

PLANNING FOR GLOBAL AND LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS

URBP 787.48

Fall 2012, THURS 9:10 – 11 AM

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

There is now evidence that the production, processing, and distribution of food, and the disposal of food waste, account for some 25% of global greenhouse emissions. Advocacy by consumers, producers, environmental and public health organizations has heightened debates about food systems, including: the role of the Green Revolution and proposals to further expand food production through biotechnology; food justice and the growth of inequalities in access to healthy food at global and local levels; disparities in the levels of malnutrition, hunger, obesity, diabetes and other food-related illnesses; the role of multinational food conglomerates, global free trade and capitalism; and declining food sovereignty and food security. These concerns have given rise to food movements at local and global levels.

Urban planners are increasingly involved in strategies for change in food systems at local and global levels. Food production has mostly disappeared from within the boundaries of the cities and metropolitan regions of an increasingly urbanized world. However, periurban agriculture has a significant presence in some regions, particularly Africa. In parts of the developed world, including the United States and Canada, interest in the promotion of urban agriculture, local food and the preservation of periurban agriculture has expanded dramatically in only the last decade. Planning for local food security is now a growing subject of policy research and action, moving beyond consumer drives for wider choice towards an ecological, food systems approach. The study of food systems from an ecological perspective aims for a more comprehensive and holistic approach that connects the dots between land, water and air; human, animal and plant life; and economic, social and

Hunter College, City University of New York

cultural relations. It addresses the relationships between food, culture, race, class and gender.

REQUIREMENTS:

Class participation. Students should come prepared to discuss each topic and minimally read the required selections before class. Except for the first class I will call on students to summarize each of the readings and raise questions and we will organize the discussions around these questions. Students who miss three or more classes will face automatic grade penalties and possible failure.

Report on food culture. Every student should bring to class one recipe and a story that reflects the food culture they grew up in. Bringing samples of the prepared food to class is optional. We will arrange these so that there are one or two reports per class session.

Research papers. Two research papers are required. The first should be approximately 8-10 pages double-spaced excluding references. The second should be approximately 15-20 pages excluding references. The topics of the two papers should be different. You may choose any topics related to this course; we will discuss alternatives in class.

September 20: First paper proposal due: one page statement of research objectives, outline and initial sources.

October 11: First paper due.

October 25: Second paper proposal due: one page statement of research objectives, outline and initial sources.

December 20: Second paper due

No incomplete grades will be given except by prior arrangement and for valid health reasons.

REQUIRED TEXTS [On order at Shakespeare's on Lexington Ave. & 69th St.)

Raj Patel, *Stuffed and Starved*. Melville House, 2007.

Vandana Shiva, *Stolen Harvest*. South End Press, 2000.

Eric Holt-Giménez, *Food Movements Unite! Strategies to Transform our Food System*. Food First Books, 2011.

REQUIRED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND OTHER READINGS (on Blackboard)

Angotti, Tom *The New Century of the Metropolis: Urban Enclaves and Orientalism*. Routledge, 2011, Chapters 3, 4, 9.

Hunter College, City University of New York

Jerome Kaufman, Ed. Planning for Community Food Systems, Special issue of *Journal of Planning Education & Research*. 23:4, Summer 2004.
Food Security, Special Issue of *Plan Canada*. 49:2, Summer 2009.

SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS

Douglas H. Boucher, Ed. *The Paradox of Plenty*. Food First Books, 1999.
Robert Gottlieb and Joshi Anupama *Food Justice*. MIT Press, 2010.
Harry Magdoff, John Bellamy Foster, and Frederick Buttel, Eds. *Hungry for Profit*. Monthly Review Press, 2000.
Poppendieck, J. 2010. *Free for All. Fixing School Food in America*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.
Winne, M. 2008. *Closing the Food Gap: Resetting the Table in the Land of the Plenty*. Beacon Press, 2008.
Winne, M. 2010. *Food Rebels, Guerrilla Gardeners, and Smart Cookin' Mamas: Fighting Back in an Age of Industrial Agriculture*. Beacon Press, 2010.

TOPIC SEQUENCE AND READINGS

(Readings not in required books are on Blackboard)

1. Introduction and overview: The global food system and the paradox of plenty

Patel, Ch. 1, 6, 10; Shiva Ch. 1
Blake Hurst, "The Omnivore's Delusion," *The American*, July 30, 2009.
2. Food sovereignty and food security

Holt-Giménez, Part 1
Timothy A. Wise and Betsy Rakocy. *Hogging the Gains from Trade The Real Winners from U.S. Trade and Agricultural Policies*. GDAE, Jan 2010.
3. Farmers, free trade, comparative advantage and capitalist development

