HIS 362G - MODERN EUROPEAN FOOD HISTORY

Dr. Robyn Metcalfe
Fall 2012
MW 3:30pm – 5:00pm
UTC 4.112

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Office Hours: Mon. and Wed., 1:30-3pm

From French bread riots to Italian Slow Food, the history of food offers new ways to understand historical change in modern Europe. This course will explore the relationship between modern urban European history and food. The food provisioning systems of modern European cities greatly influenced political events, economic policies, daily cultural practices, and even urban designs. You will see how food systems developed after the French Revolution to post-World War II as Europe became integrated into a global food network. An understanding of the historical development of urban food provisioning systems will deepen our understanding of contemporary food debates. You'll find out how restaurants were invented, how the British developed a reputation for the best beefsteaks, how the humble potato became a threat to public health, and what Europeans did before refrigerators became available.

Required Texts:

1. Course Reader, Volumes 1 and 2
2. Emile Zola, *Belly of the Beast*
3. Sidney Mintz, *Sweetness and Power*

All three materials are available at the University Co-op.

Other readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Class Format

Our classes will vary in length but I will not keep you later than 5pm and I expect that you will not leave earlier than 5pm. Our class time will *include lectures, video and audio material, and team workshops*. You will have five *quizzes*, given with little advance notice. You will be able to bring your notes to the *midterm exam*. I will provide class notes, which you can annotate during class. The midterm exam will emphasize the material discussed during class time. Finally, while there is no final exam, you will write *one 8-page (about 2,000 words) final paper* due on the last day of class.

Course Website

This class uses Blackboard, a Web-based course management system with password-protected access at http://courses.utexas.edu. If you need support

using Blackboard, contact the ITS Help Desk at 475-9400, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Blackboard content includes the syllabus, exam information, and the grading scale. All class announcements will be posted. It is your responsibility to check the website frequently to ensure that you are aware of any changes to the course calendar or assignments.

Classroom and Grading Policies

Electronic devices: You may record the classes if you wish, but (unless authorized by SSD) no laptop computers or similar devices may be used or open. I will provide complete course notes for each class that you can annotate during our discussions. Please double check that your phone and its alerts are silenced before coming to class. The use—any use—of phones in class is not permitted. Please keep them out of sight.

You will need to deliver your written assignments (such as your final paper) at the beginning of class as hard copy accompanied by an online submission through Blackboard to SafeAssign. To get to SafeAssign, go to "Assignments" within Blackboard and click on the "SafeAssign" option. Upload, and you are done. Please be aware that this process is specifically designed to detect plagiarism.

Assignments handed in late will be marked down by a letter grade fraction (for example, from a B to a B-) for each 24 hour period beyond the due date and time. *No papers will be accepted more than 48 hours beyond their original due date.* There will be no deadline extensions or incomplete grades unless the instructor is presented with a legitimate excuse (medical, etc.) in advance of the due date.

Students are required to uphold the standards of academic honesty set by the University of Texas at Austin. The standards and regulations for scholastic dishonesty are available online at: http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/scholdis.php. All work must be your own and all cases of plagiarism may result in a failing course grade. You can find a definition of plagiarism here: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/services/instruction/learningmodules/plagiarism/.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and require academic accommodations, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 512-471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (Video Phone) as soon as possible. If you require course work modifications due to a disability, please remember it is your responsibility to provide documentation of all necessary accommodations. The University also specifies that all testing accommodations must be presented to the instructor a full five business days before an exam.

Religious Holy Days

According to UT Austin policy, you must notify your professor of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you miss an important assignment, exam, or other graded activity due to a religious holiday, we will negotiate the make-up work on an individual basis.

Attendance

Attendance in class is mandatory. Important course material and information will only be available in class. Unless otherwise stated in class, weekly reading assignments should be completed before class on Monday. Please be aware that the course calendar may change at any time. I will announce any amendments to course work during class and post the revised syllabus on Blackboard.

