

## GEOG 361

This course examines dimensions of food systems sustainability and food security, from production to consumption, from local to global scales, in the Global North and South. Specific themes covered in the course include technological and genetic change in food production, resource depletion and wider environmental impacts of the industrial food system, and policy, market-oriented, and civil society initiatives to bring about change in the food system, including organic production and localizing food systems.

Update for Fall 2020: The COVID-19 crisis has revealed serious disruptions in the food supply, and has provoked widespread food insecurity in Canada and beyond. The “just-enough, just-in-time” food system and long supply chains dominated by large corporations are fragile at the best of times. The COVID-19 global pandemic may lead to additional supply shortages, higher food prices, and a widening gap between those with economic means and those living in poverty. People that are most vulnerable are experiencing more significant impacts. While many of us yearn for a “return to normality”, for too many in our community, normal was already at a crisis point. Never has the importance of an equitable and resilient food system been so apparent. Long-term sustainable food systems must engage not just government and the private sector but also community-level organizing and mutual aid. This work has already begun, catalyzed by the pandemic. Join this course to explore what is working well and what lessons does it offer for future food system developments. These pandemic-related topics will be combined with the original themes of the course.