Patel, Ch. 2-5; Shiva, Ch. 2
Maria del Carmen Vera-Diaz, Robert K. Kaufmann, and Daniel C. Nepstad, *The Environmental Impacts of Soybean Expansion And Infrastructure Development in Brazil's Amazon Basin*. Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, May 2009.
Mamerto Pérez, Sergio Schlesinger and Timothy A. Wise, *The Promise and the Perils of Agriculture Trade Liberalization: Lessons from Latin America*, Washington Office on Latin America, 2008.
Angotti, *New Century of the Metropolis*, Ch. 3, 4
4. Food Justice

Holt-Gimenez, Part 2

Hunter College, City University of New York

5. Biotechnology, seeds and GMOs
Shiva, Ch. 5-6, Patel, Ch. 7
Park Slope Food Coop, *Safe Food*
Video in class: *The Future of Food*
6. Food marketing, consumers and public health
Patel, Ch. 8,9; Shiva, Ch. 3-4
7. Urban and Periurban Agriculture
Case study in class: Prospect Farm, Brooklyn
Jerry Kaufman and Martin Bailkey, *Farming Inside Cities: Entrepreneurial Urban Agriculture in the United States*. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Working Paper, 2000.
Clara Irazábal and Anita Punja, "Cultivating Just Planning and Legal Institutions: A Critical Assessment of The South Central Farm Struggle in Los Angeles," *Journal of Urban Affairs*. 31:1, 2009.
Gilbert W. Gillespie Jr. and Sue Ellen Johnson, "Success in Farm Start-ups in the Northeastern United States," JAFSCD, 1:1, August 2010.
8. Planning for Community Food Systems
JPER articles by Kaufman, Campbell
Plan Canada articles by Kaufman, Caldwell and Dodds-Weir, Turvey and Konyi, Hall, Angotti
9. Urban food assessments, local food policy initiatives, and food justice
JPER articles by Pothukuchi, Wekerle, Clifton
Plan Canada articles by Oswald, Kaill-Vinish, Graff
Jason Grimm, *Food Urbanism*, Iowa State University, 2009.
10. Local distribution systems
JPER article by Vallianatos, et. al.
Plan Canada article by Wegener
Angotti, "Rotten Fresh Direct"
Rich Pirog, *Assessing fuel efficiency and CO2 emissions of two local food distribution options in Iowa*, 2008.
11. Completing the circle: food waste, composting and recycling
<http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/materials/organics/food/>
Business Food Waste Briefing Paper. Waste Cap Wisconsin

Hunter College, City University of New York

12. New York City case study

Food Works. NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, 2011.

Food NYC. Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, 2010.

Red Tape, Green Vegetables. Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, 2011.

New York Academy of Medicine. *Zoning Against Unhealthy Food Sources In New York City*, 2012.

13. Ecosystemic approaches to urban planning and public health

Holt-Gimenez, Part 3

Angotti, *New Century of the Metropolis*, Ch. 9

SUGGESTED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Classics:

Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. Penguin, 2006.

Eric Schlosser, *Fast Food Nation*. Perennial, 2002.

Lappe, Frances Moore and Anna Lappe. *Hope's Edge : The Next Diet for a Small Planet*. Tarcher, 2003.

Marion Nestle, *Food Politics*. Univ. of California Press, 2002.

Marcel Mazoyer and Laurence Roudart, *A History of World Agriculture*. Monthly Review Press, 2006.

Jeffrey M. Smith, *Seeds of Deception*. Yes! Books, 2003.

Global Food Justice:

Deborah Barndt, Ed. *Women Working the NAFTA Food Chain*. Second Story Press, 1999.

John Bellamy Foster, Brett Clark, and Richard York *The Ecological Rift: Capitalism's War on the Earth*. Monthly Review, 2010.

Fernando Funes, et. al. *Sustainable Agriculture and Resistance: Transforming Food Production in Cuba*. Food First Books, 2002.

Andrew Heintzman and Evan Solomon, Eds. *Feeding the Future*. House of Anansi Press, 2006.

Wayne Roberts, *The No-Nonsense Guide to World Food*. New Internationalist, 2008.

Peter Robbins, *Stolen Fruit*. Zed Books, 2003.

Vandana Shiva, *Water Wars*. South End Press, 2002.

Hunger:

Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific, *The Politics of Hunger*. 2008.

Jan Poppendieck, *Sweet Charity?* Penguin, 1998.

Hunter College, City University of New York

Sasha Abramsky, *Breadline USA*. PoliPoint Press, 2009.

SOME LINKS

Community Food Security Coalition www.foodsecurity.org

Campaign to Label Genetically Engineered Foods www.thecampaign.org

National Black Farmers Association www.blackfarmers.org

Via Campesina <http://viacampesina.org/en/>

Just Food www.justfood.org

The Center for Food Safety www.centerforfoodsafety.org

Slow Food www.slowfood.com

Institute for Food and Development Policy <http://www.foodfirst.org/>