Eating is a basic human necessity but making food choices is biological, cultural, personal and political. This course will analyze American cultures and society through the history of food production and consumption, investigating how the simple act of eating reveals interconnections among so many aspects of life, including work, the body, environment, gender, technology, ethnicity, and power. The course’s goal is to teach students about the meaning of food and how the simple act of eating can reveal interconnections among so many diverse aspects of society and the environment. Another goal is to introduce students to foodways as an engaging, accessible yet deeply penetrating tool they can add to their methodological approaches for studying history and cultures.

SPRING 2019