

PLAN 31387-1 | Spring 2021

Food Systems Planning

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Tuesday/Thursday 11:00-12:15pm | Synchronous Remote Instruction

COURSE OBJECTIVES Structured within the context of a food supply chain, this course will examine the way food is grown, processed, distributed, and consumed within the US. By surveying both conventional and alternative food supply chains and investigating current community planning strategies and initiatives, students will develop an understanding of the current barriers and opportunities facing planners (and communities) interested in creating sustainable food systems.

This semester students will have an opportunity to work on one of three “consulting” projects, with actual clients, as an application of course material.

REQUIRED TEXTS A textbook is not required for this course, rather readings (and some multi-media items) will be uploaded to Canvas within the weekly modules.

OFFICE HOURS I am available Wednesdays from 9:30-12:00 for virtual office hours. Additional meeting times can be arranged through email.

COMMUNICATION Email is the best way to get a hold of me, and I make it a point to review messages more frequently before class and important class deadlines.

EVALUATION Final grades for the class will be calculated by the following assignments:

Class Participation	5 points
10 Interactive Reading Responses (3 pts each)	30 points
2 Group Facilitation Reports (2.5 pts each)	5 points
8 Experiential Journal Entries (5 pts each)	40 points
Consulting Project	15 points
Rowan Food Curriculum Essay	5 points
TOTAL	100 points

The following +/-grading scale will be used to determine your final grade for the course based on the percentage of points earned throughout the semester. Check pass/fail specifications for your major.

93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	Below 59	F

Class Participation Class participation is an important part of this course and students are expected to sign into our “digital classroom” regularly, with video and on time. Participation in class is actively contribution to the class dialogue in a respectful and informed way. Students should minimize distractions in their physical environments to the extent that is feasible. It is each students' responsibility to communicate any barriers to full video participation directly to the course instructor.

Part of your participation will be evaluated through a digital design journal where students will be asked to respond in writing to questions posed within the lecture.

Digital journals are available for download and class time will be given to complete each prompt. Completed digital journals will be graded at the conclusion of the course and will be evaluated for completeness and comprehension of course material.

Interactive Reading Responses

Prior to the Thursday class each week, students will be asked to submit a reading response on Canvas where they document how they interacted with the assigned pre-class research for the week. Although the submission will be a shorter response, the prompts will require students to actively explore the content of the pre-class research and may require a deviation from one's typical weekly routine or eating habits.

Submissions will be due on Canvas on Thursdays by 10:00AM. Each student is permitted to turn in **one** response late before a 1.5 point deduction (half the total response points) for that submission.

Experiential Journal Entries

With a goal towards increasing individual student scholarship within the remote setting of this course, students will complete experiential journal entries for selected topics throughout the semester. These assignments are an opportunity for students to engage with course material, additional research and their own creativity to personally experience selected topics throughout the course.

Each journal entry needs to be at least 250 words, include at least one form of media (photos, videos, audio), narrative text describing the activities the student took to achieve firsthand experience with the selected topic, as well as including at least one additional reference material (no blog posts) that is properly cited. For instance, for a journal entry about alternative agricultural production a student could research and start vegetable starts for a springtime garden. This student could video themselves explaining what crops they selected and how to start seeds, while citing reference material and applying this activity to something learned in class. Journal entries will be submitted individually through Canvas.

Group Facilitation Reports

The weekly Thursday meeting time for our class will include small group discussions about the required reading for the week, as well as reflections and/or plans for the required experiential journal entries. Each group member will be responsible for facilitating the group discussion two separate times throughout the semester, submitting a group report about what was covered in the group session. Each of these reports are worth 2.5 points and will be submitted through Canvas.

Consulting Project

Students will have the opportunity to work on one of (at least) three food-related consulting projects for "real life" clients. Students will work in groups to achieve the individual goals for each project. Earlier in the semester student groups will determine an appropriate work plan for the individual projects and the respective deliverables. These plans will be made in concert with the course instructor. More details will be discussed in class and posted on Canvas.

Rowan Food Curriculum Essay

The university is currently evaluating the feasibility of integrating more food-related curriculum into their degree offerings. Being enrolled within this in-depth food systems course, students are uniquely positioned to offer the university ideas about what a food systems major and/or curriculum might look like from a students' perspective.

Students are required to draft an essay (at least 250 words) that details a food program in which **they personally** would be interested in participating. Successful essays will include thoughts about ideal courses and curriculum, as well as extra-curricular and experiential learning opportunities.

ATTENDANCE

Each student is allowed up to 3 class absences without being penalized. After the 3rd missed class, I will reduce your participation grade proportionately with your attendance unless arrangements are made **in advance** for University recognized reasons that are accompanied by documentation (e.g. doctor's note or other form of supporting evidence). [University recognized reasons](#) for excused absences include official University activities, documented illness, death of a family member or loved one, inclement weather and religious observance (notification must take place before the holiday)

An absence within this course's remote instruction may take the form of failure to join scheduled synchronous remote class sessions, failure to participate in remote class activities, whether synchronous or asynchronous, **or** failure to meet deadlines for submission of assignments. Student attendance at virtual sessions should be indicated by engagement which could include (but is not limited to) having a webcam on, responding verbally or in a chat box, submitting a response following the class, or other indicator, with recognition of varying technology and needs among students. Extended absences for physical and/or virtual class sessions (3 or more days) should be processed through the Dean of Students office. The Dean of Students may ask for appropriate documentation; instructors are not to request documentation for student absences and instead should refer students to the Dean of Students process.

