

# Honors The History of Food and Eating (3 credits)

WOH 2402

Spring 2020 (9:30-10:50 M/W)

AD 204

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**Office Hours: T/Th 1-4**

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## **Course Description**

This course explores the history of the world through the changes in the way people eat. We examine many different regions of the world through their foods, and we learn about the ways in which the world is interconnected by the foods we eat. This course is intended as an introduction to world history. Your written work should be high quality, but we will also have some fun along the way, including watching excerpts from the BBC's "Supersizers," a light-hearted take on food in history, and sampling cuisines from different times and places.

## **Course Objectives**

Students will complete this course with a solid understanding of the crucial role food has played in the evolution of world history. They will also gain improved writing and research skills.

## **Requirements and Grades**

This is a Writing Across the Curriculum and Gordon-Rule writing course, so most of the assignments are in written form. Gordon Rule writing courses require that students complete with grades of C or better 12 credits in designated courses in which the student is required to demonstrate college-level writing skills. In addition to ten quizzes over the course of the semester, students will write and revise a paper, take a written midterm and write a final. Your paper(s) will be written in stages, and revisions and discussions of writing are built into the course as part of your grade. Revision grades will be based on thoroughness. If there are any **late papers**, they will be marked down one half grade for each class day late.

We will spend most of our time in class discussing the texts we read. There will also be lectures, in-class assignments, films, slides and other materials. Most of your coursework will involve reading, reflection and discussion. Expect to read, discuss and be quizzed on anywhere from 20-70 pages each week.

The total number of words you will write in this course, including the first and second draft of paper number 1 and the final research project will amount to a minimum of 16 pages, or approximately 4,000 words.

Your edited and revised first paper will be due completed during the first half of the semester and your research paper (5-10 pages in length) will be due at the end of the semester. The

subject will be the global history of a specific food (e.g., the apple, cinnamon, soy milk) in which you examine and elucidate the food's origin, use, spread, alteration, and impact on the world. Toward the end of the semester you will give a 10 minute presentation on your topic in which you share what you have learned with the rest of the class. On alternate class days we will begin class discussions with progress reports and research and writing help for your research topics.

All writing assignments will receive substantive written feedback from the instructor.

**Grades in the course are based on a 1000 earnable points:**

Class Participation.....	100 points
10 Quizzes (20 points each).....	100 points
First Draft (Paper 1).....	50 points
Partner Revision (Paper 1).....	50 points
Revised Paper (Paper 1).....	200 points
Midterm.....	200 points
Final Presentation.....	100 points
Research Paper.....	200 points

**Grade Scale**

- 90-100 (A)
- 80-90 (B)
- 70-80 (C)
- 60-70 (D)
- 60 or below (F)

**Note on Honors Distinction**

This Honors course differs substantially from a non-Honors course in the amount of work expected from students, which includes 10 unannounced written reading response quizzes, a midterm, a final, and a 5-10 page research paper. It also differs qualitatively in that students will be expected to assimilate materials that range across the fields of history, political science, anthropology, and nutritional biology. In addition, standards and expectations for written expression, including mutual editing and revision, will be demanding. According to Wilkes Honors College tradition, both outside-the classroom writing assignments must meet rigorous standards for clarity of expression, persuasiveness, proper citation form, and evidence-based argumentation.

## **Policies**

Showing up (*on time*) and taking an active role in discussion counts for 10 percent of your grade, or 100 points. In addition, each quiz counts for 20 points (for a total of 200 points). **If you miss the class without a prior excuse, you will not receive credit for the quiz.**

Laptops should not be used to take notes in class, except under certain circumstances after consultation with the instructor.

Students are encouraged to come to office hours on a regular basis. You should not have the *expectation* of doing well in this course if you are not a regular attendee at office hours.

## **WAC Assessment**

If this class is selected to participate in the university-wide WAC assessment program, you will be required to access the online assessment sever, complete the consent form and survey, and submit electronically a first and final draft of a near-end-of-term paper.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance.

Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

## **Classroom Etiquette Policy**

In order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cellular telephones and pagers, are to be disabled in class sessions.

## **Student Accessibility Services**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/).

## **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center**

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling>.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#). Please also see the Honors College's academic [Honor Code](#).

### **Incomplete Grades**

Florida Atlantic University's policies regarding "incomplete" grades can be found in the [University Catalog](#).

### **Books and Materials Available for Purchase**

Sidney Mintz, *Sweetness and Power*

Tom Standage, *An Edible History of Humanity*

Tom Standage, *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*

**Other texts will be available on Blackboard or as handouts**

### **Course Outline**

#### **August 22**

**Introduction to the Course**

#### **August 24**

**Eating Before History**

Reading: Edible History, 16-22 and from Paleolithic prescription

#### **August 28**

**How Farmers Changed the World**

Reading: Edible History, 3-16 and 22-27

#### **August 30**

**Agriculture and Social Division**

Reading: Edible History, 31-59

**September 5**

Labor Day Holiday

**September 7**

Beer and the First Civilization

Reading: 6 Glasses, 9-39

**September 12**

Ancient Rome, Wine and the Making of Our World (SD: 43-90)

Reading: 6 Glasses, 43-90

**September 14**

The Supersizers Go to Ancient Rome

**September 19**

Sampling Ancient Cuisine

**September 21**

Food and Globalization: The Spice Trade (SF: 63-84)

Reading: Edible History, 63-84

**FIRST DRAFT OF PAPER DUE:** September 26

**September 26**

Reading: In-class Editing and Revision

**PARTNER REVISION DUE:** September 28

**September 28**

The Search for Spice and the New World (SF: 85-104)

Reading: Edible History, 85-104

**FINAL DRAFT OF PAPER DUE:** October 3

**October 3**

Sugar in the Middle Ages (M: 74-108)

Reading: Sweetness, 74-108

**October 5**

The Supersizers Go to Elizabethan England

**October 10**

**Fall Break**

**October 12**

**A New World of Food**

Reading: Edible History, 107-128

**October 17**

**Sugar and the Making of the Modern World I**

Reading: Sweetness, 52-73

**October 19**

**Sugar and the Making of the Modern World II**

Reading: Sweetness, 108-150

**October 24**

**Sugar and the Making of the Modern World III**

Reading: Sweetness, 187-214

**October 26**

**Spirits and the Making of the Modern World**

Reading: 6 Glasses, 93-129

**October 31**

**MIDTERM**

**November 2**

**Coffee and Enlightenment Europe**

Reading: 6 Glasses, 133-172

**November 7**

**Tea and European Imperialism**

Reading: 6 Glasses, 175-220

**November 9**

**Sampling Global Cuisine**

**November 14**

**Modern Consumption and its Dangers I**

Reading: Edible History, 129-170

**November 16**

**Modern Consumption and its Dangers II**

Reading: Edible History, 171-196

**November 21**

**Supersizers Go Victorian**

**November 23**

**Food in the “American Century”**

Reading: 6 Glasses, 223-265

**November 28**

**Food in a Global World**

Reading: Edible History, 199-242 and 6 Glasses 266-274

**November 30**

**Research Presentations**

**December 5**

**Research Presentations**

**FINAL PAPER DUE ON DATE OF FINAL EXAM: TBA**