

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Duluth Campus

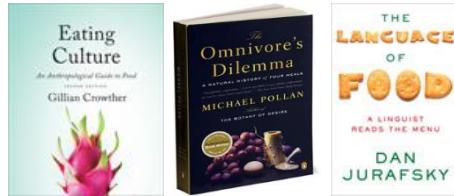
*Department of Anthropology,
Sociology & Criminology
College of Liberal Arts*

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4 October 2020

Anthropology of Food Week 6

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canvas
Syllabus
Calendar



What's Happening this Week

REM: [Main Due Dates](#)

1. General Comments for the Week

Midterm Exam . . .

The Midterm Exam this week, will be available from Monday a.m. to Saturday 10:00 p.m. (starting time)
(5-9 October 2020)

Study Questions are at . . .

https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/184152/discussion_topics/710128

General Information is at . . .

https://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/afexams_midterm.html#title

Live Chat is SUNDAY at 7:00 . . .

2. Live Chat: Midterm / Open Forum / Office Hours

[Contact Information](#) ↗

SUNDAY, 4 October 2020 @ 7:00-8:00 p.m. (CDT)

“**ZOOM**” ↗

[click ↑ here]

or

e-mail anytime: <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu> ↗



Live Chat is optional. Transcripts of the discussions will be available in your Chat folder.

After the Exam

Food and Culture: Food and Religion (cont.)

We'll spend much of the rest of the semester examining how people get their food in nonindustrial and industrial cultures, and in exploring the social, corporeal, sacred, psychological, political, economic, and cultural aspects of food—that's the holistic anthropology approach (you remember that from Week 1).

In short, after the Midterm Exam,
“Food and Culture”
will be our focus.

And, hopefully, in the last part of the term you will be **applying your**

analytical anthropological skills that you have been developing and honing in the first four weeks of the course.

Controlled Comparison

3. Video Explorations

Real People . . . Real Places . . .

Videos for the Semester 

The Pig Commandments

(72 min, 2005)

Online Access 

[click ↑ here]

(use with VPN if you need to)

course viewing guide 

transcript 

NOTE: This video should be compared with *Food for Body and Spirit* from last week



Shaikh Hussain Ye
Malaysia

4. This Week's Slides

Class Slides for the Semester 

Review these two slide sets before completing
your Abstract and Working Bibliography to hand in on
Friday . . .

“Units of Analysis”

(.pptx) [\[link\]](#)

[click ↑ here]

“Main Characteristics of Anthropology”

(.pptx) [\[link\]](#)

[click ↑ here]

5. Readings for the Week

[Readings for the Semester](#) [\[link\]](#)

[Textbooks](#) [\[link\]](#)

6. Other Assignment Information

[Main Due Dates](#) [\[link\]](#)

[Calendar](#) [\[link\]](#)

Week 6 Calendar

Short Selective Attention Tests

Discussion

“Yes, we have no bananas!”

“And maybe no coffee, vanilla, saffron . . . either”

For Fun Trivia

“What was the average consumption of potatoes per person in Ireland before the great potato famine of 1845?”

For other optional items for the week check “[Calendar](#)” [\[link\]](#) or “[Syllabus](#)” [\[link\]](#)

Questions? Comments?

1. General Comments for the Week

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Midterm Exam General Information

<http://www.d.umn.edu/cla/faculty/troufs/anthfood/afexams_midterm.html> 

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.).]

**This could be a handy reference
when reviewing the readings for the exam:**

List of Readings for the Entire Semester 

2. Live Chat: Midterm / Open Forum / Office Hours

Contact Information [\[link\]](#)

SUNDAY, 4 October 2020 @ 7:00-8:00 p.m. (CDT)

“ZOOM” [\[link\]](#)

[click ↑ here]

or

e-mail anytime: <mailto:troufs@d.umn.edu> [\[link\]](#)

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After the Exam

Food and Culture: Food and Religion (cont.)

We'll spend much of the rest of the semester examining how people get their food in nonindustrial and industrial cultures, and in exploring the social, corporeal, sacred, psychological, political, economic, and cultural aspects of food—that's the holistic anthropology approach (you remember that from Week 1).

In short, after the Midterm Exam,
“Food and Culture”
will be our focus.

And, hopefully, in the last part of the term you will be **applying your analytical anthropological skills** that you have been developing and honing in the first four weeks of the course.

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

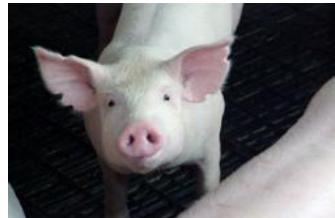
Looking back to last week's film, on the one hand religion—in this case Chinese Buddhism—unites families as we saw the short (29 min.) film *Food for Body and Spirit* last week—then, and on the other hand, it tears them apart, as we'll see this week in *The Pig Commandments*.



These two case studies are 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.



3. Video Explorations

Real People . . . Real Places . . .
Videos for the Semester

So this week you should watch the short (29 min.) film *Taste of China*, Part 2, "Food for Body and Spirit"—the second film of a classic four-part series, *A Taste of China*—the film shows **how in traditional 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.

