



*“Food has no ethnicity ...
... only geography.”*

**Musa Dagdeviren,
Owner Ciya Sofrasi Restaurant, Istanbul**

Geography for Today: The Geography of Food

Office Hours: Monday 10-11 AM, 1:30-3:30 PM. Thursday 10-11 AM, 1:30-3:30 PM

Office Location: David Turpin Building B352

Contact: 250-721-7337 email: msf@uvic.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Food is a basic human need and right. The production, acquisition and consumption of food occupies everyone to some extent, and connects each of us with many factors including, but not limited to, the environment, the water cycle, and global trade. Many of us take food for granted because we have three meals a day with snacks in between. Many others on this planet, however, go without. As we look to the future, there are three major challenges that face the world. We need to match the increasing demand for food from a larger and more affluent population to its supply, do this in ways that are environmentally and socially sustainable, and ensure that the world's poorest people are no longer hungry.

This course provides an introduction to contemporary research issues and debates on trends in global food. We will examine global patterns and relationships affecting who produces food, how it is produced, and the links between producers and consumers. This course seeks to promote critical thinking with respect to the debates, conflicts, and policy issues surrounding the global food system, as well as inspire ongoing thinking about your personal relationship with food.

Course topics include:

1. Nutrition - *Is the McDonalds McDouble the greatest food in human history?*
2. Malnutrition - *As common in poverty as in wealth?*
3. Our Hungry Planet – *Lots of food, but in too few places?*
4. Food Loss and Waste in the Food Chain – *Is one person's trash another person's treasure?*
5. Global Trade - *Is the 10,000 km diet sustainable?*

6. Climate Change and Food – *If the food system goes wrong, will anything else have a chance to go right?*
 7. Biofuels – *Does it make sense to run your car on vegetables?*
 8. Catch of The Day – *Are we fishing down the food chain?*
 9. The Blue Revolution – *Is aquaculture the future of seafood or is something fishy going on?*
 10. GMO – *Great Meal Offering or Gross Me Out?*
 11. Organic Farming – *Are the people who think organic farming can feed the world delusional hippies?*
 12. The Future of Food – *Will we all be eating insects in 50 years?*
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LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this course you should have the following learning outcomes:

- have knowledge of contemporary geographical approaches to and debates relating to global food production, trade and food security.
- understand how the trends in global food production are shaped by environmental, social, economic and political factors.
- understand how changes in the global food systems have an impact on human nutrition, and how food consumption affects the global environment.

REQUIRED READINGS

There are no required books to purchase for this course. Course materials will be available in electronic format on Coursespaces. Each week a new topic is introduced. Two required readings are given to expand on that topic.

EVALUATION

Reflective Food Journal

Each student will keep a record of all the food they eat and throw away during a five day period. You will then write a report that reflects on your personal food consumption and waste. Students are expected to connect their discussion to course readings. A detailed guide for the journal will be available on Coursespaces. (25%) – due Thursday March 26.

NOTE: No one sees this information but the instructor. You will not be judged or graded based on your dietary choices. Information about your diet will not be shared with anyone.

Midterm test (25%) Thursday, March 13

Final Exam (50%)

GRADING SYSTEM

As per the Academic Calendar:

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
A+	9	90-100%	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
A	8	85-89%	
A-	7	80-84%	
B+	6	77-79%	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
B	5	73-76%	
B-	4	70-72%	
C+	3	65-69%	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
C	2	60-64%	
D	1	50-59%	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
F	0	0-49%	Unsatisfactory performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
N	0	0-49%	Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT INFO

- Geography Department website: uvic.ca/socialsciences/geography/
- Undergraduate Advising: geogadvising@uvic.ca

COURSESPACES

Lecture notes containing most, but not all, of the PPT slides presented in the lectures, and required readings can be downloaded. NOTE: These materials are intended as supplements to the lectures. They are not intended to replace the lectures.

Username: your UVic Netlink-ID

Password: your UVic Netlink-ID password

Laboratory operating hours can be found at <http://www.sfg.uvic.ca/hours.php>

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Penalty for assignments handed in more than 24 hours late is **10%** of the value of the assignment. Assignments that are one week late will not be graded. Only the course instructor can grant exceptions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is every student's responsibility to be aware of the university's policies on academic integrity, including policies on **cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized use of an editor, multiple submission, and aiding others to cheat.**

Policy on Academic Integrity: web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-09/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html

If you have any questions or doubts, talk to me, your course instructor. For more information, see uvic.ca/learningandteaching/cac/index.php.

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a documented disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL as soon as possible <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>). The CAL staff is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

POSITIVITY AND SAFETY

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting uvic.ca/svp. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119

Phone: 250.721.8021

Email: svpcoordinator@uvic.ca

Web: uvic.ca/svp

COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEY (CES)

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

DISCLAIMER

The above schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

NOTE:

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Counselling Services - *Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.* uvic.ca/services/counselling/

Health Services - *University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.* uvic.ca/services/health/

Centre for Accessible Learning - *The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations* uvic.ca/services/cal/. *The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.*

Elders' Voices - *The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being.* uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php