Course Description and Goal

Over 150 years ago, Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin wrote, “…tell me what thou eat and I will tell thee what thou art.” Cannon (1964) expanded upon this stating that, “…not only biography and genealogy, but the whole field of anthropology could, if one knew the code, be deduced from food.”

Is food, in fact, a fundamental part of our identity? Today, in Calgary, who we are may seem somewhat removed from what we eat. The cultural distance that some of us now experience from our favored foods, however, has not always been so great. In fact, human behavior has evolved in great part as an interplay between the environments our ancestors inhabited, their eating behavior, and cultural institutions. Prior to the industrial revolution and in most societies which continue some sort of pre-industrial subsistence pattern, much of an individual’s daily activities were and are devoted to the production of food for their own consumption; a process mediated by both cultural and ecological factors.

The goal of this course is to help you to understand human dietary behaviors as the result of a dynamic web of ecological and cultural factors. To do this, we will cover eight subject areas: (1) the development of nutritional anthropology, (2) basic nutritional principles, (3) basic ecological principles, (4) diet from an evolutionary, comparative, and historic perspective, (5) cultural factors influencing diet, (7) the impact of undernutrition on human physiology and behavior, and (8) methods in nutritional anthropology.

Course Conventions

1. Lecture/Discussion: In order to meet the goals of the course you have to attend class regularly and on time. You must be prepared to discuss the assigned topic. You are responsible for lecture material and any announcements concerning changes in schedule, etc. Because we meet only once a week and this class requires your active input, if you have more than 2 unexcused absences your overall participation grade is automatically a '0' (please see the Individual Participation Self Appraisal at the class blackboard site for details).

2. Reading: The readings for this course are listed on the course bibliography found below. The bulk of the readings for this class will be posted on the class Blackboard website. If you anticipate difficulty in accessing the website, you must plan accordingly to ensure that you obtain all of the
readings with sufficient time to read them prior to each class. A careful and critical read of the assigned material is required. Keep in mind that you are not finished with the reading assignment until you thoroughly understand it. This will sometimes require you to read an assignment more than once. The assigned questions are designed to assist you in your critical evaluation of the material you are reading.

*Required Text:* Dettwyler 1994. *Dancing Skeletons*

**3. Evaluation:** You will be evaluated in this course on the basis of your in-class participation, short-answer questions on the readings, a dietary intake project, a review of a journal article, and a collaborative research paper and presentation.

You must provide advance notice to me if you are unable to complete an assignment by the due date. All requests for deferral of a due date for/due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred due date. Deferred due dates will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Your final mark will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal article review</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-Answer Question Sets</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary Intake/Energy Expenditure Study</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collaborative Term Paper and Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A passing grade is not required on any particular component for the student to pass the course as a whole; that is, a student may fail, for example, the journal article review or any other component and, assuming their overall average percentage earned for the course is above 49, they will pass the course.

**Letter grade assignment:** At the end of the course, the numerical marks will be summed and a final letter grade will be assigned based on the following scheme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage range</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>Percentage range</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95 or higher</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>68-72</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-94</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>64-67</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>59-63</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81-84</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>54-58</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-80</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>50-53</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>49 or lower</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

**4. Retrieving Assignments:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor’s office or the Department main office. Term assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor’s office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.
5. **Office Hours:** I enjoy having visitors during my office hours and am happy to schedule additional times as necessary. These hours are yours and I encourage you to take advantage of them, whether you are having difficulty with some aspect of the course, or if you would like to discuss in greater detail something that was touched on in class.

6. **E-mail:** Students are encouraged to use the lectures and office hours to ask questions. For after-hours questions, the use of email is acceptable. Please write ‘ARKY 589’ or ‘ANTH 589’ in the ‘Subject’ portion of the email. I receive numerous e-mails every day. By clearly identifying the subject of your email, you will help me reply more efficiently to your emails. Note that if I think that your question and related answer is of general interest, I may decide to post them on the course Blackboard space (your name will not appear).

