Course Objectives
Are you truly what you eat? Food has played a consistent yet complicated role in the shaping of national histories, social relations, personal experiences, and cultures. We will spend the semester exploring how, by examining the various intersections between food and culture from the pre-Columbian period through the present day and across the American landscape.

This course is a 100% online course using CourseDen and your computer as the delivery medium. You are not required to attend class face to face.

Learning Outcomes
At the end of this course, students will be expected to:
❖ demonstrate an understanding of the important developments in the formation of American foodways and culture from the pre-Columbian era to the present.
❖ demonstrate basic research skills by locating and using primary and secondary source materials.
❖ demonstrate the ability to state and support an interpretation of historical issues concisely, coherently, and logically.
❖ improve writing and critical thinking skills through both formal and informal written assignments, class discussion, and careful reading of primary and secondary sources.

Special Note:
Students, please carefully review the following information at this link:

https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php
This link contains important material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, you should review the information each semester.

**Course Requirements and Evaluation**

**Course Readings**
There are no textbook purchases for this class. All readings and materials are provided by us and you can find them organized by unit in CourseDen.

**Attendance Verification**
Please note that students who do not actively participate in the class within the first two weeks will be withdrawn by the course at the deadline set by the university. In this class, we will have three mandatory attendance checkpoints during the first week of class:

1. introduction assignment
2. the student contract quiz
3. the plagiarism quiz

Students who do not fulfill these requirements, which can be found in the in the Start Here: Syllabus and Start Items Module, will be dropped for non-participation. If you are unable to complete these assignments in the allotted time-frame and have documentation to that effect, you should contact us as soon as possible to avoid being dropped after the deadline. Please note UWG’s policy on attendance verification as outlined in Section 204 of the UWG Faculty Handbook: "In fully online or hybrid courses each instructor has the authority to specify in the syllabus what qualifies as attendance at the first class meeting and during the Drop/Add Period to drop students who fail to meet that requirement. Instructors may require students to attend a face-to-face meeting, to login in to the online course-delivery system by a specific date, or to take other specified steps at the beginning of the session." If you are dropped and do not have sufficient documentation as to why you were unable to complete the attendance assignments as outlined here, that decision is final and you will not be reinstated in the course.

**Computer Access**
It is highly recommended that you have regular (daily) computer access, preferably a home computer with broadband Internet access. This course can be completed using public computers at UWG or other public access areas. All course requirements remain the same whether your computer access is public or private (home).

**Technical Skill Requirement**
You should be comfortable with the following:
- using a word processor (changing font, spell check, inserting footnotes, etc)
- using email for communication and sending an email attachment if necessary
- using and navigating CourseDen
Online Help

● Have questions about our classroom navigation? Email me either in CourseDen or at cvasconce@westga.edu
● Have questions about getting into CourseDen? Contact the helpdesk: https://D2LHelp.view.usg.edu  Email: online@westga.edu  Phone (M-F: 8-5p): 678-839-6248

Course Evaluation and Grade Distribution

The course will be evaluated on a 10-pt scale:  A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=59-0.

Emphasis will be on clarity of ideas, reading, writing, analytical and critical thinking skills, class participation, and overall presentation. Participation in class discussions and lectures is encouraged and will form a component of the written assignment grades. There will be no extra credit offered in this class, so don’t ask. Grade calculations are as follows:

- Class Participation 20%
- Reaction Papers 20%
- Comparative Recipe Analysis 10%
- Research Paper 20%
- Facebook Group Posts 10%
- Family/Community Foods Essay 10%
- 20th Century Food Case Study 10%

Please see CourseDen for more on the assignments discussed below.

Research Paper
Each student is expected to submit a 6-8 page formal research paper on the topic of his or her choice by the date specified in the syllabus. This paper is 20% of your final grade.

Family/Community Foods Essay
Students will write a 3-4 page paper on one specific food/meal/dish that has a specific or special meaning to their family and/or community. This paper is 10% of your final grade.

Comparative Recipe Analysis
Students will write a 3-4 page paper analyzing 3-6 recipes from a specified website. This paper is 10% of your final grade.

20th Century Food Case Study
Students will write a 3-4 page paper on one specific convenience food or beverage invented during the 20th century. This paper is 10% of your final grade.

Reaction Papers
Students are expected to submit a 2-3 page reaction paper at the end of units 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8 in the specified Assignment Dropbox. Combined, these papers will comprise 20% of your grade.
Facebook Community Group Posts
For each unit, students will be required to make one post to our class’s Facebook Community Group based on a specific prompt. Posts must contain some sort of visual item and a discussion of at least 100 words. These posts constitute 10% of your grade.

Class Participation
There are a total of 8 unit discussions based on that unit’s course material, with each discussion receiving a separate grade that will be applied towards your class participation grade. Grades received for your mandatory introduction, student contract quiz, and plagiarism quiz will also be counted towards your class participation grade. Each Online Unit Discussion will be graded on a 25 point scale. Late posts will not be counted towards your unit discussion grades. See the Course Overview Module for more information on Class Participation Guidelines and Grading.

Submitting Assignments to CourseDen

Assignment format: All submitted assignments must be submitted in MS word format. Papers should be double-spaced and be written in size 12 Times New Roman font, black text, with 1” margins. Parenthetical references of (pg) are required for all paraphrased or directly quoted information. The usage of any source outside of CourseDen is not allowed.

