

## History 4485: American Foodways for Nutrition Minors Summer 2020 100% Online Class

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### **Course Objectives**

Are you truly what you eat? Food has played a consistent yet complicated role in the shaping of national histories, social relations, personal experiences, and cultures. We will spend the semester exploring how, by examining the various intersections between food and culture from the pre-Columbian period through the present day and across the American landscape.

This course is a 100% online course for Nutrition Minors using CourseDen and your computer as the delivery medium. You are not required to attend class face to face.

### **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, students will be expected to:

- ❖ demonstrate an understanding of the important developments in the formation of American foodways and culture from the early America to the present.
- ❖ demonstrate the ability to state and support an interpretation of historical issues concisely, coherently, and logically.
- ❖ improve writing and critical thinking skills through both formal and informal written assignments, class discussion, and careful reading of primary and secondary sources.

### **Special Note**

Students, please carefully review the following information at this link:

<https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php>

This link contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

**Course Readings:** There is no specific textbook for this course. Everything you need is provided.

**Accessibility:** Please submit any SAR documentation to me within the first week of class, or once received if the semester is already in progress. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs as outlined in your paperwork. Please do not hesitate to ask if you need further assistance.

## ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION

Please note that students who do not actively participate in the class within the first two weeks will be withdrawn by the course at the deadline set by the university. In this class, **students are required to complete the introduction assignment and all Unit 1 assignments by the deadline outlined in the Syllabus in order to stay enrolled in the class.**

Students who do not fulfill all of these requirements, which can be found in the Start Here: Syllabus and Start Items module will be dropped for non-participation. If you are unable to complete these assignments in the allotted time-frame and/or have documentation to that effect should contact me as soon as possible to avoid being dropped after the deadline. Please note UWG's policy on attendance verification as outlined in Section 204 of the UWG Faculty Handbook: "In fully online or hybrid courses each instructor has the authority to specify in the syllabus what qualifies as attendance at the first class meeting and during the Drop/Add Period to drop students who fail to meet that requirement. Instructors may require students to attend a face-to-face meeting, to login in to the online course-delivery system by a specific date, or to take other specified steps at the beginning of the session." If you are dropped and do not have sufficient documentation as to why you were unable to complete the attendance assignments as outlined here, that decision is final and you will not be reinstated in the course.

### COMPUTER ACCESS

It is highly recommended that you have regular (daily) computer access with broadband Internet access. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

### TECHNICAL SKILL REQUIREMENTS

You should be comfortable with using both WORD and PDF documents, have a working knowledge of CourseDen, and feel comfortable navigating the internet and using email for communication.

**UWG | Online HelpDesk (M-F 8-5pm) Phone: 678-839-6248**

**Email: [online@westga.edu](mailto:online@westga.edu)**

**24/7 HelpDesk <https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu>**

## Course Evaluation and Grade Distribution

The course will be evaluated on a 10-pt scale: A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=59-0.

Emphasis will be on clarity of ideas, reading, writing, analytical and critical thinking skills, class participation, and overall presentation. Participation in class discussions and lectures is encouraged and will form a component of the written assignment grades. There will be no extra credit offered in this class, so please do not ask.

Grade calculations are as follows:

- Class Participation 45%
- Weekly Photo 5%
- Short Essays 20%
- Food Journal 30%

Exams: There are none! Yay!

### Short Essays

Rather than do exams in this class, I've opted to have you write **two short essays of 500-750 words each**. Please see CourseDen for additional details. Combined, these essays are 20% of your grade. Late and/or emailed papers will not be accepted without a documented excuse.

- **Family/Community Foods Essay**  
Discuss one specific food/meal/dish that has a specific or special meaning to your family and/or community.
- **Defining American Foodways**  
Now that you've had a class on American Foodways, how do you define it?

### Food Journal

As nutrition minors, you likely have had to do this assignment before. You will likely assign a food diary yourself in your careers. This journal is not your typical food diary. Rather than simply record what you eat, instead you will connect your diet/foods/beverages to your personal/family/community foodways and you'll journal your choices, feelings, memories, and experiences along the way. **This is a semester-long assignment, and you will be expected to record at least three entries per week of at least 100 words.** Please see CourseDen for additional details. This project is 30% of your grade and it will be due the last day of class. Late and/or emailed journals will not be accepted without a documented excuse. You will have an opportunity to submit these journals as part of the University History Project subseries documenting the COVID-19 pandemic once completed, and I will provide details on how to do that at a later date.

### Weekly Photo

At the end of each unit, **you will upload or link a photo in the discussion forums of something related to this unit's content:** a meal, an object, an advertisement, a sign, a menu, even a meme...something that speaks to you, that calls on you to reconsider something, to look more closely at something. The photo can be in direct conversation with the unit's topic, but it does not have to be, as long as it's related to themes of the unit as a whole. **This photo can be included in your food journal, as can be your interpretation of that photo.** Your weekly photo will be due at the end of each unit, and they comprise a collective 5% of your overall grade. Late and/or emailed photos will not be accepted without a properly documented excuse. Please see CourseDen for additional guidelines.

