

## DRAFT

### ASB 300: Food & Culture

3 credits

Instructor: Dr Alexandra Brewis Slade

Head TA: Rachel Luchmun [rluchmun@asu.edu](mailto:rluchmun@asu.edu)

**Course Description:** Everyone eats. Food is about survival. But we don't eat everything. What we choose to eat and how we eat is deeply cultural. It tells us much about who we are and want to be, what we value, and how we relate to each other and the world we live in. This 3-credit course applies core ideas and skills from anthropology to understand food as a means to understand human culture, identity, and meaning. The course is suitable for non-majors, and emphasizes “doing” of anthropology alongside core concepts.

#### COURSE LEARNING GOALS

In addition to learning broadly about the relationship between food, eating, and culture, by the end of this course, students will have demonstrated they can:

- Situate their own and others' identity within social meanings of food and eating within the context of broader cultural perspectives and traditions.
- Recognize the complexity of interconnections between people, food and food systems across a globalized world, including how they connect to power.
- Build skills in applying an “ethnographic approach,” through such means as ethics training, cultural observation, interviewing, and/or cultural interpretation.
- Synthesize and express complicated and potentially sensitive ideas effectively to an audience, both in writing and verbally, and debate complex issues from both sides, identifying points of commonality.
- Reflect on the ambiguities and complexities of food-culture research process, including ethics, managing recruitment, data collection, analysis, and the influence of own histories and experiences on interpretation.

#### COURSE OUTLINE

The course is organized in six modules. Each module has a set of lectures, readings, materials and assignments to reinforce core concepts and skills development. Students complete the modules in sequence.

Module 1: Hors d'oeuvre: Introduction to the Course

Module 2: What Don't We Eat

Module 3: How Food Defines Us

Module 4: Changing Food, Changing Us

Module 5: Food, Culture, and Health

Module 6: Dessert: Putting it all Together

### **COURSE TEXT**

There is no course text. Readings are provided on Canvas within each module.

<b>SEMESTER COURSEWORK (6 modules)</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
Discussion posts and responses (5)	100 points (20 pts each)
Module exit tests (6)	300 points (50 pts each)
Writing Assignment #1: Ritual Meal Analysis	200 points
Writing Assignment #2: Ethnographic Writing	200 points
Writing Assignment #3: Blog Post	200 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

For your own protection, you should keep a copy of everything you hand in, and you should keep your graded assignments at least until grades are finalized at the end of the semester, and in the event that you wish to contest any grades.

### **Final Grades**

The ASU grading scheme [is available here](#)

A-/ A/ A+ 90.0-93.0 / 93.1- 96.9/ 97.0-100.0% Excellent comprehension and mastery

B- /B/ B+ 80.0-83.0/ 83.1- 86.9/ 87.0- 89.9% Good comprehension and mastery

C/ C+ 70.0-76.9/ 77.0- 79.9% Adequate comprehension and mastery

D 60.0 -69.9 Barely acceptable comprehension

E <60 Failure

XE Failure due to Academic Dishonesty

## **POLICIES AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **Feedback and Questions**

In the first instance, check the Canvas site for hallway conversations. Then if you have a question you think matters to other students too, post to hallway conversations for the fastest answer. If you have questions about coursework and grading, contact the TA. If you have questions about other issues than coursework and assignments, or technical hitches, email the instructor. The instructor will respond within 48 business hours to emails. If preferable, we can organize a Zoom, Facetime or Skype call.

### **Extra Credit**

There will be no extra credit opportunities assigned for this course.

### **Incompletes**

A mark of "I" (incomplete) is only given by the instructor when you have completed **at least** 80% of the course and are otherwise doing acceptable work (i.e. have a passing grade) AND are unable to complete the course because of serious illness or other conditions completely beyond your control, and can provide reasonable documentation of this. You are required to arrange directly with the instructor for the completion of the course requirements. The arrangement **must** be recorded on the [Request for Grade of Incomplete form](http://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request) (<http://students.asu.edu/forms/incomplete-grade-request>).

### **Late Assignments**

It is your responsibility to know the due dates for all course work (see Course Schedule on Canvas for dates).