**Deadlines to keep in mind**

Deadlines are part of the assignments. Late work will not be accepted. Question sets for each week’s readings must be complete and printed prior to 3:00 pm each Wednesday. While you are free to add notes to your completed question set in class, you may not use that time to complete your answers. All other assignments are due no later than 4:00 pm on the due date.

- **1 day before** your journal article review is presented in class- e-mail me your review
- **2 October** (Fri.)- e-mail me the name of the Organizer for your collaborative research paper
- **9 October** (Fri.)- dietary intake project due (provide a hard copy- do not e-mail this to me)
- **13 October** (Tue.)- sign up for collaborative research paper topic
- **23 October** (Fri.): 1st Annotated bibliography of sources considered for your collaborative research paper due
- **6 November** (Fri.): 2nd Annotated bibliography of sources considered for your collaborative research paper due
- **20 November** (Fri.): model of your answer to the collaborative research paper question due.
- **27 November** (Fri.): abstract of your collaborative research paper due
- **2 December** (Wed.): group presentation of your collaborative research paper, also turn in your Individual Participation Self-Appraisal form this week.
- **9 December** (Wed.): collaborative research paper due
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>Introduction, Anthropology, Science</td>
<td>Ruggiero 2004 Ch. 2, 6, &amp; 13, Dettwyler 1994 <em>(all chapters)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 23</td>
<td>Critical thinking II, Nutritional anthropology: history, Cali project, different approaches to the study of food.</td>
<td>Ruggiero 2004 Ch. 2, 6, &amp; 13, Dettwyler 1994 <em>(all chapters)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>Basic principles of nutrition: physiology of digestion, macro- &amp; micronutrients</td>
<td>Ruggiero 2004 Ch. 19, Pelto et al. 2000, Whitney and Rolfs 2005: Ch. 1, 3, <em>and</em> one of 4, 5, or 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic principles of ecology: energy flow and nutrient cycles</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Note: Your dietary intake project is due no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, October 9.</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pre-industrial diets: Tropical rainforests, Yapu slides</td>
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<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>Remembrance Day. No classes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
<td>Abstracts of papers to be presented</td>
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</table>

¹ Note, the schedule of topics may change, but due dates for the assignments will not change.
² The reading assignments are subject to change should I find, during the present semester, more recent publications which better cover the topic considered. If this occurs, I will inform you no later than 2 weeks prior to the relevant class.
³ This paper is suggested for undergraduate students and required for graduate students.
Course Bibliography


The course bibliography is subject to change should I find, during the present semester, more recent publications which better cover the topic considered.

**Human research:** Students will be expected to conduct research on themselves in this course by collecting and analyzing three days of dietary and activity data. Please see the Dietary Intake assignment in the assignment section of the course blackboard site.

**Supplemental fees:** There are no mandatory supplemental fees for this course.
**ADDITIONAL CONTENT**

**Writing across the Curriculum**
Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and may use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

**Academic Accommodation Policy**
It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at [www.ucalgary.ca/access](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access).

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act**
The University of Calgary is committed to protecting the privacy of individuals who work and study at the University or who otherwise interact with the University in accordance with the standards set out in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Please refer to the following link for detailed information: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip](http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip)

**Academic Misconduct**
Academic dishonesty is an unacceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section of the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are:

1) Presenting another student’s work as your own

2) Presenting an author’s work or ideas as you own without proper referencing

3) Using work completed for another course

This activity will not be tolerated and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the University Calendar. For detailed information on what constitutes academic misconduct, please refer to the following link: [http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html)

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work as if it were the student’s own work when it is not. Any ideas or materials taken from another source written, electronic, or oral must be fully and formally acknowledged. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

(a) The work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
(b) Parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
(c) The whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
(d) A student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis or dissertation.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points
In the event of an emergency that requires evacuation, please refer to the following link to become familiar with the assembly points for the class:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints

Safewalk Information
Campus Security, in partnership with the Students’ Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at (403) 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security Officer will accompany you to your campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources
- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

Student Union Vice President – Academic
Phone: (403) 220-3911
Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Representatives
arts1@su.ucalgary.ca
arts2@su.ucalgary.ca
arts3@su.ucalgary.ca

Student Ombudsman’s Office
http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/