The Pig Commandments (72 min, 2005)

Online Access 

[click ↑ here]

(use with VPN if you need to)

course viewing guide 
transcript

NOTE: This video should be compared with *Food for Body and Spirit* from last week

"To Chinese, pig symbolizes prosperity and health. Pork is the principle ingredient of the main course of Chinese feasts and it is the best choice of offerings. In contrast, pig is unclean to Muslims. It surely would not be found on their dining table. Conflict is inevitable when these two values meet. The scene is set in Malaysia, home to 12 million Muslims and 6 million Chinese. A group of Chinese who make their living in the pig business confronts Muslims who are forbidden to eat pork; Chinese Muslims are often caught in the crossfire. What is the solution to this deep-rooted ethnic dilemma?"

"This fascinating film illustrates how religious differences, even on the basic level of dietary prohibitions, can affect the way neighbors interact. It focuses on Malaysia, home to 12 million Muslims and 6 million Chinese. Islam bans the eating of pork, considering it unclean, while the Chinese have treasured pork for thousands of years. The ancient Chinese character for 'home' was a pig. For the Chinese the pig is a symbol of prosperity and all celebrations involve a pig roast."

"*Pig Commandments* outlines the ways in which the Muslim prohibition to eat pork affects the relationship between the Chinese and Muslims in this part of the world. There is legislation to keep pig farms away from the Muslim population. Many Chinese in Malaysia have converted to Islam. For them, the Koran has been translated into Chinese; and four chapters of the Koran deal with the prohibition to eating pork. One Chinese convert describes the problem with eating with her family. Only once a year when the Chinese celebrate the New Year with a vegetarian meal, can she join her family at dinner."

"*The Pig Commandments* shows how dietary laws can divide people or bring

them closer together. It demonstrates dramatically the social effects of food regulations and the sensitivity of people who are offended by another culture's eating habits. Scholars, religious leaders, and people of both religions express their feelings about this contentious issue. In addition we see how generations of pig farmers are proud of their succulent product."



Shaikh Hussain Ye
Malaysia

4. This Week's Slides

Class Slides for the Semester

**Review these two slide sets before completing
your Abstract and Working Bibliography to hand in on
Friday . . .**

“Main Characteristics of Anthropology”

(.pptx)

[click ↑ here]

“Units of Analysis”

(.pptx)

[click ↑ here]

5. Readings for the Week

[Readings for the Semester](#) 

Review for Midterm Exam

For after the Midterm Exam

- **Eating Culture, Second Edition, Gillian Crowther**

- CHAPTER FIVE: RECIPES AND DISHES

- **Omnivore's Dilemma, Michael Pollan**

- "Introduction: our national eating disorder"
 - Ch. 1 "The plant: corn's conquest"
 - Ch. 2 "The farm"
 - Ch. 3 "The elevator"
 - Ch. 4 "The feedlot: making meat"

(We're starting this book here, with Michael Pollan's discussion of "The forager" and "The ethics of eating animals" as next Week we begin having a closer look at hunting / gathering / foraging as a way people get their food in nonindustrialized societies)

- **The Language of Food, Dan Jurafsky**

- (Review)

6. Other Assignment Information

[Main Due Dates](#) 

[Calendar](#) 

Week 6 Calendar

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

Today ← → October 2020 Agenda +

SUN

4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:01a AF What's Happening Week 6?	12:01a AF Wk 6 Midterm Exam will be available from Monday a.m. to Saturday 10:00 pm (starting time). See Friday's Listings for Exam.	8:01a AF Wk 6 After the Exam Take the Two Selective Attention Tests (very short, 0:1:21 and 0:1:41)	8:01a AF Wk 6 After the Exam Video: The Pig Commandments (72 min.)	8:01a AF Wk 6 REM Work on Your Project	AF Wk 6 Discussion: "Yes, We Have No Bananas"	
7p (optional) AF Wk 6 Live Chat for Midterm Exam--NOTE CHANGE OF DAY	8:01a AF Wk 6 Readings (after exam)			8:02a (optional) AF Wk 6 REVIEW Units of Analysis and Check the Units of Analysis in Your Project	AF Wk 6 Discussion: And Maybe We Have No Coffee Either ... and Maybe No Vanilla... or Saffron...	AF Wk 6 MIDTERM ON LINE EXAM -- Timed at 1-1/2 hrs. (The timing will start after you read the introduction, when you "say 'go'")
(optional) AF Wk 6 For Fun Food Trivia: What was the average consumption of potatoes per person in Ireland before the great potato famine of 1845?						

Midterm Live Chat
SUNDAY 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Click “Agenda” for notebook-style

EXAM

Readings

Live Chat

Discussion

Discussion

REM: Your Project Abstract and Working Bibliography is Due this Week

Selective Attention Tests

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.)



Discussion Topic

“Yes, we have no bananas!”
“And maybe no coffee, vanilla, saffron . . . either”

For Fun Food Trivia for the Week . . .

“What was the average consumption of potatoes per person in Ireland before the great potato famine of 1845?”



Famine Memorial, Dublin, Ireland

Answer ↗

If you have any **questions or comments** right now, please do not hesitate to post them on the  canvas “Discussions”, or e-mail troufs@d.umn.edu, or ZOOM <https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs> ↗ (E-mail is fastest, and most generally best as quite often URLs need be sent.)

Best Wishes,

Tim Roufs

<<http://www.d.umn.edu/~troufs/>> ↗
<<https://umn.zoom.us/my/troufs>> ↗
<other contact information> ↗