1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar 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 the history of agriculture in Ontario and an opportunity to discuss both sides of current debates over food production and associated environmental and human health issues.

Pre-Requisites: 4.00 credits
Restrictions: May not be taken by students in the BAS, BBRM, BSC, BSC(Agr) or BSC(Env) programs

1.2 Timetable

MINS 300

Tues, Thur, 08:30AM - 09:50AM

Please Note: For the first two weeks of classes, lectures will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 9:50 AM via the Zoom Tool accessible via CourseLink (under Content). After the first two weeks, you will then have the option to attend lectures either in-person (in the classroom listed above) or remotely via Zoom. All lectures throughout the semester will be recorded and made available after the class.

1.3 Final Exam

This course will have an in-person Final Exam on Wednesday April 20, 2:30 to 4:30 PM

Exam location will be made available on WebAdvisor later in the semester.
2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor: Kimberley Bolton (she/her)
Email: kbolton@uoguelph.ca
Telephone: +1-519-824-4120 x54266
Office: ALEX 260
I will not have regular office hours. Please make an appointment to see me via email. I am happy to meet with you in person or online.

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Rachel Lewis
Email: rlewis08@uoguelph.ca

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Ashleigh Ahrens
Email: aahrens@uoguelph.ca

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

CourseLink (Website)
The instructor uses CourseLink for posting announcements, recorded lectures, class readings, discussions, and other required or recommended materials relevant to the course.

Please check CourseLink frequently.

Zoom (Software)
For the first two weeks of class you will need to access the lectures via Zoom. After that, you have the option of attending lectures in person or via Zoom.

You can access Zoom from within the CourseLink page under Content. Please check your system requirements at https://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/system-and-software-requirements

All lectures will be recorded via Zoom and later shared on CourseLink.

By default, you will join the class with microphone and video turned off. I encourage everyone to participate with audio and video when applicable. If you have connectivity and/or privacy concerns, the use of video is not required. Within Zoom, feel free to rename yourself to your initials.
There is also an option to call into a Zoom meeting with your phone if you are having difficulties with internet.

There is no required textbook for this course but there will be on-line readings and videos.

(Readings)

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should 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

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

5.1 Lecture Content

- Our Food
  - What do we eat and where does it come from?
  - A brief history of agriculture
- Crop Production
  - Soils
  - Seedbed preparation
  - Nutrient management
  - Water management
  - Pest management
- Meat and Fish Production
  - Beef, Dairy, Poultry/Eggs, Pork
  - Fish and Seafood
- Impacts of Agriculture
Impacts to the Land
Impacts to Water
Impacts to the Atmosphere
Climate Change

• Agricultural Sustainability
  • What is agricultural sustainability?
  • Can sustainability be measured?
  • Evaluating the Evidence
  • Steps towards sustainability

• Organic Agriculture and GMOs
• Local Food and Food Miles
• Sustainability of Vegetarianism and Veganism
• Sustainable Fish and Seafood
• Sustainability of Entomophagy
• Food Waste

6 Assessments

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scheme A (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Group Discussions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective Food Diary</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Midterm Examination</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Critical Thinking Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
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6.2 Assessment Details

Online Group Discussions (10%)
  Date: Throughout semester, Online
  Learning Outcome: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

There are five discussion topics. Instructions and due dates are available on CourseLink.

Online Group Discussions 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 assigned readings and/or videos. A list of resources will be provided to you on CourseLink.

**Reflective Food Diary (10%)**
- **Due:** Sun, Feb 6, 11:59 PM, Online
- **Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  Details will be available in class and on CourseLink.

  The Reflective Food Diary should be submitted electronically via Dropbox on CourseLink.

**Online Midterm Examination (15%)**
- **Date:** Tue, Mar 1, Online (under Quizzes)
- **Learning Outcome:** 1, 4, 5
  The Online Midterm Examination will be available under the Quizzes Tool on CourseLink. More information about the format of the Online Midterm Examination will be provided to you during lectures.

  The Online Midterm Examination will be available from 8:30 to 9:30 AM on Tuesday March 1. You will be able to begin the exam anytime during this one-hour period. Once you begin the exam, you will have 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete it.

**Short Critical Thinking Paper (25%)**
- **Due:** Sun, Mar 27, 11:59 PM, Online
- **Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  Details will be available in class and on CourseLink.

  The Short Critical Thinking Paper should be submitted electronically via Dropbox on CourseLink.

**Final Examination (40%)**
- **Date:** Wed, Apr 20, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
- **Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
  The Final Exam will be an in-person examination.

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## 7 Course Statements

### 7.1 Grading

Policy on Late Assignments: All late assignments will receive a 5% deduction for each day that they are late. Extensions will be considered for medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances. If you require an extension, contact the instructor (Dr. Kim Bolton) with a valid reason in advance of the due date.

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

7.3 Turnitin Originality Check

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin for the Short Critical Thinking Paper. Turnitin will be used, integrated with the CourseLink Dropbox tool, to detect plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

Individual assignments submitted to the Dropbox tool will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that you will be able to educate and empower yourself in preventing academic misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own Short Critical Thinking Paper through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your paper.

8 University Statements

8.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

8.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml

8.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester.
This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

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

8.5 Accessibility
The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website
https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website
https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm

8.6 Academic Integrity
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 encourages academic integrity. 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.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml

8.7 Recording of Materials
Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

8.8 Resources
The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars
https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars

8.9 Disclaimer
Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/) and circulated by email.

8.10 Illness
Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration,
although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed
assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major
assignment).

8.11 Covid-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/
- https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University,
Public Health or government directives.