**\*\*Arizona does not follow daylight savings time.** It is any online student's responsibility to determine the appropriate time zone conversion for timely submission of quizzes and assignments\*\*

Assignments are due electronically at the time specified on the course schedule. No late submissions will be accepted.

However, **each student has a two-day "time bank"** that you may use at your discretion to extend a due date of up to two assignments without penalty. You can apply both days to the same assignment or you can use one day for one assignment and one day for another assignment. This "time bank" is measured in days, so if you submit an assignment 12 hours after the deadline, you have one day left for another assignment (not 36 hours which is two days). Additionally, as the deadline for all submissions is 11:59 pm, an assignment submitted at 12:00 am is considered one day late. There are no penalties or bonuses for using or not using your time bank days. You do not have to inform the instructor or course TA that you will be using your time bank days but you are responsible for keeping track of your remaining late days. Work submitted late after you have used up your late days will receive a score of zero when calculating your final grade.

**HOWEVER, ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE LAST DAY OF CLASS, REGARDLESS OF TIME BANK.**

If you experience a medical or personal emergency that is beyond your control and for which you can provide documentation, an extension outside of the "time bank" may be considered. Please note that if this is an online course and you do not have to come to campus, a minor illness such as a cold will **not** be considered grounds for accepting a late assignment. Any medical documentation must state the specific date ranges that you are ill or unable to complete coursework, according to your medical professional. If you encounter a medical emergency and wish to request a late assignment submission, contact the TA and instructor as soon as possible.

Please note: If there is a system-wide outage when an assignment is due you will not be punished for not turning it in on time, but will be required to turn it in by the newly stated day and time. You can confirm system-wide canvas outages at <https://uto.asu.edu/system-health>. If MyASU is down, canvas can still be accessed at <https://myasucourses.asu.edu>.

## **Grade Appeals**

ASU has formal and informal channels to appeal a grade. If you wish to appeal any grading decisions, please see <http://catalog.asu.edu/appeal>. Grade disputes must first be addressed by discussing the situation with the instructor. If the dispute is not resolved with the instructor, the student may appeal to the department chair per the [University Policy for Student Appeal Procedures on Grades](#).

## **Notes on Letters of Recommendation:**

Please be aware that I receive many requests from students to write letters of recommendation and therefore have set down these guidelines. Students should only request a letter of recommendation if s/he meets the following minimum criteria.

- Has taken more than one in-person (upper-division) class with me if it is lecture, or have taken one intensive smaller class such as a seminar, lab, or practicum class with me (note: I do not write letters for students who take online classes with me, unless also participating in study abroad, practical, etc)
- Received A or A+ in a 300 or 400 level course(s)
- Has spoken with me directly outside of class about career/academic goals

Note that if you meet these minimums it doesn't mean that I will agree to write you a letter. When asking for a letter of recommendation you MUST allow more than two weeks notice and provide me with the following. Everything listed here must be in one email.

- Unofficial Transcript
- Resume or CV
- Any application materials that are pertinent (e.g. personal statement/statement of purpose; answers to application questions; scholarship/job description; a paragraph stating why you are applying for X if you don't have a personal statement/answers to application questions; etc.).
- The information of to whom and where the letter is to be sent (e.g. email address or if it needs to be sent via the US Postal Service you must provide me with a stamped and addressed envelope).
- Clearly stated deadline of when the letter is due.

If I agree to write a letter of recommendation I will only be able to summarize your academic performance in my class(es) and will not be able to speak to any factors that have not been accessed in class. Lastly, if I agree to write you a letter, you agree to the following.

- You will let me know the outcome. This is important to me as I will want to know what is happening with you and to keep track of any positive outcomes. Also, this means a lot to me (and anyone else you request letters from).
- You agree to check with me before putting my name down on any subsequent applications (don't just assume you can keep putting my name down if I have only agreed to write one letter for you).

## **Title IX:**

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and

academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>. As a mandated reporter, I am obligated to report any information I become aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>, is available if you wish discuss any concerns confidentially and privately. The ASU policy on sexual discrimination as described in ACD-401 “Prohibition against Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation” clarifies that the instructor is a mandated reporter and therefore obligated to report any information regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination.

