Anthropology of Food Week 6

Midterm Exam
"Recipes and Dishes"
Food and Religion

Video Exploration:
The Pig Commandments (72 min.)

Very Short "Selective Attention Tests" (2)

1. Midterm Exam
2. Selective Attention Tests
3. Food and Religion
4. Assignments
1. Midterm Exam

The Midterm Exam this week, will be available from Monday a.m. to Friday (starting time) 10:00 p.m. (29 September – 4 October 2019)

Live Chat, for last-minute questions, is Sunday, 29 September 2019, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Other Information on the Midterm Exam is available at <http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/afexams_midterm.html#title>.

Don’t forget . . . that you can use the class study questions for the Midterm. Be sure to read my comments and suggestions about the questions. The Midterm will be four essay questions, selected from a pool generated from those included in the Midterm Questions exercise:

Midterm Exam Study Questions

@ <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/124753/discussion_topics/375429>

The final pool of questions generally contains 12-16 questions, all taken from the annotated wiki list of questions (link above), including at least one current affairs question that I will add.

[The final pool of questions will not include more than one question on the same (or essentially similar question), which is one of the reasons why it usually ends up with 12-16 questions; other questions that were submitted would be better for the final exam, and those questions are noted.]
2. Selective Attention Tests

After the Midterm Exam
— and for much of the remainder of the term —
we’ll be spending most of the time examining

“How People Get Their Food in Industrial Societies”
and what that means to various groups of people around the world. We will be exploring the social, corporeal, sacred, psychological, political, economic, and cultural aspects of food via the texts and videos.

And hopefully, also as noted last week, in the remainder of the term you will be applying your analytical anthropological skills that you have been developing and honing in the first five weeks of the course. We will be visiting many parts of the globe in the process — so you will have lots of opportunities to practice your skills.

Speaking of skills . . . this week, after you are finished with your Midterm Exam, take the two short minute-and-a-half tests of your observational skills before you continue your intensive look at the wide variety of Anthropology of Food video materials. You should take those short tests this week, but wait until after you have finished the Midterm Exam (you will have enough to do before the Exam).

After the Exam Take the Two (Very Short) Selective Attention Tests in Preparation for Watching Remaining Videos.

(Be sure to take both tests. Read the instructions carefully.)

First, take the . . .

Selective Attention Test
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJG698U2Mvo>

Read and follow the directions carefully.

(Be sure to also count the bounce passes.)
When you are finished with the Selective Attention Test, watch . . .

The Monkey Business Illusion

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGQmdoK_ZfY>

(It too is short: 1:42)

Again, read and follow the directions carefully.

(And as with The Selective Attention Test, be sure to also count the bounce passes.)
3. FOOD AND RELIGION

This week food and family and religion come together head-to-head in *The Pig Commandments* where we’ll see how in traditional Malaysian Chinese culture Buddhist food beliefs are literally tearing families apart.

On the one hand religion—in this case Chinese Buddhism—unites families, and on the other it tears them apart.

Last week you saw the short (29 min.) film *Food for Body and Spirit*—the second film of a classic four-part series, *A Taste of China*—the film shows how in Chinese culture religion and food has united families for over a thousand years. *Food for Body and Spirit* visits a sacred Taoist retreat, high on Blue City Mountain in Szechuan Province, China.

![Food for Body and Spirit](image)

*Food for Body and Spirit Viewing Guide*

This is a “controlled comparison” involving —

**Chinese : Buddhism : Food**

in China and Malaysia
In *Food for Body and Spirit* we had a look at a Chinese Taoist temple and Buddhist Slow Food and *Locavorism* which has a thousand year history . . . and we saw how food holds a part of Chinese culture *together* . . .

In *The Pig Commandments* we see how food *tears apart* a major segment of Chinese culture in Malaysia.

4. **Assignments and Events**

. . . this week are listed on your ”*Calendar*”. 
Anthropology of Food, Week 6, p. 7

This Week’s ”Calendar”

REM: Links on screenshots are not “hot” (active)

For Fun Food Trivia this week . . .

What was the average consumption of potatoes per person in Ireland before the great potato famine of 1845?
If you have any **questions** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the **canvas** Course “Chat”, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or stop by Cina 215 if you’re in the neighborhood [map].

Best Regards,

Tim Roufs

<http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>