Urban Studies 360: Food and the City: Urban Agriculture, Food Justice, and Environmental Sustainability

FALL 2015: Course Meets Online on D2L
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Office/Hours: Bolton 790/online, or in person by appointment
Email: scampin2@uwm.edu

Course Overview:
The purpose of this course is to explore local, national, and global urban agriculture and food justice movements. The course will address the historical roots of growing food in the city as well as examine how urban agriculture represents both a social movement to create a more just society and an aid to implement urban environmental sustainability.

Viewing food through theories of political economy and critical sociology, this course will emphasize inequality and neoliberal globalization and their respective impacts on food accessibility and insecurity. Students will examine urban areas with plentiful access to organic food stores, farmers markets, and grocery stores, and compare to other areas that provide food primarily through gas stations, corner stores, and food banks. The course will also touch on urban areas' and urban residents' relationship to food, the growth of distinct food cultures in cities, and the larger meaning and significance of urban food geographies.

UWM Social Science General Education Requirements engages the study of human behavior, human cultural and physical variation and evolution, and the organization, development, and consequences of human activity, both past and present. The course also incorporates the UW System Shared Learning Goal of individual, social and environmental responsibility including civic knowledge and engagement (both local and global), ethical reasoning, and action. USP 360 counts as a required course for the Urban Studies Program certificate and major degree program.

Course Goals, Objectives, and Expectations
By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

• identify and critically evaluate the function, structure and development of human collectivities, organizations, institutions, and cultures, their infrastructures and interrelationships
• recognize and analyze intrapersonal, interpersonal, and/or socio-cultural factors associated with individual behavior collective action, or societal development
• examine the impact of neoliberal policies and globalization on the food system
• evaluate the relationship between race and the food system
• interpret various aspects of the concepts of food justice and sovereignty
• develop a social movement campaign addressing inequalities in the urban food system

Course Expectations: the instructor will:

• support and provide a respectful and professional learning environment.
• encourage use of an “I’m Confused” general discussion section for the class. If you are never confused, you are not truly learning. As online classes can make it a little more difficult to engage in questions with immediate instructor feedback, the “I’m Confused” section is a great place to get answers. Also, you are likely not the only person who is confused about the question, so help your classmates!
• respond to email during the week and weekend emergencies within 24 hours.
  o Weekend (non-emergency) emails will be returned within 48 hours, or by Monday morning.
  o In the unlikely case of limited internet access and a longer response time, I will warn you ahead of time.
• read and synthesize all discussion posts. The heart of the discussion portion of class is for you to engage with the material and I will not stifle discussion by inserting my opinion. There are no “right” answers for the posts so I will simply foster additional conversation or ask for clarification on several posts each week.
• post any necessary course clarifications on the D2L “news” page as well as send a class-wide email.

Course Expectations: the students will:

• conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner.
• consume (watch, listen, read, etc.) all assigned material for the week unless it is marked *optional.
• participate in discussion within the assigned timeline.
  o This includes initial posts, comment posts, and the reading of all posts within your assigned group.
  o Late posts and assignments will not be accepted as each segment builds upon the previous one.
• check their UWM email regularly for emails from the instructor.
Course Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Point Distribution</th>
<th>Grade Breakdown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EOPs: 40% (40 points each, 400 points total)</td>
<td>A: 930-1000 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B+: 870-899 points</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C+: 770-799 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Reflection: 15% (30 points each, 150 points total)</td>
<td>A-: 900-929 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-: 830-869 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C-: 700-729 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterms: 30% (150 points each, 300 points total)</td>
<td>B+: 870-899 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-: 800-829 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Movement Campaign: 15% (150 points total)</td>
<td>B+: 870-899 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B-: 800-829 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Total: 1000 points</td>
<td>C+: 770-799 points</td>
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Desire2Learn (D2L):
This course will function fully online through the D2L site. Students must have access to the Internet either at home, or in the computer lab on campus. Inadequate Internet access will not be accepted as an excuse for a late assignment. Assigned readings, lecture materials, and videos will be posted on D2L under the week in which they are assigned. If you have trouble with D2L or have not used it yet, please see the following information on accessing and navigating D2L. Recommended browsers: A complete and up-to-date list of recommended browsers and settings can be found here. Please contact the UWM Help Desk, as described below, if you have questions about these requirements.

