SOCI707
The Sociology of Food and Eating
S1 Day 2016
Dept of Sociology

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Convenor
Alison Leitch
alison.leitch@mq.edu.au
Contact via Ext: 8012
W6A 832

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
In this course students will explore cutting edge literature and the latest empirical research on the social, political and cultural dimensions of food and eating from both the production and consumption perspective. The course will be organised around seminars on particular topics that may vary depending on student's research interests and projects but may include the following: understanding the modern food system; food security and food colonisation; food scarcity, inequality and hunger; food in moral economies; ethical eating practices and debates; food and cultural heritage; and food and migration.

Important Academic Dates
Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis
### Assessment Tasks

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Weeks 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Review Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Week 13</td>
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### Seminar Participation

**Due:** Ongoing  
**Weighting:** 30%

Students must read set readings before class and come prepared to discuss and present on these readings to their peers.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
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- Develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

### Book Review

**Due:** Weeks 7-9  
**Weighting:** 20%

Students prepare 15 minute presentation on a book of their choice. This presentation will be written up as a formal book review suitable for a sociology journal (750 word limit) and due a week after the oral presentation in class.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
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- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
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- Develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis
Book Review Essay

Due: Week 13
Weighting: 50%

Students will write a major book critical review essay of three books we have studied this semester. The review should be written in essay formal style with a formal introduction body and conclusion and should attempt a critical review of the three texts.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
- Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
- Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
- Develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

Delivery and Resources

All resources are available on ilearn.

Unit Schedule

The unit schedule will be discussed at the first class. We will select together 7-8 books on various topics published over the last 10 years in the interdisciplinary field of food studies. The books we select will all involve empirical projects with different methodologies. Most of the course will be devoted to a critical analysis and discussion of the various methodologies and theories used in these texts.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html


Unit guide SOCI707 The Sociology of Food and Eating

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html. The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.
Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
- Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
- Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
- develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

Assessment tasks

- Seminar Participation
- Book Review
- Book Review Essay

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
- Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
- Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
- develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

Assessment tasks

- Seminar Participation
- Book Review
PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
- Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
- Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
- develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

**Assessment tasks**

- Seminar Participation
- Book Review
- Book Review Essay

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
- Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
- Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
- Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
- develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis
Assessment tasks

• Seminar Participation
• Book Review
• Book Review Essay

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
• Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
• Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
• Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts though peer group learning
• develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

Assessment tasks

• Seminar Participation
• Book Review
• Book Review Essay

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Demonstrate skills in research, text analysis and academic writing
• Analyse how researchers combine theory and empirical material effectively
• Understand and critically analyse key debates in the most recent literature on the sociology of food and eating
• Engage in informed discussion about theories and concepts through peer group learning
• Develop advanced skills in critical thinking and analysis

Assessment tasks

• Seminar Participation
• Book Review
• Book Review Essay