## **Absences**

Much of the constructive learning in this class takes place in our classroom – physical or virtual – in real time. Many assignments are predicated on active class participation. Excused absences from classroom activities require clear and reasonable documentation, and arrangements for accommodations will be based on that documentation. Without reasonable documentation, accommodations cannot be made. Accommodations will be made, on request, for religious practices per [ACD 304-04](#) and for university sanctioned events per [ACD 304-02](#).

## **Student Standards**

ASU expects and requires its students to act with honesty, integrity, and respect. Required behavior standards are listed in the [Student Code of Conduct and Student Disciplinary Procedures](#), [Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications policy](#), [ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy](#), and outlined by the [Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#). Anyone in violation of these policies is subject to sanctions. The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities accepts [incident reports](#) from students, faculty, staff, or other persons who believe that a student or a student organization may have violated the Student Code of Conduct. Students are required to read and act in accordance with university and Arizona Board of Regents policies, including: The ABOR Code of Conduct: Arizona Board of Regents Policies 5-301 through 5-308: <https://students.asu.edu/srr>

## **Expected Classroom Behavior**

Everyone deserves a welcoming and appropriate learning environment. If taught as an online class, we are still gathering together in a virtual classroom on Canvas. In our virtual classroom, you are expected to exhibit appropriate online behavior (also known as netiquette). This is defined by the instructor and includes keeping course discussion posts focused on the assigned

topics. Students must maintain a cordial atmosphere and use tact in expressing differences of opinion. Inappropriate Discussion Board posts may be deleted by the instructor.

If taught in the classroom, be sure to arrive on time for class. Excessive tardiness will be subject to sanctions. Under no circumstances should you allow your cell phone to ring during class. Any behavior that could be disruptive to others, which includes ringing cell phones, listening to your mp3/iPod player, text messaging, constant talking, eating food noisily, reading a newspaper will not be tolerated. The use of laptops, cell phones, MP3, IPOD, etc. are strictly prohibited during class unless being used for note taking or to engage course materials or activities.

[Students are entitled to receive instruction free from interference](#) by other members of the class. An instructor may withdraw a student from the course when the student's behavior or technology disrupts the educational process per [Instructor Withdrawal of a Student for Disruptive Classroom Behavior](#).

## **Communication**

ASU email is an [official means of communication](#) among students, faculty, and staff. All instructor correspondence will be sent to your ASU email account. Students are expected to read and act upon email in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly. All communications should be [professional](#) and succinct. You should be in the habit of checking your ASU email regularly as you will not only receive important information about your class(es), but other important university updates and information. You are solely responsible for reading and responding if necessary to any information communicated via email. For help with your email contact the [help desk](#).

## **Policy Against Threatening Behavior**

Everyone deserves a welcoming and appropriate learning environment. All incidents and allegations of violent or threatening conduct by an ASU student (whether on-or off campus) must be reported to the ASU Police Department (ASU PD) and the Office of the Dean of Students. If either office determines that the behavior poses or has posed a serious threat to personal safety or to the welfare of the campus, the student will not be permitted to return to campus or reside in any ASU residence hall until an appropriate threat assessment has been completed and, if necessary, conditions for return are imposed. ASU PD, the Office of the Dean of Students, and other appropriate offices will coordinate the assessment in light of the relevant circumstances.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, laboratory work, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.

If you fail to meet the standards of academic integrity in any of the criteria listed on the university policy website, sanctions will be imposed by the instructor, school, and/or dean. Academic dishonesty includes borrowing ideas without proper citation, copying others' work (including information posted on the internet), and failing to turn in your own work for group projects. Please be aware that if you follow an argument closely, even if it is not directly quoted, you must provide a citation to the publication, including the author, date and page number. If you directly quote a source, you must use quotation marks and provide the same sort of citation for each quoted sentence or phrase. You may work with other students on assignments, however, all writing that you turn in must be done independently. If you have any doubt about whether the form of cooperation you contemplate is acceptable, ask the TA or the instructor in advance of turning in an assignment. Please be aware that the work of all students submitted electronically can be scanned, which compares them against everything posted on the internet, online article/paper databases, newspapers and magazines, and papers submitted by other students (including yourself if submitted for a previous class).

