

COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: ANTH-204: The Anthropology of Food

CLASS SECTION: 001

TERM: W2024

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): Face to Face

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

NAME: Nicole Kilburn

EMAIL: kilburn@camosun.ca

OFFICE: Y212A

HOURS: Tuesdays 1-2:30pm, Wednesday 3:30-4:30pm, Thursdays 9-10:00am or by appointment

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

What and how humans eat influence our evolution, social complexity, environmental interactions, and political economies. Food defines ethnic identities and social classes, symbolizes beliefs, and structures division of labour, kinship, and gender. This survey course considers the interface between food and culture, in the past, the present and the future.

PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in ANTH 104
- C in GEOG 102

And one of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

CO-REQUISITE(S):

Not Applicable

EXCLUSION(S): Not Applicable

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe the connections between culture and food that account for food choices and different subsistence practices.
2. Explain how food ways influence the cultural construction of concepts like social complexity, kinship, and gender.
3. Analyze key issues with respect to food security and sustainability, domestication and genetically modified organisms.
4. Illustrate the political economic dimension of food by considering the politics of hunger and food aid, and the consequences of international trade policies for both producers and consumers.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

Readings and resources have been selected and posted to D2L.

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Week	Topic	readings/resources
1 Jan. 8-14	I Like to Eat Green Eggs and Ham; Human food preferences and culture	Jason Fagone <i>Horsemen of the Esophagus</i>
2 Jan. 15-21	Food and Human Evolution	Richard Wrangham <i>Introduction to the Cooking Hypothesis</i> Anna Goldfield <i>The Neanderthal Diet-From Teeth to Guts</i> Penny Bickle <i>The Surprising Role Cheese Played in Human Evolution</i>
3 Jan. 22-28	Defining Edibility: Food Preferences and Food Taboos	Rebecca Manley and Iryna Skubii <i>We Did Not Shrink from Eating Carrion: Food Disgust and Early Soviet Famines</i> H. Looy, F. Dunkel, J. Wood <i>How Then Shall We Eat? Insect-eating attitudes and sustainable foodways.</i>
4. Jan. 29-Feb. 4	Food and Power	Big Sugar's Secret Playbook
5. Feb. 5-11	Food and Identity	Nicole Kilburn <i>Pastoralism; shepherding through the ages</i> Slow Food Foundation <i>Raw Milk Cheeses and PDO</i>
6. Feb. 12-18	Indigenous Food Sovereignty	Nancy Turner and Katherine Turner <i>"Where our women used to get the food":</i>

		<i>cumulative effects and loss of ethnobotanical knowledge and practice; a case study from coastal British Columbia</i> Jared Qwustenuxan Williams TEDx (2023) <i>The Power of Indigenous Foods</i>
7. Feb. 19-25	READING WEEK	
8. Feb. 26- March 3	Midterm exam Anthropology of Fermentation	J. Arthur <i>Beer through the Ages</i>
9. March 4-10	Food and social, political and economic complexity (bread night)	Webpage on D2L plus the Eat This Podcast <i>A Visit to an Ancient Roman Bakery</i> Michael Pollan Air (to start in week 1)
10. March 11-17	Fast Food, Slow Food; Food and Time	Harry West and Nuno Domingos <i>Gourmandizing Poverty Food; The Serpa cheese Slow Food Presidium</i> Stephen Schneider <i>Good, Clean, Fair: The rhetoric of the Slow Food Movement</i>
11. March 18-24	Food and Health; Nutrition and “Balanced Diets” In Cross Cultural Perspective	Michael Pollan <i>Unhappy Meals</i> Gary Paul Nabhan <i>Rooting out the Causes for Disease: Why Diabetes is So Common Among Desert Dwellers</i>
12. March 25-31	Food and Sustainability in a Climate Emergency	U. Fresan and J. Sabate (2019) <i>Vegetarian Diets: Planetary Health and Its Alignment with Human Health</i> A. Van Huis and B. Rumphold (2023) <i>Strategies to convince consumers to eat insects? A review</i>
13. April 1-7	Food Insecurity; the wolf at the door	Fieldtrip and applied learning with Shelbourne Community Kitchen Reading TBD
14. April 8-14	The Future of Food	CBC Ideas interviews authors of <i>Dinner on Mars</i> Glenn Stone <i>The Anthropology of Genetically Modified Crops</i>

