**Course Outline Form: Winter 2016**

## General Information

**Course Title:** ENVS\*2130 Eating Sustainably in Ontario

**Course Description:**

This course is intended to introduce students to the science behind food related issues within the context of Ontario agriculture and food systems. The course will provide students with an overview of agriculture in Ontario and an opportunity to discuss both sides of current debates over food production and associated environmental and human health issues. The course will examine questions such as:

* How is our food produced?
* What is sustainability?
* How do we assess the sustainability of our food system?

**Credit Weight:** 0.50

**Academic Department (or campus):** School of Environmental Sciences

**Campus:** Guelph

**Semester Offering:** Winter 2015

**Class Schedule and Location:**

Lecture: Tues and Thurs, 08:30AM - 09:50AM, MCKN 120

## Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Professor Kim Bolton

Instructor Email: [kbolton@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kbolton@uoguelph.ca)

Instructor Extension: 52695

Office location: Summerlee Science Complex, room 2446

I do not have regular office hours. If you need to see me, make an appointment via email.

## GTA Information

GTA Name: Mila Maric

GTA Email: [mmaric@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mmaric@uoguelph.ca)

## Course Content

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:

1. evaluate methods of food production and outline which methods are more sustainable
2. describe critically the broader environmental impacts of individual and societal food choices
3. analyze the assumptions and evaluate the worth of evidence used by the popular media
4. reflect on your own food choices in the context of eating sustainably
5. engage critically, and in a scholarly manner, in public arguments about food sustainability issues

In the process we will address several of the University Learning Outcomes: ULO1 - Critical and Creative Thinking; ULO2 – Literacy; ULO3 - Global Understanding; and ULO4 - Communicating.

### Lecture Content (order may vary slightly):

* Our Food
  + What do we eat and where does it come from?
  + A brief history of agriculture
* Plant Production
  + Soil and seedbed preparation
  + Nutrient management
  + Water management
  + Pest management
* Meat and Fish Production
  + Beef, Dairy, Poultry/Eggs, Pork
  + Fish and Seafood
* Impacts of Agriculture
  + Impacts on the Land
  + Impacts on Water
  + Impacts on the Atmosphere
* Agricultural Sustainability
  + What is agricultural sustainability?
  + Can sustainability be measured?
  + Steps towards sustainability
  + Evaluating the evidence
* Food Waste
* Organic Food
* Local Food and Food Miles
* Sustainable Fish and Seafood
* Sustainability of Vegetarianism and Veganism

### Labs: There are no labs in this course.

### Seminars: There are no seminars in this course.

### Course Assignments and Tests:

| **Assignment or Test** | **Due Date** | **Contribution to Final Mark (%)** | **Learning Outcomes Assessed** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Omnivore’s Dilemma Online Book Club | TBA on Courselink | 10% | 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5  UL01, 02, 03, 04 |
| Reflective Food Diary | Mon Feb 8, 2016 | 10% | 4  UL01, 02, 04 |
| In-class Midterm Examination | Tues Mar 1, 2016 | 20% | 1, 4 and 5  UL01, 02, 03, 04 |
| Analysis of a Meal Assignment | Tues Mar 29, 2016 | 20% | 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5  UL01, 02, 03, 04 |

Additional Notes (if required):

Midterm and Final Exams. Both exams are comprehensive, meaning that anything covered up to the midterm exam (including readings) is fair game, and the final exam will cover the entire course.

Omnivore’s Dilemma Online Book Club. These on-line discussions take place on Courselink. They are an important vehicle for you to practice your critical thinking and for you to progress toward the course learning objectives. The discussions will be related to the assigned readings. A list of readings will be provided to you on Courselink.

Assignments: There are two written assignments in the course: Food Analysis Assignment and Analysis of a Meal Assignment. I will provide you with details about these two assignments in class and on Courselink. Both assignments should be submitted electronically via Dropbox on Courselink before midnight on the day that they are due.

### Final examination date and time:

Wednesday April 20, 2016; 2:30 to 4:30 PM

### Final exam weighting: 40%

## Course Resources

### Required Texts:

The Omnivore’s Dilemma, by Michael Pollen, Penguin Books

Also available on library reserve.

### Recommended Texts: None

### Lab Manual: None

### Other Resources: Other on-line readings may be assigned throughout the course.

### Field Trips: None

### Additional Costs: None

## Course Policies

**Grading Policies:** All assignments should be submitted via Dropbox on Courselink on or before the stated due date. Late assignments will receive a 10% deduction for each day that they are late. See Dr. Bolton if you wish to request an extension.

**Copies of out-of-class assignments:** Keep paper and/or other reliable electronic back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

### Course Policy on Group Work: You are not authorized to work together on any part of this course. Doing so would constitute academic misconduct.

### Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

## University Policies

### Academic Consideration:

The University of Guelph is committed to supporting students in their learning experiences and responding to their individual needs and is aware that a variety of situations or events beyond the student's control may affect academic performance. Support is provided to accommodate academic needs in the face of personal difficulties or unforeseen events in the form of Academic Consideration.

Information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions, including categories, grounds, timelines and appeals can be found in [Section VIII (Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml).

### Academic Misconduct:

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Detailed information regarding the Academic Misconduct policy is available in [Section VIII (Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml).

### Accessibility:

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Student Accessibility Services (SAS), formerly Centre for Students with Disabilities (CSD), as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email sas@uoguelph.ca or visit the [Student Accessibility Services website (http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/)](http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/).

### Course Evaluation Information:

End of semester course and instructor evaluations provide students the opportunity to have their comments and opinions used as an important component in the Faculty Tenure and Promotion process, and as valuable feedback to help instructors enhance the quality of their teaching effectiveness and course delivery.

While many course evaluations are conducted in class others are now conducted online. Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](https://courseeval.uoguelph.ca/) **for more information.**

### Drop period:

The drop period for single semester courses starts at the beginning of the add period and extends to the Fortieth (40th) class day of the current semester (the last date to drop a single semester courses without academic penalty) which is listed in [Section III (Schedule of Dates) of the Undergraduate Calendar](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/).

The drop period for two semester courses starts at the beginning of the add period in the first semester and extends to the last day of the add period in the second semester.

Information about Dropping Courses can be found in [Section VIII (Undergraduate Degree Regulations and Procedures) of the Undergraduate Calendar](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/).

**Additional Course Information**

None