

HIST 4260.001&201

History of Food, Emotion and Migration



Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2-3:20PM (WH217)

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30 PM; or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Food is more than what we eat: they carry histories of emotion, trauma, loss, promise, resilience, and dreams – especially true for migrant lives. Food is how migrants carry their histories — sometimes chaotic, sometimes messy, sometimes fleeting, and never quite the same twice. Food becomes an archive of the many silenced emotions of migrant communities; an archive that is often lost. This course offers an insight into those unwritten archives and finds a way to capture those everyday histories by exploring the rich intersections of food, emotions, identity making, agency and migration.

Often when studying the histories of migration we highlight eventful incidents/experiences - and consequently overlook the *everyday* hidden within those eventful incidents and beyond. This course will explore how the everyday experiences in migration histories like food and emotion allows us to understand large scale socio-cultural histories of migration.

Important note: This is a project-based course. Each student will gain hands-on experience in oral history research and methodology, photo essay methods, etc. It is IMPORTANT that students be up to date on readings, assignments and class discussions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand key everyday histories in the social and cultural aspects of migration histories.
2. Understand how food plays a critical role in the production and reproduction of dominant and migrant cultures, identity, and communities.
3. Access a range of sources, of information, primary and secondary, relevant to migration histories
4. Exercise a critical understanding of primary sources, secondary sources and historical methodologies.
5. Think analytically and communicate complex ideas and arguments using a variety of methods, skills, which can be transferred to other areas of study and employment.

MATERIALS FOR CLASS:

- **READINGS:** *No textbooks will be used for this course. All readings will be uploaded on Canvas or available via e-resources from the Library*
- **Laptops:** To complete the project for this course, students will need access to a computer. UNT Libraries offers a laptop checkout service for students who need it. Laptops checked out from the library come equipped with all of the software students need to complete the requirements for this course. See <https://library.unt.edu/services/laptop-checkout/> for more information.
- **Recording devices and cameras:** You are welcome to use your phones or tablets for this – but if you need recorders please contact the professor well in advance so we can loan out devices from the department.

ELEMENTS OF YOUR GRADE* (See Canvas for details):

- **Intro Essay:** 10 points
- **Concluding Review Essay:** 10 points
- **Class participation:** 50 points total.
- **Photo Essay:** 20 Points
- **Short Oral History Essay:** 20 points
- **Short Podcast episode + reflection essay:** 20 Points
- **Final Project Proposal:** 20 Points
- **Final Project:** 100 Points.

**All assignments are due at 11:59PM of the due date unless otherwise stated in the assignment.*

REQUIRED SKILLS AND RESOURCES FOR THIS COURSE:

- Computer
- Recorder/Phone – to record interviews
- Reliable internet access
- Speakers and microphones
- Plug-ins
- Microsoft office suite
- Canvas (<https://clear.unt.edu/supportedtechnologies/canvas/requirements>)
- Computer skills and digital literacy
- Using emails, with attachments

POLICY ABOUT ONLINE MATERIALS FOR THE CLASS AND RECORDED LECTURES:

All materials and recorded lectures for this class are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

COMMUNICATING WITH ME:

Outside of speaking with each other in class, the best way to communicate with me is via email. For this course, *I will check my email at least once per day Monday-Friday during regular business hours, so please remember that you will not necessarily receive an instant reply from me, but I will answer your email in a timely manner (within 48 hours)*. Please do not expect email replies at night or on the weekends. When emailing me, ensure the following:

- 1) Properly address your professor
- 2) Use UNT emails only- other emails often go into spam/junk
- 3) Identify the course you are in by listing the course number in the subject line of the email
- 4) Identify yourself by giving me your entire name and your specific question or request
- 5) Ensure your email is professional in approach and language
- 6) Ensure you address your professors appropriately
- 7) If you need some help with writing emails to professors, UNT provides this handy Online Communication Tips page

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND TURNING IN THINGS LATE:

I expect people to attend class each week. This should take the form of in-person attendance on campus. However, if you are ill or otherwise unable to attend class in person, please inform me in advance. Please do not come to class if you are sick, or if you are caring for someone who is sick. Except under unforeseen or unusual circumstances, late work will not be accepted unless the student has made prior arrangements with the professor. Please contact me to ask for an extension before a deadline is missed, not after.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS:

