

Course Outline Agriculture and Food Systems: Critical Conversations

General Information

Course #: FN3355B
Section #: 001
Term: Winter
Year: 2024-25
Delivery: In-person
Course Day and Time:
Course Location:

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Matthews
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Telephone number for office appointments:
Office hours:
Office location:

Course Description

This course will cover the processes and practices associated with food production in Canada. Appreciation of the whole food system (i.e., production, transformation, distribution, access,

2. Describe soils, climate, and agricultural products across Canada.
3. Value challenges facing farmers in Canada.
4. Formulate a deeper understanding of Indigenous agriculture.
5. Summarize various farming techniques and explain why farmers choose specific approaches.
6. Justify the use of pesticides by all farmers, including organic.
7. Assess agriculture's role in food security.
8. Evaluate strategies to address food waste.
9. Explain economic, social,

Use of Generative AI

For this course, students may not use generative AI (e.g., Chat GPT, QuillBot) for graded course assessments. Use of generative AI will be considered a scholastic offence which may be subject to the penalties outlined in the academic calendar.

Evaluation

Component	Weight	Date/Deadline	Learning Outcomes
Mid-term 1	30%	Jan. 28, 2025	Students will be able to: 1. Explain the o

Per University policy, makeup examinations for final exams (i.e., during the December exam periods) are held on the Thursday of the first week of classes in January (for first-term courses), excepting when a change to this date is approved by the Associate Dean.

Course Content

Class	Date	Topics (Required Reading List posted on OWL Brightspace)
1	Tues., Jan. 7	Introduction to course; RDs in agriculture
2	Thurs., Jan. 9	Agriculture in Canada; soil; Indigenous agriculture
3	Tues., Jan. 14	Organic dairy farming
4	Thurs., Jan. 16	Farming techniques; pests and pesticides
5	Tues., Jan. 21	Beekeeping
6	Thurs., Jan. 23	Food security; food waste
7	Tues., Jan. 28	Mid-term 1 (30%) Covers classes 1 - 6
8	Thurs., Jan. 30	Economic sustainability
9	Tues., Feb. 4	Local food; market gardening; fruits and vegetables
10	Thurs., Feb. 6	Social sustainability
11	Tues., Feb. 11	Grains and oilseeds; grain marketing and trading
12	Thurs., Feb. 13	Environmental sustainability
		Spring Reading Week – Feb. 15-23 – no class
13	Tues., Feb. 25	Cattle and wildlife habitat
14	Thurs., Feb. 27	Dietary guidelines and sustainable food production
15	Tues., Mar. 4	Mid-term 2 (30%) Covers classes 8 - 14
16	Thurs., Mar. 6	Biosecurity; turkeys; chickens
17	Tues., Mar. 11	Animal health and welfare; laying hens
18	Thurs., Mar 13	Food safety; traceability
19	Tues., Mar. 18	Robotic dairy; supply management
20	Thurs., Mar 20	Biotechnology
21	Tues., Mar. 25	Agricultural technology
22	Thurs., Mar 27	Climate change; future trends in agriculture
23	Tues., Apr. 1	Pork; garlic
24	Thurs., Apr 3	Role of FN professionals in science communication
	TBA	Final exam (40%) Covers classes 16 - 24

FHS Common Course Outline Attachment

Statement on Prerequisite Checking

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western [is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence](#) (GBSV) and providing compassionate support to anyone who is going through or has gone through these traumatic events. If you are experiencing or have experienced GBSV (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts, [here](#). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Support Services

There are various support services around campus and these include, but are not limited to:

1. Academic Support and Engagement - <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca>
2. Wellness and Well-being - <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>
3. Registrar's Office -- <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>
4. Ombuds Office -- <http://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/>

In accordance with [policy](#), the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

Health and Wellness

As part of a successful undergraduate experience at Western, we encourage you to make your health and wellness a priority. Western provides several on-campus health-related services to help you achieve optimum health and engage in healthy living while pursuing your degree. For example, to support physical activity, all students receive membership in Western's Campus Recreation Centre as part of their registration fees. Numerous cultural events are offered throughout the year. Please check out the Faculty of Music web page (<http://www.music.uwo.ca/>), or the McIntosh Gallery (<http://mcintoshgallery.ca/>). Further information regarding health and wellness-related services available to students may be found at <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

If you are in emotional or mental distress, please visit Western Psychological Services (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/psych>) for a list of options for obtaining help.

Use of Electronic Devices

During Exams: Unless you have medical accommodations that require you to do so, or explicit permission from the instructor of the course, you may not use any electronic devices during ANY tests, quizzes, midterms, examinations, or other in-class evaluations.

During Lectures and Tutorials: Although you are welcome to use a computer during lecture and tutorial periods, you are expected to use the computer for scholastic purposes only, and refrain from engaging in any activities that may distract other students from learning. From time to time, your professor may ask the class to turn off all computers, to facilitate learning or discussion of the material presented in a particular class. Unless explicitly noted otherwise, you may not make audio or video recordings of lectures nor may you edit, re-use, distribute, or re-broadcast any of the material posted to the course website.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. For those classes in which we use this technology, it is your responsibility to ensure that the device is activated and functional. You must speak with the course instructor immediately, if you have any concerns about whether or not your clicker is malfunctioning.

You must use only your own clicker. For all components of this course in which clicker records are used to determine your grade:

The use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence;

Use of Statistical Pattern Recognition on Multiple Choice Exams

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Academic Considerations and Absences from Lectures and Assessments

Religious Accommodation

When a course requirement conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the

