



Cubiast Cada	FDCCFO
Subject Code	FDS659
Subject Name	Understanding Food Systems 2
Credit points	6
Study Level	Year 2
Delivery mode	On campus
Location	Melbourne
Prerequisites	FDS559 Understanding Food Systems 1

Subject Coordinator	
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Subject Overview

Understanding Food Systems 2 introduces students to the health, environmental, social and ethical implications of the globalisation and industrialisation of food and agriculture in majority world (or developing) countries. The causes of food insecurity and hunger are examined in the context of global trade, food aid, food dumping and land grabbing are drawn in order to consider the relationship between the structural imperatives of advanced capitalist economies and those of developing or emerging economies. The industrialisation of food systems in majority countries, including the Green Revolution and other technological developments, will also be analysed. Drawing on case studies from around the world, the emergence of community food economies, food sovereignty and agroecology are examined as alternatives to traditional understandings of economic development. Emphasis will be given to sociological approaches to agro-industrial restructuring, peasant resistance and the effects of the nutrition transition on culinary cultures in the Global South.

Learning Outcomes

Examine the historical and contemporary changes to food systems in majority (or developing) countries

Analyse the effects of global markets and trade practices on local communities

Apply a case study approach to the analysis of the restructuring of a food system

Trace a global food commodity to its source and analyse the localised implications of its production from a multidisciplinary perspective

Differentiate between food security and food sovereignty as frameworks for economic and community development

Assessments	Details	Weighting
	Essay	30%
	Case study analysis	
	Group presentation	30%

Graduate Attributes addressed in this subject	Preparedness
	Ethical and social understanding
	Systematic and coherent body of knowledge
	Cognitive skills to synthesise and consolidate knowledge
	Interpersonal and teamwork skills