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
<p>Where in the World? Food origins paper Due February 4 at 11:59pm</p> <p>This work will offer a starting point for the podcast term project, to be completed in groups throughout the semester. Individually, students will write a short paper (approximately 5 pages double spaced) exploring the origins of their key food item (ie. Chicken, root vegetable(s), etc...) and some element of culture like gender, power, or identity. This will weave together historical context and anthropological perspective to consider a familiar food item in a new way.</p>	10%
<p>Podcast proposal Due by February 25 at 11:59pm</p> <p>A detailed outline and workplan for the term project will help organize the work and individual contributions from group members. The proposal will highlight the key areas to explore, with specific examples or elements to incorporate and some resources to help with the research.</p>	5%
<p>Podcast group project Due by April 7 at 11:59pm</p> <p>In small groups, students will research, write and record a podcast (20-30 minutes in length) related to one dish on our virtual menu. The podcast will consider the origins of the key ingredient, and incorporate key concepts from the course such as elements of contemporary production and consumption, cultural symbolism and sustainability. Groups will get guidance, tech support and access to recording and editing equipment from Camosun's new Makerspace. The finished podcasts will be shared as the first season of the new Gastro Geeks podcast.</p>	25%
<p>"Feasts for a Fiver" Due by April 14 at 11:59pm</p> <p>As a group we will compile a "cookbook" for Camosun's student food bank with the following theme: "feasts on a fiver". Each student will share a tasty and nutritious meal that would cost no more than \$5 per person/serving. Students will provide the recipe, and a short video demonstrating how to prepare it.</p>	10%
<p>Midterm exam February 28 in class</p> <p>This exam will consist of multiple sections of short answer and longer answer questions based on readings, D2L resources, and content covered in class. The exam will be written in a computer lab and must be written in person and during the scheduled times unless the instructor has agreed to an alternative date in advance.</p>	25%
<p>Final exam during the college's final exam period</p> <p>This exam will be structured like the midterm. It is not cumulative, although some topics weave their way through the entire course. Please do not make summer plans until the final exam dates are posted on MyCamosun.</p>	25%
TOTAL	100%

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

Course Expectations

Commitment to your learning is a collaboration between yourself, your instructor, and your peers. Your full participation is expected.

What you can expect from me:

- classes will begin on time
- I will be prepared for class each day
- every member of the class will be treated with respect and dignity (in email communication and in person)
- evaluated materials will be returned in a timely manner (2 weeks)
- I will foster an open and supportive environment in which to learn

I expect that you will:

- be on time for every class, and prepared to participate both passively and actively
- treat every member of the class with respect and dignity (in email communication and in person)
- submit assignments or other materials when they are due
- be supportive and accepting of the views of others
- have fun learning!

Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed and submitted on the date assigned. All late written work will be penalized 5 percent per day late, unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the instructor well in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments will not be accepted beyond one week of their due date. Please note that exams will not be rescheduled without prior consultation with the instructor.

Written Assignments

All assignments must be typewritten, double-spaced, pages numbered and properly cited and referenced using APA referencing format. Undocumented paper (papers without in-text citations) will not be accepted.

AI and Academic Integrity

Artificial intelligence presents new challenges for our understanding of academic integrity. Currently, Camosun does not have a policy governing AI-use. How it may or may not be used in courses is up to the discretion of the instructor. We will make time in class to discuss the pros and cons of using AI as a tool but my position, for now, is that students may use AI tools such as Grammarly to assist them with writing mechanics but are prohibited from using AI tools such as Chat-GPT to create content for assignments or exams.

Misrepresentation and plagiarism are serious forms of academic misconduct, which is difficult to avoid when using many AI tools. Please review Camosun's Academic Integrity Policy if you are unfamiliar with the rules about plagiarism and/or academic misconduct.

CAL Accommodations

Students requiring academic accommodations must provide a Letter of Academic Accommodation through the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) at the beginning of the semester. Requests for extensions must be made well in advance of the deadline as part of a conversation to support student success. Exams written at CAL must be made two weeks in advance.

SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

For information about the Department of Social Science, including course descriptions, awards and scholarships, and instructors and chair contact information please visit:

<https://legacy.camosun.ca/learn/subjects/social-sciences/index.html>

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Academic Advising	http://camosun.ca/advising
Accessible Learning	http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning
Counselling	http://camosun.ca/counselling
Career Services	http://camosun.ca/coop
Financial Aid and Awards	http://camosun.ca/financialaid
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	http://camosun.ca/help-centres
Indigenous Student Support	http://camosun.ca/indigenous
International Student Support	http://camosun.ca/international/
Learning Skills	http://camosun.ca/learningskills
Library	http://camosun.ca/services/library/
Office of Student Support	http://camosun.ca/oss
Ombudsperson	http://camosun.ca/ombuds

Registration	http://camosun.ca/registration
Technology Support	http://camosun.ca/its
Writing Centre	http://camosun.ca/writing-centre

If you have a mental health concern, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the “Attendance” section under “Registration Policies and Procedures”

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun’s Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student’s right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun’s Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and camosun.ca/sexual-violence. To contact the Office of Student Support: oss@camosun.ca or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College’s Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College’s expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

Changes to this syllabus: Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.