

**Anthropology 241
Anthropology of Food
Spring 2020
Department of Anthropology**

Instructor: Adrienne Lo, Associate Professor
Office: PAS 2008
Office Phone: 519-888-4567 x31009
Office Hours: M 1:00-2:00 and by appt
Email: adrienne.lo@uwaterloo.ca

TA: Kennerley McKellar-Harries
Office: PAS 2006
Office Hours: T 10:00-11:00 and by appt
Email: krmckellarharries@uwaterloo.ca

Course Description

The course addresses the topic of food from an anthropological perspective. It examines how the acquisition of food has shaped human biology and forms of social organization. Topics examined include the relationship of food to colonialism, political economy, ritual, and taboo.

Required Texts

All of the readings will be provided on Learn. Information on film access will be available on Learn

Course Requirements and Assessment

Reading Responses	50%
Exam #1	25%
Exam #2	25%
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Total	100%

Participation

The success of this course lies in your willingness to read the assigned materials and to participate in discussions of the readings with informed opinions and probing questions, either in class or offline. Contributions to the discussion might involve introducing a topic, examining assumptions, assessing the source and reliability of information and formulating new questions. They might also include statements of where you are confused or questions about the meaning of core concepts; questions about what the author is trying to communicate.

Response posts (50%)

(4 total + 2 optional): Students should post 4 reading responses over the course of the term. Please post your response to Learn by midnight on Mondays and Wednesdays. Further information on responses is available on Learn. Two of your responses are due before June 11, and two are due between June 11 and July 28. You will have the option to submit two extra reading responses in order to drop your lowest scores. All assignments will be turned in on Learn and marked there.

Prompts for the reading responses will be posted each week

Exams (25% x 2)

Two exams (Oral exams, 15 minutes each)

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule and/or assignments over the course of the term in order to better guide the learning process.

Course Outline

May 12	INTRODUCTION Optional: Diamond (2002) Plant and animal domestication
May 14	FOOD—DEFINITIONS AND HISTORY In class showing of selections from Did Cooking Make us Human (Colville 2009) Laudan (2001) Plea for Culinary Modernism Optional: Wrangham and Carmody 2010 Human Adaptation to Fire
May 19	Haidt (1997) Body, psyche, culture Optional: Goodyear (2011) Grub: Eating to save the planet
May 21	Allport (2002) Women who eat dirt Burley (2016) Eating human beings
May 28	TASTE Lévi-Strauss (1969 [1964]) The Culinary Triangle Cavanaugh (2005) Lard
June 2	Bourdieu (1984) Distinction (excerpts) Optional: Osburg (2013) Ch 1
June 4	SOCIALITY AND GENDER Osburg (2013) Ch 2
June 9	Osburg (2013) Ch 4
June 11	White (2012) Coffee Life, Ch 3 Modernity and the passion factory White (2012) Coffee Life, Ch 4 Masters of Their Universe
June 16-18	EXAM #1
June 23	GOVERNMENTALITY Inda (2005) Analytics of the Modern, pp 1-6 Greenhalgh and Carney (2014) Bad Biocitizens

	Optional: Julier (2008) Political economy of obesity
June 25	Ochs and Shohet (2006) Mealtime Socialization Ochs et al (1996) Socializing Taste
June 30	Allison (2000) Obento Lewis (1995) Chocolate and Valentine's Day in Japan
July 2	NO CLASS –Happy Canada Day!
July 7	Li (2007) Will to Improve, pp. 1-10 Cullather (2007) American Pie: The Imperialism of the Calorie Cwierka (2005) Making of a National Cuisine
July 9	GLOBALIZATION Mintz (2009) Old Champions, New Contenders Mintz (1978) Time, Sugar, Sweetness Optional: Foucault (1977) Docile Bodies
July 14	Wilk (2018) Global Junk Errington and Gewertz (2008) Pacific Island Gastrologies Optional: Van Esterik (2006) From Hunger Foods to Heritage Foods
July 16	Errington and Gewertz (2013) Noodle Narratives-- Introduction, Ch 1, Ch 2 pp. 3-10, 16-18
July 21	Errington and Gewertz (2013) Noodle Narratives Ch 3, Ch 4
July 23	Yan (2000) Of Hamburger and Social Space Cho (2014) Eating military base stew Optional: hooks (1992) Eating the Other
July 28	Watch before class: Search for General Tso Heldke (2001) Let's Cook Thai
July 30-Aug 4	EXAM #2

Late Work

If you turn an assignment in late, you will be downgraded by 10%. You will be penalized 3% every additional day that it is late (including weekends). Feedback will not be provided on late papers.

Attendance Policy

During classtime you are expected to be fully engaged in the class. This means that the only documents that you should have open on your phone/computer are 1) notes 2) readings 3) class powerpoints. Please resist the temptation to check email, Facebook, surf during class.

All requests for alternate exam times or other accommodations must be made in writing at least one

month before a scheduled assignment or exam. If you miss an exam/class you are still responsible for making up your missed work. Class powerpoints and audio files will be available on LEARN.

Please note that travel plans are NOT considered acceptable reasons for rescheduling an exam:
<https://uwaterloo.ca/registrar/final-examinations/examination-regulations-and-related-matters>

Cross-listed course

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Check the [Office of Academic Integrity website](#) for more information.

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. [Check [the Office of Academic Integrity](#) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department’s administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under [Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances](#) (other than a petition) or [Policy 71, Student Discipline](#) may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72, Student Appeals](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

[AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with [AccessAbility Services](#) at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com and alternatives: Text matching software (Turnitin®) will be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or

security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

Mental Health Support

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

On Campus

Due to COVID-19 and campus closures, services are available only online or by phone.

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- **MATES**: one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services

Off campus, 24/7

- **Good2Talk**: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- **Here 24/7**: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- **OK2BME**: set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts [website](#)

Download [UWaterloo and regional mental health resources \(PDF\)](#)

Download the [WatSafe app](#) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

For more information about the purpose of territorial acknowledgements, please see the [CAUT Guide to Acknowledging Traditional Territory \(PDF\)](#).

Academic freedom at the University of Waterloo

[Policy 33, Ethical Behaviour](#) states, as one of its general principles (Section 1), “The University supports academic freedom for all members of the University community. Academic freedom carries with it the duty to use that freedom in a manner consistent with the scholarly obligation to base teaching and research on an honest and ethical quest for knowledge. In the context of this policy, 'academic freedom' refers to academic activities, including teaching and scholarship, as is articulated in the principles set out in the Memorandum of Agreement between the FAUW and the University of Waterloo, 1998 (Article 6). The academic environment which fosters free debate may from time to time include the presentation or

discussion of unpopular opinions or controversial material. Such material shall be dealt with as openly, respectfully and sensitively as possible.” This definition is repeated in Policies 70 and 71, and in the Memorandum of Agreement, Section 6.

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