



FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

**PHIL 653.4 Lec 01**  
**“Topics in Political Philosophy—Politics of Food”**

**Winter Term 2017**  
**Course Outline**

**Lectures: W 3-5:45 in SS 1253**

**Instructor:** Ann Levey

**Office:** SS 1230

**Office Phone:** 403-220-5536

**Email:** [levey@ucalgary.ca](mailto:levey@ucalgary.ca)

**Office Hours:** M 3-4:30

**Course Description**

This course will look at the politics of our production, regulation and consumption of food. The course will pair core readings in political philosophy (property, distribution, critique of capitalism, liberty and paternalism, gender, class and race inequality) with issues about the production, regulation and consumption of food. Topics to be covered include food insecurity, food sovereignty and food waste (property rights and distribution); food production (gender, race, class, property rights, distribution); and food regulation (liberty and paternalism). Our discussions on these issues will also look at food discourse including obesity discourse and alternative food discourse (class, gender and race).

**Course Learning Outcomes**

- Understanding of some foundational issues in political philosophy and how these relate to our production, regulation and consumption of food
- Ability to write a convincing argument that takes adequate account of alternative positions;
- Ability to engage in constructive, respectful, oral and written argumentation.

**Required/Recommended Texts (including electronic resources):**

All Readings will be available through D2L

**Course Assessment**

- Weekly Questions 20%
  - Each week you are required to submit one or more questions on the reading—the questions should indicate to me that you have done the reading carefully enough to be philosophically puzzled or confused by it. These are to be handed in on index cards at the beginning of the class and will help to structure the class discussion. You may skip two weeks for a total of 10. These are graded Pass/Fail
- Participation 10%
  - You are expected to expand on your weekly questions as well as take part regularly in class discussions. Good participation requires not only contributing but also interacting respectfully with others which requires attentive listening and responsiveness to others as well as giving others space to contribute.

- Two short papers (1500-1800 words). 20%
  - Due February 1 and March 8. Late papers will 4 points per day in the absence of an appropriate reason for lateness.
  - You may substitute an activity assignment (see PHIL 553.4 course outline) for one or both papers. In the case of a substitution due dates will depend on the activity chosen.
  
- Final paper 50%
  - The final paper is due Monday April 17. You may submit electronically or you may bring me the paper in my office during my office hours (3-4:30).
  - A draft of the paper is due by Friday March 31. The grad students and I will then meet to discuss the drafts.
  - Late papers will be penalized 4 points per day in the absence of an appropriate reason for lateness.

#### Letter grade conversion scale

A+	98-100 %
A	94-97.9
A-	90-93.99
B+	85-89.9
B	80-84.9
B-	75-79.9
C+	70-74.9
C	65-69.9
C-	60-64.9
D+	55-59.9
D	50-54.9

Writing will be a factor in the grading of submitted work for the final paper.

There will be no Registrar-scheduled exam for this course

### **IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

#### **Academic Honesty**

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is regarded as an extremely serious academic offence, the penalty for which may be an F on the assignment, an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw from the University. See the relevant sections on 'Academic Misconduct' in the current University Calendar. Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about correct referencing, consult your instructor.

#### **Academic Accommodation**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For more information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>. Students who require accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on student accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf)

#### **D2L Help**

Desire2Learn is UCalgary's online learning management system. Important information and communications about this course may be posted on D2L. Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/it/services/d2l> for help.

**Protection of Privacy**

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act. The Department of Philosophy ensures the student's right to privacy by requiring all graded assignments be returned to the student directly from the instructor or teaching assistant.

**Internet and Electronic Communication Devices**

The instructor reserves the right to establish course policies regarding the use of devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartbooks. If allowed, these devices must be used exclusively for instructional purposes and must not cause disruption to the instructor or to fellow students. Cell phones and paging devices should be set to silent mode during lectures. Audio or video recording of lectures is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy

**Emergency Evacuation:**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints> . Please check this website and note the nearest assembly point for this course.

**Other Helpful Contacts**

- Safewalk and Campus Security: 403-220-5333.