Food and Film

Course Syllabus – Summer 2017

Course:  Food and Film - MLS 610-12D
Dates:  June 22, 2017 - July 28, 2017

Instructor
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TA/RA
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Course Overview

The food film genre recognizes the relationship between food imagery and cultural and ethnic traditions, identifying concepts unique to the characters such as nationality, gender, race, religion, politics and family.

This course will illuminate the dynamic of food and culture via film. At the conclusion, each student will reflect upon their personal relationship with food and the impact culinary creations affect their family, traditions and identities. Students will gain a greater comprehension of their relationship to food and its profound significance within their lives.

Required readings and films

Viewing assigned films:  Films that are to be viewed are listed in the Learning Area and in the Assignment tab in Canvas.  All films are required viewing.  Of the 10 films featured in the course, 8 are available to stream directly from Canvas. For the remaining 2 films, resources and links are provided below.

Films:
- Tampopo - download available via iTunes - $3.99 (HD) or VUDU - $2.99 (SD) or $3.99 (HD)
- Jiro Dreams of Sushi
- Eat Drink Man Woman
- What’s Cooking
- Feast of the Dead
- Another Corleone: Another Sicily
- Mostly Martha
- La Grande Bouffe - download available via iTunes - $3.99 (HD)
Membership is required for iTunes and VUDU although there is no fee to enroll. There is a nominal fee to watch the required films. If you do not have an account, click the links to enroll:

- iTunes → Download iTunes
- VUDU → Tampopo

Readings: Reading assignments are in the Learning Area on the respective Unit page and in Canvas via the Assignments tab. Readings are available online and URLs will direct to eReserves via the UNCG Library, readings housed in Canvas or direct websites containing the content. All readings within each unit are required.

Course Structure

Independent coursework: Students will study the Learning Area, read the assigned resources, view the requisite films, write a research paper and create a final project independently.

Group coursework: Students will participate in Discussion Boards within each unit, posting their original comments to the prompt and subsequently responding to the entries of their peers.

Course Requirements

Papers: Written assignments are found in the Learning Area as well as the Assignments tab in Canvas. A prompt regarding the assignment directive is provided.

Discussion Boards: Each unit in the course contains a discussion board located via the Discussion tab in Canvas. Prompts will indicate the directive for your comments within each unit’s discussion board. Your original comment must contain at least one quote with citation from each of the assigned readings for that unit. Your original comment should reflect your insight1, perception2 and perspective3 on the topic. After you post your comment, you should read the comments posted by your peers and respond with your opinions, agreements or if you disagree debate your dissent.

Insight, perception and perspective differ.

1. Insight: The power of acute observation and deduction; penetration; discernment. The act or result of apprehending the inner nature of things or of seeing intuitively. An extended understanding of a subject resulting from identification of relationships and behaviors within a model, context, or scenario.

2. Perception: A point of view. The choice of a single point of view from which to sense, categorize, measure or codify experience. An outlook, viewpoint, attitude or vision. A particular attitude toward or way of regarding something.

3. Perspective: A mental impression. The interrelation in which a subject or its parts are mentally viewed. The capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance. A particular way of viewing things that depends on one’s experience and personality. the ability to consider things in relation to one another accurately and fairly.

Research Paper: Each student should write a research paper based on any of the films within the course and their respective themes. The thesis should elucidate the film’s primary principle, defining its roots such as prominence, history, conflicts, causes and effects.

Final Project: Each student should reflect upon their unique experience in the course and identify a theme that is personal and poignant to them. Using the identified impact garnered via
the coursework, articulate their most salient connection to food researching aspects of that connection within a cultural or psychological framework. The student should link their relationship and assessment to one of the films viewed within the course. Once identified, students will prepare their chosen dish accompanied by a synopsis of their experience along with photos of their culinary creation.

Calendar

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<th>Begin</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<td>Course begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/22/17</td>
<td>Intro</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Unit 1</td>
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<td>7/26/17</td>
<td>Final Project</td>
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Completion of Assignments, Participation in Course

Each student is expected to complete all assignments in their entirety by the due date listed in the course calendar. Discussion board original comments should be posted within 3 days of the commencement of the unit, student replies should be posted by the end of the unit.

Office of Accessibility Resources & Services

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. To learn about available accommodations, students must register with the UNCG Office of Accessibility Resources & Services, Suite 215, Elliott University Center, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170

VOICE 336.334.5440
For more information on UNCG’s policy on working with students with disabilities, ADA and Section 504, please see the OARS Policies & Procedures.