

FOOD90026 The Politics of Food

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| Credit Points: | 12.5 |
| Level: | 9 (Graduate/Postgraduate) |
| Dates & Locations: | 2015, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, Parkville - Taught on campus. |
| Time Commitment: | Contact Hours: 12 x 2.5 hour seminars Total Time Commitment: 170 hours total time commitment |
| Prerequisites: | None |
| Corequisites: | None |
| Recommended Background Knowledge: | None |
| Non Allowed Subjects: | None |
| Core Participation Requirements: | For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry. It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and the Disability Liaison Unit: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/ |
| Coordinator: | Dr Gyorgy Scrinis |
| Contact: | gyorgys@unimelb.edu.au (mailto:gyorgys@unimelb.edu.au) |
| Subject Overview: | <p>This subject examines the politics of the global food system, and will focus on the policies, structures, power relations and political debates surrounding the production, distribution and consumption of food. The impacts of food production and consumption on food security, health, the environment, animal welfare, and the livelihoods of producers, will be critically explored. Key theoretical frameworks and concepts for understanding the dominant paradigms and dynamics of the food system will be discussed and evaluated. Integrated policies and strategies for creating more sustainable and equitable food systems, and alternative paradigms and practices of production, distribution and consumption, will also be critically examined. This subject will primarily draw on theories and methodologies from the sociology and politics of food and agriculture, food policy, the political economy and the political ecology of food.</p> <p>The topics and debates covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Food policy and governance at the global, national and local levels; # Food security, food sovereignty and the Global Food Crisis; # Global trading relations, free trade and fair trade; # Environmental impacts and sustainable forms of food production and consumption; # Animal production, factory farms and animal welfare; # Supermarkets and alternative retailing and distribution networks; # Technological paradigms: chemical-industrial agriculture, genetically modified foods, organic agriculture and agroecology; # Corporate concentration within and across sectors of the food system; # Competition for food and land: animal feed, biofuels and land-grabbing; # Food processing, food marketing, dietary patterns, dietary advice, functional foods and health; # Local and urban food production and planning; |

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| | # Alternative paradigms and networks of food production, distribution and consumption. |
| Learning Outcomes: | <p>Upon completion of this subject, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # Describe and analyse the food security, environmental, socio-economic, and animal welfare issues and debates related to the production, processing, distribution, retailing and consumption of food; # Describe and analyse the policies, power relations, socio-economic structures, and practices that shape systems of food production, distribution and consumption; # Demonstrate an understanding of the key frameworks, concepts and arguments in the politics, sociology, policy, public health, and political ecology of food literature. |
| Assessment: | 1500 word essay due mid-semester, due approximately in week 6 (35%). 3500 word essay due end of semester, due in the exam period (65%). |
| Prescribed Texts: | Readings will be provided via the Learning Management System (LMS). |
| Breadth Options: | This subject is not available as a breadth subject. |
| Fees Information: | Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees |
| Related Course(s): | Graduate Certificate in Agricultural Sciences Graduate Certificate in Food Science Graduate Diploma in Agricultural Sciences Graduate Diploma in Food Science Graduate Diploma in Urban Horticulture Master of Agricultural Science Master of Animal Science Master of Food Science Master of Public Administration Master of Public Administration (Enhanced) Master of Science (Geography) Master of Urban Horticulture Master of Urban Planning Postgraduate Diploma in Agricultural Science Postgraduate Diploma in Food Science |
| Related Majors/Minors/ Specialisations: | 100 Point (A) Master of Agricultural Sciences 100 Point (B) Master of Agricultural Sciences 100 Point Master of Development Studies 100 Point Master of Development Studies (Gender & Development) 100 Point Master of International Relations 100 Point Master of Public Policy and Management 150 Point Master of Agricultural Sciences 150 Point Master of Development Studies 150 Point Master of Development Studies (Gender & Development) 150 Point Master of Public Policy and Management 150 point program - full time over 18 months 200 Point Master of Agricultural Sciences 200 Point Master of Development Studies 200 Point Master of Development Studies (Gender & Development) 200 Point Master of International Relations 200 Point Master of Public Policy and Management 200 point program - full time over 18 months 200 point program - full time over 24 months Climate Change Climate Change Development Development Food Security Specialisation Gender and Development Specialisation - 100 Point Program Gender and Development Specialisation - 150 Point Program Gender and Development Specialisation - 200 Point Program Governance, Policy and Communication Governance, Policy and Communication Public Health |

Public Health
Sustainable Cities, Sustainable Regions
Sustainable Cities, Sustainable Regions
Tailored Specialisation
Tailored Specialisation