SOCI 388
Sociology of Food and Eating

Instructor: Dr. Martha McMahon

Course Description:

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS: This course will look at how sociologists try to make sense of what is often called the food system. It will look at the food on our plates as embodying complex networks of social and ecological relations rather than seeing it as simply lettuce, carrots, fish or meat. It will examine efforts to change the food system, in particular by localizing food. The course will centre not just the perspectives of urban consumers but also farmers’ perspectives and the efforts of global peasant, fishers and small farmers’ movements to make social change. Particular attention will be paid to gender and to interrogating the assumptions about nature and society that underlie much of food social movement in Canada and the US... The course is designed to help bridge divides between local activism and academic analysis. Framing the course will be the question of how food and agriculture can be organized in ways that are ecologically sustainable and socially just.

Course Pre/Co-requisites:
SOCI 215

1 This online outline is only intended to give an overall sense of the course. Detailed course outlines will be made available for all registered students on the first day of class. Only those outlines are to be considered official.