To find and browse the D2L course web site:
1. Go directly to the D2L login page OR - from the UWM home page click on the D2L tab
2. Click on the button that says “UWM ePanther” to access D2L utilizing your UWM ePanther account.
3. On the Desire2Learn Welcome screen, type in your ePanther Username (your ePanther campus email, but without the “@uw.edu) and Password. Then hit [Login].
4. On the D2L MyHome screen, go to the drop down menu (“Select a course”) at the top of the screen. You’ll see your active courses here, this course is titled: Urban Studies 360: Food and the City.
5. Click on course title to see the Course Home page. Click “Content” in the navigation bar to begin exploring the site.
6. If you have any difficulty getting into the course web site, please close down your web Browser completely and open it up again. Then try logging on again, using the instructions above. If you do not know your ePanther username or password, please get help as indicated below.
7. When you are finished looking around your D2L course sites, always click on “Logout” which can be found in the drop down menu under your name in the top right corner of the screen. This is especially important if you are in a computer lab. Otherwise, the next person who uses the machine will be using your D2L account!

What to do if you have problems with Desire2Learn (D2L):
If you have any difficulties with D2L, including problems with your login (e.g., you forgot your password, or if you just can’t get on), please contact the UWM Help Desk. You can contact the Help Desk by doing one of the following:
• Call the UWM Help Desk at (414) 229-4040 or the CETL Learning Technology desk at (414) 229-4319
Course Contents and Assignments

Class Structure:
We will meet online weekly, but there is no set time each week that we are all required to be online. Class weeks will run from 9AM on Wednesday mornings 6AM the following Wednesday. Future weeks’ content will be hidden until the previous week has ended, much like if we were meeting in real time. This allows for flexibility to delve further into a topic as steered by the student and course needs, and stay on top of current events as needed.

Weekly Content:
All materials (beyond the required texts) will be posted under the week’s content tab in D2L. These materials include guidance on where to focus your attention in the readings as well as supplemental video clips and readings to expand on ideas. I will not reiterate what you are expected to have read, rather I will highlight topics that may need additional clarification or that I believe will help you conceptualize multiple aspects of the readings on a deeper level.

Along with the assigned texts, students will use weekly content to inform their Educated Opinion Post (EOPs) and midterm study guides. After I read through your EOPs, I will post additional lecture materials toward the end of our week that clarifies any misconceptions, highlights some of the debates that may be occurring in your EOPs, and add anything that I think may be relevant or missing from the topic of the week before we move on to the next week’s topic.

Educated Opinion Posts (EOP):

There are 10 EOPs throughout the semester. Students will remain constructive and respectful in their posts. Please remember, without body language or other context clues, it can be very easy to misinterpret what is said online. There are sensitive themes in the course; much of what we talk about deals with oppressed subjects of the global food system. Any disrespectful language will not be tolerated and may result in a warning, loss of privileges to post that week, and/or additional consequences. Students will read all EOPs and comments within their group for the week. Please see the rubric online for how EOPs will be graded.

Initial Post (200 words, minimum): Due on the 5th day (by Monday, 6AM) of the class week. Due dates will be listed in the post instructions and inserted into the course calendar.

These will reflect your understanding of the readings and weekly content; therefore, should include a very brief (one sentence or fragment) quote or specific event from a video on two distinct concepts from the weekly content. Always include author/video name, plus page number/approximate time stamp in the video. More importantly, an EOP will not simply summarize the readings; rather it will include your educated opinion on the weekly content.

