

Cultural Food Systems & Sustainability

Spring 2025 Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:20-3:40 PM Bolz Hall 314 Mark Anthony Arceño

How do human societies around the world respond and adapt to the challenges of food production and consumption in times of change? What cultural practices help define approaches to and/or understandings of sustainability?

Considering food as both a material good and marker of individual or collective identity, this interdisciplinary course asks students to think about how food systems are being transformed amid societal, cultural, environmental, political, etc., change at local/regional, national, and global scales.

We will compare and contrast the experiences of individuals and communities, thinking reflexively of how thematic case studies inform understandings of the overall complexity of food and foodways (i.e., sociocultural practices related to food production and consumption) in and outside of the United States.

To supplement our in-class meetings and guest lectures, this course includes an agricultural experiential component at Waterman Farm situated along Carmack Road.