Grading

Your final grade will be based upon:

Quizzes: (5) 5 points each, 25 points total
Midterm exam: 25 points
Final paper: (2,000 words, about 8 pages) **due December 5th**: 50 points
Total points: 100

COURSE GRADING SCALE:

93-100% A
90-92% A-
87-89% B+
83-86% B
80-82% B-
77-79% C+
73-76% C
70-72% C-
67-69% D+
63-66% D
60-62% D-
Below 62% F

Tentative Course Schedule and Reading Assignments
***This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.*

<u>Week of August 27th: Introduction</u>

1. Wed., August 29th

Course Introduction: Review of Syllabus
A Tour of Food Markets, Europe and Beyond
Begin Reading Zola, **Complete by Sept. 21st**

Week of Sept. 3: What is Food History?

Readings: Ken Albala, "History on the Plate, The Current State of Food History," http://128.220.160.198/journals/historically_speaking/v010/10.5.albala.html

Mon., Sept. 3, LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Sept. 4: *Last day of the official add/drop period; after this date, changes in registration may require the approval of the department chair and usually the student's dean.*

2. Weds. Sept. 5th

Braudel, "The Wheels of Commerce," (3-25); Zola, Chapts. 1 and 2

Week of Sept. 10: French Bread

3. Mon., Sept. 10th

Readings: Reader, Braudel, (26-49); Zola, Chapt. 3

4. Weds., Sept. 12th

Readings: Reader, Kaplan, (51-85); Zola, Chap. 4

Week of Sept. 17: French Taste

5. Mon., Sept. 17th

Readings: Reader, Brillat-Savarin, (87-100); Zola, Chapt. 5

6. Weds., Sept. 19th

Readings: Reader, Strong, (101-140); Zola, Chapt. 6

Week of Sept. 24: French Feasts

7. Mon., Sept. 24th

Final Paper Instructions/Topics/Teams/Chapters

Readings: Reader, Kaplan, (141-150); Johnson, (151-178)

8. Weds., Sept. 26th

Readings: Reader, Kelly, Pitte, Spang, and Claflin, (179-213)

Week of Oct. 1 (England 1780-1800) Agricultural Revolution

9. Mon., Oct. 1

Readings: Reader, Trow-Smith, (321-354, 355-373)

10. Weds., Oct. 3

Readings: Reader, Thirsk, (233-270)

Read Mintz, Introduction and Chapt. 1

Week of Oct. 8 British Food & National Identity

11. Mon., Oct. 8

Readings: Reader, Spencer, (271-319)

12. Weds., Oct. 10

Readings: Reader, Rogers, (375-402); Mintz, Chapt. 2

Week of Oct. 15 British Feast and Famine

13. Mon., Oct. 15

Readings: Reader, Walker, (403-416); Mintz, Chapt. 3

14. Weds., Oct. 17

Readings: Reader, Zuckerman, (413-450); Mintz, Chapt 4

Week of Oct. 22 British Culinary Culture

15. Mon., Oct. 22

Readings: Reader, Colquhoun, (475-516)

16. Wed., Oct. 24

Readings: Reader, Colquhoun, (516-533); Mintz, Chapt. 5

Week of Oct. 29 Feeding the Empire

17. Mon., Oct. 29: MIDTERM EXAM

18. Weds., Oct. 31

Readings: Reader, Collingwood, (597-630; 663-678); Kurlansky (467-474)

Week of Nov. 5 GERMANY

19. Mon., Nov. 5

Readings: "The Great Berlin Beer Boycott of 1894*,"* (377-397) on Blackboard.

20. Weds., Nov. 7

Readings: "Bread Rationing and the First World War in Berlin, 1914-1923", (371-393) on Blackboard.

Week of Nov. 12 Germany and War

21. Mon., Nov. 12

Readings: Reader, Strauss, (545-594)

22. Weds., Nov. 14

Readings: Reader, Collingwood, (630-662)

Week of Nov. 19 Food, War, Politics

23. Mon., Nov. 19

Readings: "Agricultural Reorganization in the Third Reich, The Reich Food Corporation," and "Food as a Political Instrument in Europe," on Blackboard

24. Weds., Nov. 21

Readings: "Plurality of Tastes," on Blackboard.

Week of Nov. 26 Italy

25. Mon., Nov. 26

Readings: Reader, Helstosky, (679-713)

26. Weds., Nov. 28

Readings: Slow Food Manifesto, Michelin Guide, Nose to Tail, on Blackboard

Week of Dec. 3 Review

27. Mon., Dec. 3

Review

28. Wed., Dec. 5

LAST CLASS DAY, PAPERS DUE -- NO FINAL EXAM.