- Financial Aid (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- Career Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- UNT Food Pantry (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)
- Academic Resource Center (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- Academic Success Center (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- UNT Libraries (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- Writing Lab (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)
- UIT Help Desk: UIT Student Help Desk site (<http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm>)
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu Phone: 940-565-2324 In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130 Laptop Checkout: 8am-7pm
- For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

ETIQUETTE AND NETIQUETTE:

In this class, we will be engaging with each other in two ways: in person while we are in class, and via online communication using the discussion boards on Canvas. It is important that everyone be aware of in-person etiquette and online etiquette – known as ‘Netiquette’ – and treat each other with mutual respect. A helpful site for understanding appropriate online communication is Albion’s “The Core Rules of Netiquette”: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html> Thank you in advance for using respectful and mature in-person and online communication skills.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND CONSEQUENCES:

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

In this course, all work must be original to each student and may not be completed in pairs or groups. Doing so may warrant a zero grade for that assignment. Wikipedia, cliffs notes, sparks notes, blogs, and online encyclopedias are not appropriate sources and should not be consulted when completing any assignments. Doing so may warrant a zero grade. Evidence of unoriginal work will result in failing the assignment. All appropriate sources (primary and secondary) should be cited in footnotes. Typical university protocol on plagiarism, as stated on the UNT Academic Integrity website (<http://facultysuccess.unt.edu/academic-integrity>), will be enforced.

Course materials may not be distributed or posted online without the express written consent of the instructor. All students who wish to use recording devices must sign a statement agreeing not to post, distribute, or circulate any part of the lectures. A failure to do so constitutes a theft of intellectual property and may warrant dismissal from the course, an “F” grade, and appropriate UNT disciplinary action.

RESPECT AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT:

Students are expected to treat one another, the course, and professor with the respect of a workplace. On time arrival, staying on topic, and avoiding distracting behaviors helps to maintain a stable working environment for your classmates. Bullying or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Please silence all electronic devices and avoid non-academic discussions during class time. Students may not use cell phones in class.

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.deanofstudents.unt.edu

Tutoring and Study Sessions
For tips about strengthening your study skills, writing ability, and time management, or for coordinating study sessions and meeting tutors, please feel free to contact UNT’s learning center. <https://learningcenter.unt.edu/>

ADA ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT:

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

If you are receiving accommodations from the ODA please make an appointment to meet with me, preferably within the first two weeks of the semester, so that we can ensure that all accommodations can and will be met appropriately in the course.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES:

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

COURSE SCHEDULE (see canvas for readings and assignment details)*

****Dr. Datta reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus.***

SECTION I:

INTRO AND BASIC CONCEPTS + METHODS

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION AND BASIC

WEEK 2: FOOD, MIGRATION, MEMORIES AND METHODS

**WEEK 3: FOOD, MIGRATION & COMMUNITY:
ARCHIVING AND REFLECTING ON THE “SILENCED”**

WEEK 4: Class presentations

SECTION II:

FOOD, MIGRATION AND THE POLITICS OF IDENTITY CREATION

WEEK 5: HISTORY OF FOOD, COLONIALISM, MIGRATION AND “OTHERING”

WEEK 6: ORAL HISTORIES OF FOOD AND MIGRATION

WEEK 7: Class presentations

SECTION III:
FOOD, MIGRATION, GENDER AND AGENCY

WEEK 8: MIGRATION AND AGENCY THROUGH FOOD

SPRING BREAK

SECTION IV:
FOOD AS A FORM OF RECLAIMING IDENTITY

WEEK 9: HOW EMOTIONS AND RESILIENCE ARE SHARED OVER FOOD

WEEK 10: CONTD.

SECTION V:
FOOD AS BRIDGES BETWEEN HOMES (Lost homes and new homes)

WEEK 11: MIGRANT CONSUMER NARRATIVES

WEEK 12: MIGRANT ENTREPRENEUR NARRATIVES

WEEK 13: RESEARCH REPORTS AND CONSULTATIONS

WEEK 14: RESEARCH WEEK

WEEK 15: STUDENT PRESENTATIONS