

ANT 384: Food and Culture

Fall 2004 Tu,Th 1:00 — 2:20, Chambers 1086

Prof. Eriberto P. Lozada Jr.
Office: Carnegie 01
Telephone: 704-894-2035

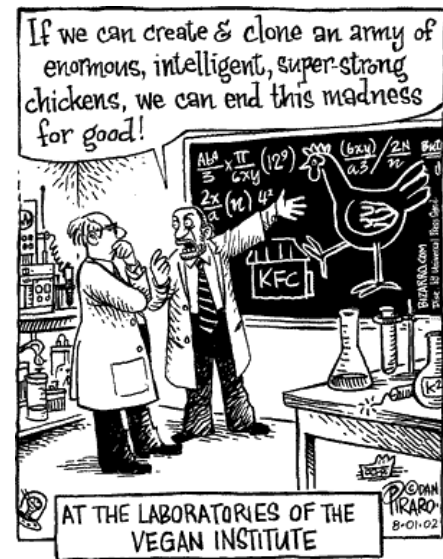
Office Hours: M, W, F 9:30 – 10:30 am
T, Th 10:00 – 11:15 am or by appointment

Email: erlozada@davidson.edu

Web: <http://www.davidson.edu/personal/erlozada>

This course focuses on the general subject of how food shapes societies and cultural practices throughout the world. Foodways will be examined from an anthropological perspective for its social and cultural implications; this is not a survey of nutritional or dietetic sciences. Topics to be covered include: food in social contexts; food exchanges and the social construction of groups; food as a marker of social boundaries; food taboos and restrictions; the symbolism of food; folk conceptions of food; body image; transnationalism and global food industries; changes in dietary patterns; famine and food emergencies; fasting and abstinence; vegetarianism and alternative consumption regimes; the invention and commodification of new foods.

The anthropological perspective is largely a “bottom-up,” comparative examination of particular social processes, and is presented in the form of ethnographic monographs and articles that describe everyday life in detail. The main question that we will be addressing throughout this course is “are you what you eat?” What is the role of food in naturalizing social structures and cultural practices? Is there something about food that makes it a unique marker of cultural identity?



Course Readings

- Counihan, Carole and Penny Van Esterik 1997. *Food and Culture: A Reader*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 0-415-91710-7.
- Counihan, Carole 2004. *Around the Tuscan Table: Food, Family, and Gender in Twentieth Century Florence*. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 0-415-94673-5
- Goody, Jack 1982. *Cooking, Cuisine, and Class: A Study in Comparative Sociology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0-521-28696-4 .
- Harris, Marvin 1985. *Good to Eat: Riddles of Food and Culture*. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press. ISBN: 1-577-66015-3.
- Weismantel, Mary J. 1988. *Food, Gender, and Poverty in the Ecuadorian Andes*. Prospect Heights: Waveland Press. ISBN: 1-577-66029-3.
- Mintz, Sidney 1997. *Tasting Food, Tasting Freedom: Excursions into Eating, Power, and the Past*. Boston: Beacon Press. ISBN: 0-807-04629-9.

Additional articles will be available on Blackboard.

Course Requirements

The most important work in this course is to be prepared for each seminar meeting; this means having thoroughly read the material and being prepared to discuss particular points from the reading. Readings are due on the day listed in the class schedule. Your engagement with the material is vital for the success of this learning experience.

Class Participation: 20%

Active participation requires that each student come to class prepared, having read the assigned material before class. This includes your leading two seminar meetings (we will schedule this on the first day of class).

Response Papers: 10%

You will write five (5) response papers throughout the term, no more than two pages and double-spaced. They will be graded ($\sqrt{+}$, $\sqrt{\quad}$, $\sqrt{-}$) and require timely submission for full credit. Response papers will serve as a diagnostic for me to help me see how much you understand the reading and the concepts that we will discuss in class.

Review Essay: 15%

This assignment is designed to help you with the literature review for your research paper. This short essay of no more than five pages should summarize either a full length monograph or a collection of articles (at least three) on a particular issue. This assignment is due on **19 October 2004**, but you should propose a book or collection of articles to me by **16 September 2004**.

Field Projects: 15%

All students will conduct a field project that involve participant-observation research conducted outside the classroom and applying the theoretical and methodological considerations we have discussed to a particular food-related situation. . What you choose to study is up to you; if you have questions about what is suitable after reading the handout that I will distribute later in the term, please email or meet with me. The field project consists of two parts: fieldnotes (10% of this project's grade), and an analysis in the form of a short essay of no more than five pages (90%). The field project is due on **2 November 2004**.

Research Paper (total 40%: proposal 5%, outline 5%, presentation 5%, final paper 25%):

Based on your research interests, you will select a particular topic for more in-depth research and analysis. I will distribute handouts on the proposal, outline, and citing format for this term paper. This can be an expansion of either your review essay or your field project. I would recommend that you meet with me individually or email me to discuss possible topics before submitting your proposal. The proposal is due on **9 November 2004**, the outline is due on **23 November 2004**, and the final paper is due on the last day of class, **7 December 2004**.

