Term Effects of Traditional and Alternative Community Interventions to Address Food Insecurity

Federico Roncarolo, Sherri Bisset, Louise Potvin

Migrant Workers and Changing Work-place Regimes in Contemporary Agricultural Production in Canada

Kerry Preibisch

Week 12: April 4th The Future of Food Movements

PowerPoint and readings on D2L

Reading for the week

The Citizen-Consumer Hybrid: Ideological Tensions and the Case of Whole Foods Market

Josée Johnston

Farm to School in British Columbia: Mobilizing Food Literacy for Food Sovereignty

Lisa Jordan Powell and Hannah Wittman

Food Crises, Food Regimes and Food Movements: Rumbblings of Reform or Tides of Transformation?

Eric Holt Giménez & Annie Shattuck

Employers' Paradoxical Views about Temporary Foreign Migrant Workers' Health Miya Narushima*
and Ana Lourdes Sanchez

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The Instructor expects all students to be respectful in their interactions with any person involved with the course.

Tests, Exams and Term Work

If you are going to miss a test, it is very important that you email me as soon as you know that you will be missing the test. Missed tests will be accommodated only in extraordinary circumstances that are supported by written documentation from a healthcare practitioner using the official Student Health Certificate, available at

<https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/examination/medical-notes/node/10641>

Students are strongly urged NOT to make any commitments (i.e., vacation, job related, or other travel plans) during either the term as a whole or the final examination period. Students are required to be available for all examinations during the periods for which they are scheduled (as published in course syllabus). It is your responsibility to check the final exam schedule and be prepared to write the examination on the scheduled date/time/location to avoid a grade of zero. There will be no rescheduling of examinations to accommodate holiday travel or extracurricular activities. No one will be allowed to write examinations prior to the scheduled date.

Extensions of deadlines for completion of assignments or writing of midterms/final examinations may be granted to students on the basis of illness, accident, or other extreme and legitimate

circumstances beyond their control. Consideration for deferrals will not normally be granted on the basis of vacation/travel plans or job-related obligations.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism, cheating and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Being caught engaging in any such activities will result in disciplinary action either within the course or at the university level. A listing of University Regulations can be found at:

<http://navigator.lakeheadu.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog.aspx?pageid=viewcatalog&catalogid=21&chapterid=3506&loadusercredits=False>. The code of student behaviour and disciplinary procedures can be found at: <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/policies/student-related/code-of-student-behaviour-and-disciplinary-procedures>.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of students who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly:

- (a) The minimum penalty for a student found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.
- (b) A student found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

Students disciplined under the Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures may appeal their case through the Judicial Panel.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Lakehead University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and register as early as possible. For more information, please visit <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/sas>

Lakehead University Grading Scale	
A+	90-100%
A	80-89%
B	70-79%
C	60-69%
D	50-59%
E Fail	40-49%
F Fail	1-39%
F Academic Dishonesty	0%

LAKEHEAD RESOURCES

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, do not hesitate to ask for help! Come to me, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your academic advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus, including:

The Student Success Centre has many programs and support services in place to help you achieve your academic and personal goals while studying at Lakehead University. They provide academic support through tutoring services, career exploration, co-operative opportunities and leadership development. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-success-centre>.

The Lakehead Library provides access to resources, study rooms, and research support both online via chat and in person with more details available here <https://library.lakeheadu.ca/>.

Public Computer Labs are available on campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For more details go to <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/helpdesk/computer-labs>.

Student Life and Services offers health and wellness resources both on and off campus, as well as opportunities for involvement in health and wellness activities. More information is available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/current-students/student-services/or>.

Office of Human Rights and Equity. You have the right to an education that is free from any form of discrimination. A wide variety of resources are available here <https://www.lakeheadu.ca/faculty-and-staff/departments/services/human-rights-and-equity/resources>.