There will be specific prompts or questions to think about for the week’s EOP. However, the purpose is for you to expand upon two distinct observations you had about the content and try to:

- explain what your opinion is about those observations
- back up this explanation using facts you have gathered along the way

You may use additional resources, but always cite any resource used, including course texts and videos. EOPs are also a good place to ask for clarification of any content in order to expand the discussion of material.

Comment Post (200 words, minimum): Due on the 7th day (by Wednesday, 6AM) of the week. This is the place to elaborate on at least one of your classmate’s posts. This can be the most engaging part of the discussion, and a great place for alternative perspectives! Students will respond to the initial EOP with concrete points, or by taking a specific stand on what was written (“I agree” or “nicely said” do not count) using facts to back up their response. You will only see your classmates’ posts once you have posted your EOP.

Self-Reflection: There are 5 private self-reflections submitted through dropbox for me to read. I will provide very specific questions to answer that are based on weekly content, as well as more thorough instructions on the purpose of each reflection during the week’s content.

Midterms: There are 2 short-answer, open book midterm exams. These will be open for a week and will expect you to synthesize topics covered over the previous weeks in a more complex way than what is covered in the discussion.

Weekly content will remain open, but the EOPs will be hidden so that you work through these concepts yourself. While it is fine to discuss concepts with classmates and myself, you must write your own answers that pull from the texts and weekly content in a concise, accurate manner.
Assignments, students should anticipate investing a number of hours demanded of students outside of class will fluctuate based on the scheduling of exams and major assignments, students should anticipate investing 10 hours per week on the course including time spent on D2L for weekly content and discussions.

### Extra Credit:
There are two opportunities within Urban Studies program events for extra credit: the Fall Social Lecture, and the Henry W. Maier State of Milwaukee Summit that will provide extra course credit. Details will be provided.

### Social Movement Campaign:
The end of the semester will include group work to create a social movement campaign around a topic of your group’s choosing in the realm of urban food systems. More specific direction is forthcoming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Topics and Textbook Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2-Sep</td>
<td>EOP1 Self Reflect 1</td>
<td>Topic: Global Food System Read: F&amp;C Intro, Ch 1,2,3,&amp;4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9-Sep</td>
<td>EOP2</td>
<td>Topic: Global Food System Read: GFS Chapters 3,4,&amp;5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>16-Sep</td>
<td>EOP3</td>
<td>Topic: Race &amp; The Food System Read: CFJ Intro, Ch 1,2,3,4,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>23-Sep</td>
<td>EOP4 Self Reflect 2</td>
<td>Topic: Race &amp; The Food System Read: CFJ Ch 5,6,10,&amp;12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>30-Sep</td>
<td>EOP5</td>
<td>Topic: Food Justice/Sovereignty Read: GFS Intro through Ch 2 &amp; Ch 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7-Oct</td>
<td>Midterm No posts</td>
<td>Topic: Food Justice/Sovereignty Read: GFS Ch 7; CFJ Ch 13,14,&amp;15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>14-Oct</td>
<td>EOP6</td>
<td>Topic: Health Disparities Read: You Pick 4 Ch Total from the following: GFS Ch7,8; CFJ Ch 7,8,9,&amp;11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>21-Oct</td>
<td>EOP7</td>
<td>Topic: Urban Agriculture Read: F&amp;C 5,6,7,&amp;15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>28-Oct</td>
<td>EOP8 Self Reflect 3</td>
<td>Topic: Urban Agriculture Read: GFS 9,10,11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4-Nov</td>
<td>EOP9</td>
<td>Topic: Urban Agriculture Case Studies Read: F&amp;C 10,12,13,&amp;14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11-Nov</td>
<td>EOP10 Self Reflect 4</td>
<td>Topic: Urban Agriculture Case Studies Read: F&amp;C Chapters 8,9,&amp;11, NAR Ch XX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>18-Nov</td>
<td>Midterm No posts</td>
<td>Readings: Begin NAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>25-Nov</td>
<td>THANKSGIVING No posts</td>
<td>Social Movements Readings: Continue NAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2-Dec</td>
<td>Soc Mov Post 1</td>
<td>Social Movements Complete NAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>9-Dec</td>
<td>Soc Mov Post 2 Self Reflect 5</td>
<td>Social Movements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL</td>
<td>16-Dec</td>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>Social Movement Group Project Due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:** Updates to the schedule may be made at the instructor’s discretion. The week begins at 9AM on Wednesday and ends at 6AM the following Wednesday to allow for late posts on Tuesday evening. Assignment due dates will also be posted in the course calendar as well as within the assignment itself.