Submission of Writing Assignments: All assignments must be submitted to me electronically. You can do this in two ways: as an email attachment; or through the digital drop box in Blackboard. If you are not using Microsoft Word, please save the file as in "rich text format." If you have any questions about how to submit assignments, please see me individually.

Grading System:

Grades will follow the college system using the 4.0 scale (i.e., A=4.0, A-=3.7, B+=3.3, etc. – see the college catalog) and weighted for each assignment as described above.

While students working with each other outside of class is highly encouraged, all graded, written work must be your own and pledged accordingly. All work is subject to the Davidson College Honor Code as stated in the student handbook. If there are individual accommodations for special needs, please let me know and authorize the Dean of Students to contact me so that we can work something out.

Class Schedule (subject to modification)

Tuesday, 24 Aug	Introduction to Class
Thursday, 26 Aug	Reading: Counihan reader, Mead article Counihan reader, Levi-Strauss article Counihan reader, Meigs article
Tuesday, 31 Aug	Food and Religion
	Reading: Counihan reader, Douglas article Harris Chapter 10
Thursday, 2 Sep	Reading: Harris Chapter 1, 2 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Tuesday, 7 Sep	Reading: Harris Chapter 3, 11 Counihan reader, Shack article Counihan reader, Jean Soler article
Thursday, 9 Sep	Reading: Harris Chapter 4, 5, 6
Tuesday, 14 Sep	Reading: Counihan reader, Anderson article Counihan reader, Freud article Harris Chapter 7
Thursday, 16 Sep	Reading: Harris Chapter 8, 9
Tuesday, 21 Sep	Food and Society
	Reading: Goody Chapter 1, 2, and 3 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Thursday, 23 Sep	Reading: Goody Chapter 4
Tuesday, 28 Sep	Reading: Goody Chapter 5 Appadurai article on cookbooks
Thursday, 30 Sep	Reading: Goody Chapter 6, 7 Counihan reader, Counihan article Assignment: Response Paper Due
Tuesday, 5 Oct	Food and Power
	Reading: Mintz Chapter 1, 2 Counihan reader, Allison article
Thursday, 7 Oct	Reading: Mintz Chapter 3, 4, and 5
Tuesday, 12 Oct	Fall Break: Have a good vacation!
Thursday, 14 Oct	Reading: Mintz Chapter 6, 7, and 8 Assignment: Response Paper Due

Tuesday, 19 Oct	Food and Gender Reading: Counihan reader, Bynum article Counihan reader, Bruch article Assignment: Review Essay Due
Thursday, 21 Oct	Reading: Counihan reader, Bordo article Counihan reader, Massara article Counihan reader, Sobo article
Tuesday, 26 Oct	Reading: Wiesmantel Chapter 1, 2
Thursday, 28 Oct	Reading: Wiesmantel Chapter 3, 4
Tuesday, 2 Nov	Reading: Wiesmantel Chapter 5 Assignment: Field Project Due
Thursday, 4 Nov	Reading: Wiesmantel Chapter 6 Counihan reader, Devault article
Tuesday, 9 Nov	Food and Identity Reading: Ohnuki-Tierney article (on Blackboard) Assignment: Proposal Due
Thursday, 11 Nov	Reading: Watson McDonalds article (on Blackboard)
Tuesday, 16 Nov	Reading: Counihan <i>Tuscan Table</i> , Chapter 1 and 2 Assignment: Response Paper Due
Thursday, 18 Nov	Reading: Counihan <i>Tuscan Table</i> , Chapters 3 and 4
Tuesday, 23 Nov	Reading: Counihan <i>Tuscan Table</i> , Chapters 5 and 6 Assignment: Outline Due
Thursday, 25 Nov	Thanksgiving Break: Have a good holiday.
Tuesday, 30 Nov	Reading: Counihan <i>Tuscan Table</i> , Chapters 7 and 8 Assignment: Research Presentations
Thursday, 2 Dec	Reading: Counihan <i>Tuscan Table</i> , Chapters 9 and 10 Assignment: Research Presentations
Tuesday, 7 Dec	Are We What We Eat?: Class Wrap-up Assignment: Research Presentations
Thursday, 9 Dec	(No Class Meeting) Assignment: Research Paper Due

Schedule of Presentations

Tuesday, 31 Aug	
Thursday, 2 Sep	
Tuesday, 7 Sep	
Thursday, 9 Sep	
Tuesday, 14 Sep	
Thursday, 16 Sep	
Tuesday, 21 Sep	
Thursday, 23 Sep	
Tuesday, 28 Sep	
Thursday, 30 Sep	
Tuesday, 5 Oct	
Thursday, 7 Oct	
Tuesday, 12 Oct	
Thursday, 14 Oct	
Thursday, 21 Oct	
Tuesday, 26 Oct	
Thursday, 28 Oct	
Thursday, 4 Nov	
Tuesday, 9 Nov	
Thursday, 11 Nov	
Tuesday, 16 Nov	
Tuesday, 23 Nov	