



FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 553.4 Lec 01
“Advanced Topics in Political Philosophy—Politics of Food”

Winter Term 2017
Course Outline

Lectures: W 3-5:45 in SS 1253

Instructor: Ann Levey

Office: SS 1230

Office Phone: 403-220-5536

Email: levey@ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: M 3-4:30

Course Description

This course will look at the politics of our production, regulation and consumption of food. The course will pair core readings in political philosophy (property, distribution, critique of capitalism, liberty and paternalism, gender, class and race inequality) with issues about the production, regulation and consumption of food. Topics to be covered include food insecurity, food sovereignty and food waste (property rights and distribution); food production (gender, race, class, property rights, distribution); and food regulation (liberty and paternalism). Our discussions on these issues will also look at food discourse including obesity discourse and alternative food discourse (class, gender and race).

Course Learning Outcomes

- Understanding of some foundational issues in political philosophy and how these relate to our production, regulation and consumption of food
- Ability to write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions;
- Ability to engage in constructive, respectful, oral and written argumentation.

Prerequisites:

Two previous courses in Philosophy, one of which must be 249, 397, 425, 449 or 453 and at least one of which must be a 400 level or higher; or consent of the Department.

Required/Recommended Texts (including electronic resources):

All Readings will be available through D2L

Course Assessment

- Weekly Questions 20%
 - Each week you are required to submit a question on the reading—the question should indicate to me that you have done the reading carefully enough to be philosophically puzzled or confused by it. These are to be handed in on index cards at the beginning of the class and will help to structure the class discussion. You may skip two weeks for a total of 10. These are graded Pass/Fail

- Participation 10%
 - You are expected to expand on your weekly questions as well as take part regularly in class discussions. Good participation requires not only contributing but also interacting respectfully with others which requires attentive listening and responsiveness to others as well as giving others space to contribute.

- Activity Assignments 30%
 - You must choose 3 activity assignments. These might include keeping a food journal or blog, taking the Oxfam challenge, attending the food sustainability lecture on January 26 and writing a report, food waste investigation, volunteer activity, dietary change. Due dates will depend on activities chosen. Each student should meet with me in the first two weeks to discuss which activities they are interested in pursuing. These will be graded Pass/Fail. Late assignments will be accepted with appropriate reasons presented.
 - Students may, if they wish substitute one short academic paper (1500-1800 words) for one of the activity assignments. This paper will be assigned a numerical grade.

- Final paper 40%
 - The final paper is due Monday April 17. You may submit electronically or you may bring me the paper in my office during my office hours (3-4:30).
 - By March 15 you must submit a 1 page paper proposal plus (preliminary) bibliography. These are to be handed in at the beginning of class.
 - By March 24 you must submit a draft of the paper. These will be distributed and will be workshoped in the class. These are to be submitted on D2L prior to midnight.
 - Late papers will be docked four points per day.

Letter grade conversion scale

A+	98-100 %
A	94-97.9
A-	90-93.99
B+	85-89.9
B	80-84.9
B-	75-79.9
C+	70-74.9
C	65-69.9
C-	60-64.9
D+	55-59.9
D	50-54.9

Writing will be a factor in the grading of submitted work for the final paper.

There will be no Registrar-scheduled exam for this course.

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

D2L Help

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

General Academic Concerns and Program Planning

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Drop in at SS102, call 403-220-3580, or email ascarts@ucalgary.ca. Advisors in the ASC can also provide assistance and advice in planning your program through to graduation. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> for detailed information on common academic concerns

Advice on Philosophy Courses

You may find answers to your more specific questions about a philosophy degree on the Department of Philosophy's website <http://phil.ucalgary.ca>, or contact one of Philosophy's Undergraduate Advisors. Jeremy Fantl (jfantl@ucalgary.ca), Reid Buchanan (buchanar@ucalgary.ca), Megan Delehanty (mdelehan@ucalgary.ca).

Registration Overload/Prereq Waivers

If you are seeking to register in a Philosophy course that is full or to get permission to waive the prereqs for a course, email the Department Manager, Merlette Schnell (schnell@ucalgary.ca). Include the specific course information and your UCID number in your request.

Writing

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Protection of Privacy

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

Internet and Electronic Communication Devices

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

Emergency Evacuation:

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>. Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

Other Helpful Contacts

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.
- Faculty of Arts Student Representatives: 403-220-6552, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Student Ombudsman: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>