

LAND, FOOD AND COMMUNITY I
Land and Food Systems 250
Syllabus for the online version

Instructor

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Learning Objectives

The Land, Food, and Community (LFC) series (LFS 100, 250, 252, 350, and 450) is the academic core of all programs in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems (LFS). The objective of the LFC series is to create learning opportunities that encourage us to become citizens, professionals, and leaders who understand the opportunities and obstacles to creating regional, national, and global food systems that are ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable.

The objectives of the LFC series are achieved through a pedagogical approach and learning environment that we call the "Ecology of Knowledge", a theory that helps people to understand "how we know what we know". "Ecology of Knowledge" refers to how knowledge is created, and re-created, in the many diverse contexts in which it emerges. It also examines how knowledge is produced, distributed, and shared. In the LFC series, we foster a learning environment that values diversity, encourages excellent oral and written communication skills, and cultivates the ability to work creatively and cooperatively in team settings. Course instructors and teaching assistants are viewed as facilitators and resource people who participate in a "community of learners" with you and your classmates.

Students who have completed the LFC core series are systems thinkers, able to work collaboratively in multicultural, inter- and trans- disciplinary teams to develop solutions for complex, multi-stakeholder issues related to food, health, and the environment. Incorporating academic and community perspectives, they apply their knowledge in an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable manner to community food security challenges. The LFC core series courses provide students with the opportunity to acquire and apply the fundamental knowledge, tools, and expertise required for successful participation in food security and sustainability initiatives.

Upon completion of LFS 250, successful students will be able to:

- Critically reflect on diverse ways of seeing and knowing with special reference to industrial and organic agriculture, dairy food system, genetically modified food, nutrition, food marketing and food security.
- Apply systems principles to issues in land and food systems.
- Collaborate effectively and professionally as members of a multicultural, interdisciplinary community of learners.
- Engage with community partners to investigate aspects of food systems.
- Apply basic communication, critical thinking, and research skills to (sometimes controversial) food issues.

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Assignments

Assignment	Percentage of grade
Reflective journals	20
Dairy system report	15
Community Food System Report	15
Participation to online discussions	15
Final Exam	35

A Note on Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offence that can result in expulsion. Please ensure that you understand what qualifies as plagiarism before you hand in your paper. Never use another author's ideas or phrasing without indicating a source, and use quotation marks when quoting. Website for UBC Guide to Academic Integrity <http://learningcommons.ubc.ca/guide-to-academic-integrity/>

A Note on Late Penalties

The policy in this course is to deduct 10% per day penalty for late assignment submissions. Exceptions will be made for arrangements made well in advance or for documented medical emergencies (a doctor's note is required).

A Note on Group Work

The Community Food System Report follows group work on a community food security. While group work can be rewarding, it can be unequally shared and become a source of resentment. Therefore, at the end of each term, each student will provide a score for each member of the team as well as himself or herself. Scores can range from 0 to 1.1 and are given according to the member's contribution to the group work. A group that worked perfectly together will receive unanimous scores of 1.0 for every member, indicating that work was shared equally within the team. Members who did extra work could receive up to 1.1, members who did less should receive less than 1.0 in proportion to the amount of work they contributed. The instructor will use these scores to determine a final multiplier for each person. Each individual's group work mark will be multiplied by this number. The assessment of team members will remain **confidential** but it is course requirement.