Disruptions of any kind relating to the COVID-19 crisis will be recognized as circumstances for which absences are excused and students should contact the instructor and/or the Dean of Students for accommodations and assistance. This may include illness or need for self-isolation among other circumstances such as ill family members. Documentation may be requested by the Dean of Students but will not be required by instructors.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic integrity is expected of all Rowan students. Do not accidentally or knowingly commit academic crimes (plagiarism, cheating). Never (1) turn in an assignment that you did not write yourself, (2) turn in an assignment for this class that you previously turned in for another class, (3) present ideas or sentences that are not your own without proper citation, (4) cheat on an exam, or (5) sign someone else in on an attendance sheet. Per Rowan policy, **violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated.**

Any infraction includes the possibility of failure of the entire course
<http://www.rowan.edu/provost/policies/AcademicIntegrity.htm>

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Any student with a documented disability is encouraged to contact me so we can consider any accommodations that could help. Likewise, if you find yourself having difficulty in class for whatever reason please let me know, I will try my best to assist you and/or connect you with the numerous resources available at the University. The Academic Success Center is located in Savitz Hall, 3rd Floor (856-256-4234):
<http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/asc/disabilityresources/>.

PREFERRED NAME POLICY

Many students prefer to be known by a name other than their legal name. Students who wish to have a preferred first and/or middle name appear (1) in the phone and email directories, (2) on their Rowan ID card, (3) on Blackboard, and (4) on Canvas may request this by sending an email to support@rowan.edu with "Preferred Name" in the subject line. Direct any questions about the policy to socialjustice@rowan.edu

VETERANS SERVICES

There are a number of services available to assist veterans with education benefits. Staff are located in Savitz Hall, 3rd floor (856-256-4233) or visit:
<http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/asc/veterans/>.

COUNSELING SERVICES	<p>The Wellness Center at Winans Hall provides physical and mental health services for students, such as time management, test anxiety, relationship issues, career assessment tools, and crisis situations. You can make an appointment during business hours at 856-256-4333. After hours call 856-256-4922 to speak with a counselor on call. If you are in crisis call 856-256-4911.</p> <p>http://www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/counseling/.</p>
ROWAN UNIVERSITY SEXUAL MISCONDUCT + HARASSMENT REPORTING AND TITLE IX	<p>Rowan University and its faculty and staff are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. Title IX makes it clear that sexual misconduct and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against protected categories such as race, national origin, etc.</p> <p>University faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct or harassment, to the University's Title IX Coordinator so that the appropriate resources and support options are provided. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual misconduct and harassment that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware. If you are the victim of sexual misconduct or harassment, Rowan encourages you to reach out to these resources:</p> <p>Confidential Resources: The Wellness Center, Winans Hall, 856-256-4333, www.rowan.edu/wellness</p> <p>Non-Confidential Resources: Office of Student Equity and Compliance (OSEC), Savitz Hall 203, 856-256-5830 Public Safety, Bole Annex, 856-256-4911</p> <p>To learn more about Title IX go to: go.rowan.edu/titleix</p>

WEEK	TOPIC	DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	Overview of Food Systems and Food Supply Chains	1/26	
		1/28	Reading Response #1
2	Food Systems Planning	2/2	
		2/4	Reading Response #2
3	Conventional Agricultural Production Systems	2/9	Conventional Production Journal Entry
		2/11	Reading Response #3
4	Alternative Agricultural Production Methods	2/16	Alternative Production Journal Entry
		2/18	Reading Response #4
5	Aggregation within the Food Supply Chain	2/23	Food Aggregation Journal Entry
		2/25	Reading Response #5
6	Processing within the Food Supply Chain	3/2	Food Processing Journal Entry
		3/4	Reading Response #6
7	Distribution within the Food Supply Chain	3/9	Food Distribution Journal Entry
		3/11	Reading Response #7
8	Consulting Project Overview + Consumption Patterns	3/16	Consumption Journal Entry
		3/18	
9	Emergency Food System	3/23	Consulting Project Work Plan
		3/25	Reading Response #8
10	Food Systems Planning: Food as Placemaking & Public Markets	3/30	Public Market Journal Entry
		4/1	Consulting Project Check-In
11	Food Systems Planning: Food Assessments & Economic Development	4/6	
		4/8	Reading Response #9
12	Food Systems Planning: Food Access & Land Use	4/13	Food Access Journal Entry
		4/15	Reading Response #10
13	Food Systems Planning: Community Development & Future of the Field	4/20	Rowan Food Program Essay
		4/22	
14	Consulting Project Workshop	4/27	
		4/29	
15	Presentation of Consulting Project Recommendations + Course Reflection	5/4	
		5/6	Consulting Project Final Materials

Schedule Subject to Change. Updates will be presented in class and posted on Canvas. All required readings are available on Canvas.