### Class Participation

There are **7 unit discussions** based on that unit's course material, with each discussion receiving a separate grade that will be applied towards your class participation grade. Grades received for your **mandatory introduction** will also be counted towards your class participation grade. Each Online Unit Discussion will be graded on a 25 point scale. Late posts will not be counted towards your unit discussion grades. See the Course Overview Module for more information on Class Participation Guidelines and Grading.

### A Note about Submitting Assignments to CourseDen

ASSIGNMENT FORMAT: All submitted assignments must be submitted in MS word format. Papers should be double-spaced and be written in size 12 Times New Roman font, black text, with 1" margins. Parenthetical references of (pg) are required for all paraphrased or directly quoted information. The usage of any source outside of CourseDen is not allowed.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS LATE OR OUTSIDE COURSEDEN: Late assignments submitted after the scheduled deadline or outside of the Assignments Dropbox will not be accepted unless you have a properly documented excuse. **Late assignments submitted without proper documentation will receive a 0. Please note that this rule is written in stone.**

THE RETURN OF GRADED WORK: Assignment grades will be posted within a week of the due date. Discussion grades will be posted within one week of the date of the discussion's end.

EXTRA CREDIT: There is no extra credit offered in this class.

### IN THE EVENT OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

It is **your responsibility** to see that your assignments have posted to CourseDen properly. Please check to make sure that your assignment was uploaded correctly and appears in the appropriate Dropbox. If it does not appear, I cannot grade it, so please make sure that your attachments upload properly, because I will not be contacting you to resubmit them.

In the event that you are having computer/wifi difficulties, please find an alternative source. **Please do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments.** You are submitting items over the Internet, and sometimes the Internet Gods get angry and withhold access. There are many things that can go wrong in the path between your computer and CourseDen. Technical problems related to computer connections or equipment cannot be used as an excuse for failure to complete assignments or to participate online.

**It is your responsibility to locate the computer hardware, software and Internet connections necessary to stay connected and current with your course work online.** Please be aware of alternate Internet connections and computers available through college computer labs, college

Learning Resource Centers (libraries), the public library, and any friends, relatives, or neighbors and access them if my personal computer equipment is not working.

### A Note about Academic Honesty:

I will not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty in this class and my policy is one of zero tolerance. All assignments and discussion posts submitted in class must be written in your own words. This includes paraphrasing, which is not necessarily taking a passage word for word, but certainly does not give credit to ideas and/or information. **All assignments will be monitored by Turnitin.**

Plagiarism is a serious offense and it can lead to your expulsion and/or suspension from the University. Every UWG student agrees upon their admission to the university to uphold the UWG Honor Code, which states: “[a]s a West Georgia student, I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly. I understand that if I violate this code, I will accept the penalties imposed, should I be found guilty of violations through processes due me as a university community member.” UWG students further agree that they will “refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrications, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.” In short, don’t do it. Plagiarizers will automatically fail this course. I will also recommend that UWG administration take action.

You can find a link to the UWG Honor Code in the Course Overview Module, as well as links to pages on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it in the Content Module. Also, the mandatory plagiarism quiz will help you with this as well. Furthermore, assignment and discussion guidelines will give instructions on citation formats, but feel free to contact me with questions on how or what to cite. A good rule of thumb is “when in doubt, cite.”

## **Tentative Course Outline**

Please note that this schedule could change due to unforeseen circumstances. Please check course announcements and email for any changes that may arise.

### **Unit 1 – Early America**

- ❖ **Mandatory Participation Activities.** Students who do not complete the introduction requirements and all Unit 1 activities **by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, June 7**, will be removed from this course for non-participation.
  
- ❖ Your Intro, Unit 1 Discussion, and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, June 7

## **Unit 2 – Early African American Foodways**

- ❖ The Unit 2 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, June 14

## **Unit 3 – Urban and Ethnic America in the 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

- ❖ The Unit 3 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, June 21

## **Unit 4 – Home Economics and Food Reform**

- ❖ The Unit 4 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, June 28
- ❖ Your Traditional Family/Community Foods Essays are also due by 11:59 PM EST, June 28

## **Unit 5 – The Great Depression and WWII**

- ❖ No Class on Friday, July 3. Happy Birthday, America!!
- ❖ The Unit 5 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, July 5

## **Unit 6 – Post War America: Food Culture and Politics**

- ❖ The Unit 6 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, July 12

## **Unit 7: Modern Foodways: Connections, Legacies, and More Food for Thought**

- ❖ The Unit 7 Discussion and Photo are due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, July 19

## **Other Deadlines**

- ❖ Your Food Journals are due by 11:59 PM EST, Tuesday, July 21
- ❖ Your Definitions Papers are due by 11:59 PM on Thursday, July 23
- ❖ Grades will be submitted to the Registrar by 12 Noon, Monday, July 27