**Book Key:** *Globalization and Food Sovereignty (GFS); Food and the City (F&C); The Next American Revolution (NAR); Cultivating Food Justice (CFJ).* Additional readings will be posted directly into the weekly content and are also required unless marked optional.

**University Policy on Credit Hours:**

“Study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours for class contact in lectures, for laboratories, examinations, tutorials and recitations, and for preparation and study; or a demonstration by the student of learning equivalent to that established as the expected product of such a period of study.”

Urban Studies 360 is a 3-credit course. Based on federal and university expectations, students should prepare to spend a minimum of 144 hours of class time on preparation and work related to the course. Taking into consideration that the number of hours demanded of students outside of class will fluctuate based on the scheduling of exams and major assignments, students should anticipate investing 10 hours per week on the course including time spent on D2L for weekly content and discussions.
Academic Conduct

You are expected to do your own work in this class and properly cite any ideas or quotes from other sources. Citations should follow a generally accepted format (APA, MLA, Chicago). Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic misconduct will be dealt with in accordance to the guidelines of the university. Academic dishonesty includes failing to cite published work or someone else’s ideas, purchasing a paper from another student or online, using another student’s work as your own, directly copying from a source without quoting the author, submitting your own work from another class, etc. Submitted material may be randomly run through plagiarism detection software.

Any student caught engaging in plagiarism will receive a failing grade for this course, and will automatically initiate the university’s procedure and policy on plagiarism and academic integrity. This can be viewed online here.

UNIVERSITY AND URBAN STUDIES PROGRAMS POLICIES

The Secretary of the University maintains a web page that contains university policies that affect the instructor and the students in this course, as well as essential information specific to conduct of the course. The link to that web page is: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf

Students with Disabilities. Verification of disability, class standards, the policy on the use of alternate material and test accommodations can be found at the following: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S1.5.htm

Religious Observances. Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S31.pdf

Students called to active Military Duty. Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty are found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/current_students/military_call_up.cfm

Incompletes. You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above. The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S32.pdf

Discriminatory Conduct (such as sexual harassment). Discriminatory conduct will not be tolerated by the University. It poisons the work and learning environment of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience and well-being of students, faculty and staff. Policies regarding discriminatory conduct can be found at: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S47.pdf

Academic Misconduct. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following: http://www4.uwm.edu/osl/dean/conduct/cfm

Complaint Procedures. Students may direct complaints to the Sociology Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Sociology Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences in the College of Letters & Sciences, or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. Policies may be found at: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S49.7.htm

Grade Appeal Procedures. A student may appeal a grade on the grounds that it is based on a capricious or arbitrary decision of the course instructor. Such an appeal shall follow the established procedures adopted by the department, college, or school in which the course resides or in the case of graduate students, the Graduate School. These procedures are available in writing from the respective department chairperson or the Academic Dean of the College of Letters & Science. Procedures for undergraduate student grade appeal can be found at http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/upload/grievance_procedure.pdf

Procedures for graduate student grade appeal can be found at http://www.graduateschool.uwm.edu/students/policies/

Final Examination Policy. Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/acad%2Badmin_policies/S22.htm