Submitting assignments late or outside of CourseDen: Late assignments and discussion posts submitted after the scheduled deadline or outside of the Assignments Dropbox will not be accepted unless you have a properly documented excuse. Late assignments submitted without proper documentation will receive a 0. Please note that this rule is written in stone.

The return of graded work: Assignments and discussions will be graded in one week’s time of their scheduled deadlines.

In the event of technical difficulties: It is your responsibility to confirm that your assignments have been submitted properly to the Assignment Dropbox. Please check to make sure that your assignment was uploaded correctly and appears in the appropriate Assignment Dropbox.

In the event that you are having computer/wifi difficulties, please find an alternative source. Please do not wait until the last minute to submit assignments. You are submitting items over the Internet, and sometimes the Internet Gods get angry and withhold access. There are many things that can go wrong in the path between your computer and CourseDen. Technical problems related to computer connections, equipment, or submitting an incomplete or incorrect assignment cannot be used as an excuse for failure to complete assignments or to participate online.

Please be aware of alternate Internet connections and computers available through college computer labs, college Learning Resource Centers (libraries), the public library, and any friends, relatives, or neighbors and access them if your personal computer equipment is not working. It
is your responsibility to locate the computer hardware, software and Internet connections necessary to stay connected and current with your course work online.

A Note about Academic Honesty

We will not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty in this class and our policy is one of zero tolerance. All assignments and discussion posts submitted in class must be written in your own words. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing, which may not be taking a passage word for word, but certainly does not give credit to ideas and/or information. **All assignments will be monitored by Turnitin**, and **plagiarizers will automatically fail the course**. We will also recommend that UWG administration take action.

Plagiarism is a serious offense and it can lead to your expulsion and/or suspension from the University. Every UWG student agrees upon their admission to the university to uphold the UWG Honor Code, which states: “[a]s a West Georgia student, I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly. I understand that if I violate this code, I will accept the penalties imposed, should I be found guilty of violations through processes due me as a university community member.” UWG students further agree that they will “refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrications, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.”

**In short, don’t do it.** You can find a link to the UWG Honor Code in the Course Overview Module, as well as links to pages on what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it in the Course Overview Module. Also, the mandatory plagiarism quiz will help you with this as well. Furthermore, assignment and discussion guidelines will give instructions on citation formats, but feel free to contact me with questions on how or what to cite. A good rule of thumb is “when in doubt, cite.”

Federal Privacy Laws and Grades

We cannot discuss grades or course progress with any student via email or over the phone. It must be in person. Furthermore, we cannot discuss grades or your progress in the course with your parents at all. If you would like to discuss any of your exam grades, your overall grade, or your progress in the course, it must be in person and we are happy to do so at any time. Just make an appointment and we’ll talk.
Tentative Course Outline

Please note that this schedule could change due to unforeseen circumstances. Please check course announcements and email for any changes that may arise.

**August 15-28: Unit 1 – Intercontinental Exchanges**

- **Mandatory Participation Deadline.** Introduction, Student Contract Quiz, and Plagiarism Quiz due by 11:59P EST, Wednesday, August 22. Failure to participate by the deadline will result in your removal from this course.
- Unit 1 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Tuesday, August 28
- Unit 1 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Tuesday, August 28
- Unit 1 Reaction Paper due by 11:59 PM EST, Tuesday, August 28

**August 29-September 9: Unit 2 – Early American Foodways**

- Unit 2 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, September 9
- Unit 2 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, September 9
- Traditional Family/Community Foods Essay due by 11:59 PM EST, Sunday, September 9

**September 10-19: Unit 3 – The Plantation South**

- Unit 3 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, September 19
- Unit 3 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, September 19
- Unit 3 Reaction Paper due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, September 19

**September 20-October 3: Unit 4 – Urban and Ethnic America**

- Unit 4 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 3
- Unit 4 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 3
- Unit 4 Reaction Paper due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 3

**October 4-5: Fall Break!**

**October 8-24: Unit 5 – Home Economics and Food Reform**

- Unit 5 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 24
- Unit 5 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 24
- Comparative Recipe Analysis due by 11:59 PM EST, Wednesday, October 24
October 25-November 5: Unit 6 – The Great Depression and WWII

❖ Unit 6 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Monday, November 5
❖ Unit 6 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Monday, November 5
❖ Unit 6 Reaction Paper due by 11:59 PM EST, Monday, November 5

November 6-17: Unit 7 – Post War America: Food Culture and Politics

❖ Unit 7 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Saturday, November 17
❖ Unit 7 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Monday, November 17
❖ 20th Century Food Case Study due by 11:59 PM EST, Monday, November 17

November 19-23: Thanksgiving Break!

November 26-December 7: Unit 8 – The Modern South

❖ Unit 8 Discussion due by 11:59 PM EST, Friday, December 7
❖ Unit 8 Facebook Community Post due by 11:59 PM EST, Friday, December 7
❖ Unit 8 Reaction Paper due by 11:59 PM EST, Friday, December 7

Other Deadlines

❖ Final Papers due by 11:59 PM EST, December 7
❖ Grades will be submitted to the Registrar by 12 Noon, Monday, December 17