

Food for Thought
Summer Seminar
May 22-26, 2006

LOCATION

Rural Life Center (Treleaven House)
Kenyon College

PARTICIPATING FACULTY

Kevin Britz, American Studies
Miriam Dean-Otting, Religious Studies
Siobhan Fennessy, Biology
Marcella Hackbardt, Art
Bruce Hardy, Anthropology
Jennifer Johnson, Sociology
Michael Levine, Psychology
Kimmarrie Murphy, Anthropology
Patricia Lyn Richards, Italian
Howard Sacks, Sociology
Yang Xiao, Philosophy

SEMINAR GOALS

- Share our knowledge about food-related issues
- Develop a holistic understanding of food, farming, and rural life
- Become familiar with our respective teaching and scholarship in this area
- Generate common resources we can use in our teaching and scholarship
- Identify ways in which the Food for Thought initiative and our individual coursework can be mutually reinforcing

SCHEDULE

- Seminar sessions begin at 9 AM
- Visits with guest speakers will begin at 11 AM
- Catered lunches will be served at noon
- Field trips will depart approximately 1 PM and return by 3:30 PM

NOTE: All readings are available on ERes except those marked with an asterisk (*); these readings are to be found in books purchased for the course.

Monday, May 22

Food and the Environment

Facilitators: Kevin Britz, Siobhan Fennessy

Speaker: Rick Reynolds, Manager, United Producers Livestock Auction, Mt. Vernon

Readings: Conevery Bolton Valencius, "Cultivation." Pp. 191-228 in *The Health of the Country: How American Settlers Understood Themselves and Their Land* (New York: Basic Books, 2002).

*Dana L. Jackson and Laura L. Jackson (eds.), *The Farm as Natural Habitat: Reconnecting Food Systems with Ecosystems* (Washington, DC: Island Books, 2002). Read chapters 1-3.

Tuesday, May 23

Organics and the Local Food System

Facilitators: Kimmarie Murphy, Howard Sacks

Speaker: Carol Goland, President, Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association (OEFFA)

Field Trip: Fox Hollow Farm, Fredericktown

Readings: *Thomas A. Lyson, "Toward a Civic Agriculture." Pp. 61-83 in *Civic Agriculture: Reconnecting Farm, Food, and Community* (Medford, MA: Tufts University Press, 2004).

Julie Guthman, "Fast Food/Organic Food: Reflexive Tastes and the making of 'Yuppie Chow.'" *Social & Cultural Geography* 4(1): 45-58.

For US guidelines for organic labeling, see:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/Consumers/brochure.html>

Wednesday, May 24*Globalization and the World Food System*

- Facilitators: Jennifer Johnson, Miriam Dean-Otting
- Speakers: Dave McConnell, Chief Business Officer, Kenyon College;
Jeff McCutcheon, Extension Agent, OSU-Knox County
- Field Trip: United Producers Livestock Auction, Mt. Vernon
- Readings: Wendell Berry, "Out of Your Car, Off Your Horse: Twenty-seven Propositions about Global Thinking and the Sustainability of Cities." Pp. 19-26 in *Sex, Economy, Freedom, & Community* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1993)
- Deborah Barndt, "Picking and Packing for the North: Agricultural Workers at Empaque Santa Rosa." Pp. 165-208 in *Tangled Routes: Women, Work, and Globalization on the Tomato Trail* (New York: Roman & Littlefield, 2002)

Thursday, May 25*Health and Body Image*

- Facilitators: Marcella Hackbardt and Michael Levine
- Speaker: Major Bender, Salvation Army, Mt. Vernon
- Readings: Marika Tiggemann, "Body Image Across the Adult Life Span: Stability and Change." *Body Image* 1 (2004): 29-41
- Michael Pollan, "Our National Eating Disorder." Pp. 1-11 in *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* (New York: Penguin Press, 2006)

Friday, May 26*Hunger and Nutrition*

- Facilitators: Bruce Hardy, Patricia Lynn Richards, Yang Xiao
- Field Trip: Grassbaugh Family Farm, Howard

- Readings: *Fitchen, J. "Hunger, Malnutrition, and Poverty in the Contemporary United States: Some Observation on their Social and Cultural Context." Pp. 384-401 in C. Cunihan and P. Van Esterik (eds.), *Food and Culture: A Reader* (London: Routledge, 1997).
- Tom Wolfe, "The Suicidal Freezer Unit. Pp. 108-133 in *A Man in Full* (New York: Farrar Strauss Giroux, 1998)
- Peter Singer, "The Singer Solution to World Poverty." *The New York Times Magazine*, Sep. 9, 1999.
- Carlo Ginzburg, "To Kill a Chinese Mandarin: The Moral Implications of Distance." Pp. 157-72 in Martin Ryle and Kate Soper (trans.), *Wooden Eyes: Nine reflections on Distance* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001).