



SOC 216: Food, Famine, and Farming in the Global Village

This course analyzes the social-structural forces that shape the global food system with particular focus on societal problems emanating from the fossil-fuel-based, industrial agricultural model that now dominates world-wide food production, distribution, and consumption. Areas covered include a historical overview of subsistence strategies, the Green Revolution, threats to food security and water access, first-world obesity and third-world famine, the impact on food systems due to climate change and fossil fuel depletion, population swells, food-based social movements, and alternative food systems. Three hours of lecture per week. Gen. Ed. Competencies Met: Critical Thinking, Ethical Dimensions and Global and Historic Awareness.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Understand humankind's ties to and dependence on the natural world.
2. Identify social structural forces which shape the most basic experiences of daily life, with food as the core subject.
3. Develop a global awareness of the intricate and complex systems which bind humankind across nations and borders.
4. Engage in critical thinking and problem solving, especially regarding food within the context of climate change and resource depletion.

Credits: 3

Program: Sociology