

**HONORS 383 HONORS COLLOQUIUM: FOOD  
SPRING 2017  
Monday Evenings from 5:00 to 7:50pm  
Honors Hall 118**

**Instructor**

Suzanne Stluka  
Program Director, Food and Families, SDSU Extension  
SWG 435, Box 2275A  
Brookings, SD 57007  
605/688-4038  
[Suzanne.Stluka@sdstate.edu](mailto:Suzanne.Stluka@sdstate.edu)  
Office hours by appointment – please email

**Course description:**

Honors colloquium is a multi-disciplinary examination of a contemporary topic or issue. What do you know about food? The 'act of eating' links everyone to food from production to consumption, health, and everything in between. Food system challenges are often addressed from the top-down. This course, will explore the diverse, interconnectedness of these challenges, but from a ground-level social systems perspective. Topics will include systems thinking, creating dietary guidelines, food subsidies, food marketing, children and food, GMOs, and physical activity as a solution, in order to illustrate the complexity of the food system and how it affects both individuals and populations. Students will be engaged with readings and exercises that emphasize critical thinking, inquiry, and application. In addition, students will be connected to hands-on learning to better prepare them for their future roles as community members who understand that food systems are complex, and cannot be addressed by any single perspective.

**Required texts:**

*Food Politics: How the Food Industry Influences Nutrition and Health* by Marion Nestle (2013) ISBN-13: 978-0520275966

A supplemental required reading list will include source materials linked to the course website each week. Additional video clips, guest lectures/panel discussions and web-based materials will be utilized. We will also have a course D2L site where materials and links will be posted.

**Pre-requisites:** There are no pre-requisites for this course. Student must be Honors College eligible. Students from all majors are welcomed and encouraged to enroll. In the Fishback Honors College, we respect one another's perspectives and value the opportunity to learn from and with one another. Students are advised to note that Honors 383 is taught as a rigorous upper division Honors course, and, as such, active student intellectual engagement – including reading, writing, discussion, and participation -- is expected from all students.

**Course objectives:**

Students will:

- Articulate an appreciation for the complexity, connectedness and magnitude of the topics presented (Social Media Posts, Initial Perspectives & Final Thoughts, Final Project);
- Engage in discussion and reflection around contemporary issues relating to food at individual and population levels (Social Media Posts, Initial Perspectives & Final Thoughts);
- Understand, remember and apply key points related to each of the topics presented (Quizzes, Assignments)
- Provide meaningful service to the community in important food-related areas (Feeding Brookings);
- Apply and synthesize their enhanced understanding of the topics presented in a culminating project (Final Project);

These objectives will be assessed through student completion of the major assessments below:

**Description of major assignments/assessments**

- Quizzes: 6 @ 20 points each
  - One per topic throughout the semester. Course quizzes will be given in class, see course schedule for dates.
- Assignments: 6 @ 20 points each
  - Students will complete a series of activities associated with each of the topic areas. These will be assigned throughout the semester with due dates noted in the course schedule. These assignments will be due prior to the class period to reinforce/enhance learning.
- Social Media Posts: 6 weeks @ 10 points each
  - Students will post questions and insights at least 2 times per topic under the course's twitter #honorsgrandchallenges. Due dates noted in course schedule.
- Feeding Brookings: 50 points
  - Students will have the opportunity to assist with set up and food distribution at Feeding Brookings, a weekly grocery distribution program aimed to provide food for Brookings area residents in need of assistance. For more information visit: <http://www.feedingbrookings.org>. You will also work in teams to collect food and/or toiletry items for guests of Feeding Brookings. Dates will be provided by your instructor, but assignment must be completed by week of February 13.
- Reflective Discussions - Initial Perspectives and Final Thoughts: 6 @ 15 points each
  - Students will submit thoughts on each topic prior to speakers and assignments and reflect on the topic after each discussion. Due dates noted in course schedule.
- Final Project: 150 points
  - Students will work in teams to create an educational outreach project focused on one of the main course topics. The project will include the creation of an infographic and a brief informative webinar and/or presentation. Students will gain experience presenting their final projects during finals week.

Points	Percent	Grade
531-590	90-100	A
472-530	80-89	B
413-471	70-79	C
354-412	60-69	D
0-353	0-59	F

**Additional considerations**

- *Policy on late assignments:* Assignments are due in class on the date published in the syllabus. Late assignments will be penalized ten percent (one letter grade) for each day late.
- *Absences:* Each student is considered a vital part of the classroom community. If you are not present, you are not contributing to or benefiting from the learning process. Attendance and/or in-class activity points may not be made up without a signed university excused absence card.
- *Academic honesty policy:* Fishback Honors College students are expected to abide by the highest standards of academic integrity, and contribute in an equitable manner to all group assignments. Failure to do so may result in a grade of zero on the assignment in question, an F in the course, and/or the loss of eligibility for graduation with Honors College distinction.
- *Reasonable accommodations:* If you are a student who needs reasonable accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify your instructors immediately. You should also inform the Office of Disability Services, Nancy Hartenhoff-Crooks, coordinator (688-4986). We will work with you to help you be successful.
- *Academic freedom and responsibility:* Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled. Under Board of Regents and University policy, student academic performance shall be evaluated solely on an academic basis and students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study. Students who believe that an academic evaluation is unrelated to academic standards but is related instead to judgment of their personal opinion or conduct should first contact the instructor of the course. If the student remains unsatisfied, the student may contact the department head and/or dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

	Topic	Speaker	DUE prior to class period	In-class activity	DUE by end of week
Week 1 (January 9)	Systems Thinking	Suzanne Stluka		Systems thinking exercise	
Week 2 (Jan. 16 Holiday)					
Week 3 (January 23)	Dietary Guidelines Supplements	Kendra Kattelmann Matt Vukovich	Read: Part 1 Undermining Dietary Advice & Part 4 Deregulating Dietary Supplements Submit: Initial Perspective for Dietary Guidelines & Supplements Topic		
Week 4 (January 30)	Discussion		Assignment: NEMS Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for Dietary Guidelines topic
Week 5 (February 6)	Public Health Nutrition (PHN) Programs	Suzanne Stluka	Read: TBD Submit: Initial Perspective for PHN Programs topic		
Week 6 (February 13)	Discussion		Assignment: SNAP Challenge Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for PHN Programs topic
Week 7 (February 20 Holiday)					
Week 8 (February 27)	Food Subsidies	TBD	Read: Part 2 Working the System Submit: Initial Perspective for Food Subsidies topic		
Week 9 (Spring Break)					
Week 10 (March 13)	Discussion		Assignment: Food price and availability comparisons Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for Food Subsidies topic
Week 11 (March 20)	Food and Children	TBD	Read: Part 3 Exploiting Kids, Corrupting Schools Submit: Initial Perspective for Food and Children Programs topic		

Week 12 (March 27)	Discussion		Assignment: WellSAT Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for Food and Children Programs topic
Week 13 (April 3)	Food Science & Technology	TBD	Read: Part 5 Inventing Technofoods Submit: Initial Perspective for Food Science & Technology topic		
Week 14 (April 10)	Discussion		Assignment: Lab Tours + reflection Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for Food Science & Technology topic
Week 15 (April 17)	Physical Activity as Solution	Jessica Meendering	Read: TBD Submit: Initial Perspective for PA as Solution topic		
Week 16 (April 24)	Discussion		Assignment: Walk Audit Submit: Screenshots of at least two social media posts	Quiz over speaker	Submit: Final Thoughts for PA as Solution topic
Week 17 (May 1)	Finals Week		Final Project Presentations		