Note: Turning in an assignment (all or in part) that you completed for a previous class is considered self-plagiarism and falls under these guidelines. Any infractions of self-plagiarism are subject to the same penalties as copying someone else's work without proper citations. Students who have taken this class previously and would like to use the work from previous assignments should contact the instructor for permission to do so.

### **Prohibition of Commercial Note Taking Services**

In accordance with [ACD 304-06 Commercial Note Taking Services](#), written permission must be secured from the official instructor of the class in order to sell the instructor's oral communication in the form of notes. The course content, including lectures, are copyrighted materials. Students may not share outside the class, upload, sell, or distribute course content or notes taken during the conduct of the course (see ACD 304-06, "Commercial Note Taking Services" for more information).

### **Student Support and Disability Accommodations**

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at the Disability



Resource Center (DRC) facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

[Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible to receive academic support services and accommodations.](#) Eligibility is based on qualifying disability documentation and assessment of individual need. Students who believe they have a current and essential need for disability accommodations are [responsible for requesting accommodations and providing qualifying documentation](#) to the DRC. Every effort is made to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

Qualified students who wish to request an accommodation for a disability should contact their campus DRC by going to <https://eoss.asu.edu/drc>, calling (480) 965-1234 or emailing [DRC@asu.edu](mailto:DRC@asu.edu). To speak with a specific office, please use the following information:

Tempe Campus  
480-965-1234 (Voice)

Polytechnic Campus  
480-727-1165 (Voice)

West Campus  
University Center Building (UCB), Room 130  
602-543-8145 (Voice)

Downtown Phoenix Campus and ASU Online  
University Center Building, Suite 160  
602-496-4321 (Voice)

If you are a student in need of special arrangements for we will do all we can to help, based on the recommendations of these services. For the sake of equity for all students, we cannot make any accommodations without formal guidance from these services.

## **Campus Resources**

As an ASU student you have access to many resources on campus. This includes tutoring, academic success coaching, counseling services, financial aid, disability resources, career and internship help and many opportunities to get involved in student clubs and organizations.

- Tutoring: <http://studentsuccess.asu.edu/frontpage>
- Counseling Services: <http://students.asu.edu/counseling>
- Financial Aid: <http://students.asu.edu/financialaid>
- Disability Resource Center: <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/>
- Major/Career Exploration: <http://uc.asu.edu/majorexploration/assessment>
- Career Services: <http://students.asu.edu/career>
- Student Organizations: <http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/mu/clubs/>

For more information about the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, including our degree programs, research opportunities and advising information, please go to: <https://shesc.asu.edu/undergraduate-experience/undergraduate-advising>. Our advisors are always willing to discuss career and guidance options with you.

## **Drop and Add Dates/ Withdrawals**

Please refer to the [academic calendar](#) on the deadlines to drop/withdraw from this course. Consult with your advisor and notify your instructor if you are going to drop/withdraw this course. If you are considering a withdrawal, review the following ASU policies: [Withdrawal from Classes](#), [Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal](#) and [Drop/Add and Withdraw](#).

## **Course Time Commitment**

Please expect to spend >20 hours per week (online 6 weeks) or >10 hours a week (in person 15 week course) preparing for and actively participating in this course.

## **Submitting Assignments**

All assignments, unless otherwise announced, MUST be submitted to the designated links on Canvas. Do not submit an assignment via email.

## **Course Evaluation**

Feedback is vital to improving our course! Students are notified when the online evaluation form is available near the end of the session. Please help both us and future students by giving us this formal feedback.

## **Syllabus Disclaimer**

The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Please remember to check your ASU email and the course site often.

## **Technical Support**

This course uses Canvas to deliver content.

To monitor the status of campus networks and services, visit the System Health Portal at <http://syshealth.asu.edu/>.

## **Copyright**

Materials for this class including lectures, readings, lecture notes, or syllabi, ARE PROTECTED AND MAY NOT BE SHARED, UPLOADED, SOLD, OR DISTRIBUTED. Students may not upload to any course shell, discussion board, or website used by the course instructor or other course forum, material that is not the student's original work, unless the students first comply with all applicable copyright laws and have the instructor's written permission.

