

INDS 535: FOOD: COMMUNION, COMMUNITY, AND CREATION

Loren and Mary-Ruth Wilkinson
May 28-June 8, 2012
Off campus
3 graduate credit hours
Maximum Enrollment: 20 credit students, no auditors
Additional Course Fee: \$450



Please Note: The Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses.
The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information.
Syllabi are available to Regent students at <http://www2.regent-college.edu/courses/login>

Note: This course begins on Galiano Island on the morning of May 28. Due to ferry schedules, you will need to arrive on Galiano Island on Sunday, May 27. For more information, see the syllabus.

Note: Students will be required to supply additional information and release forms prior to attending the course. Students will be contacted regarding this information once their registration has been confirmed.

Course Description

Eating is one of the most profound ways we are related to each other, to the created world, and to God. In this course we will explore, within the framework of Christian theology, some of the biological, ecological, psychological, aesthetic, spiritual, agricultural, and economic aspects of what, why, and how we eat. The core of the course will be reading, lecture and discussion of the considerable literature dealing with food, and that will normally take place in morning class sessions. But the setting—two weeks together on Galiano Island—will also provide a living context of cooking, feasting, fasting and gardening together, which will add good spices to the academic victuals (from *victus* ‘food’; related to *vivere* ‘to live’). In addition to some daily work, we will see some movies (in the evening) and take a couple of trips to island farms and gardens.

Class Outline

Mon., May 28	Becoming Human: Teeth, Tongues, and Table Manners
Tues., May 29	Eating to Live and Living to Eat
Wed., May 30	Biblical Foundations and Themes I
Thurs., May 31	Biblical Foundations and Themes II
Fri., June 1	Food and the Land: Culture and Agriculture
Sat. and Sun.	Rest, Retreat, and Worship
Mon., June 4	Food for the Household: Gardens, Cooking, Meals, Graces
Tues., June 5	Food for the World: Hungers in a World of Plenty
Wed., June 6	The Hungry Soul: Too Much, Too Little, Too Picky
Thurs., June 7	“Taste and See”: “Mindfulness” at the “Supper of the Lamb”
Fri., June 8	So Long, Farewell; Clean Up, Loose Ends, and Communion Meal

Assignments

1. Reading
For a full list of all the reading (including when each reading should be read), please see the course syllabus. From the additional reading, each student is to select one significant quote that augments the day's topic. Before each class these will be collected into an "Anthology of Quotations" for use in class.
2. Mindful Meals (June 4, 5, 6, and 7)
On each of these days, five students will work together to plan, prepare, present and serve an evening meal. This "presentation" (which can be before, during and/or after the meal) should include: (a) rationale for the choice of foods; (b) history of the foods; (c) the source of the items in the meal; (d) symbolic aspects of the meal.
3. Biblical and Theological Thematic Study
Students should prepare a 4-page essay outlining and reflecting on a significant and recurring use of food in the bible. DUE: (postmarked by) Monday, June 18, 2012
4. Research Paper
Students are to write a 15-20 page paper on an area of personal interest related to the course material and chosen in consultation with the instructors. Due: (postmarked by) Monday, July 23, 2012
5. Life!
The daily chores of preparing food, keeping the wood fires going (May—and even early June—are not necessarily warm!), tidying up, gardening, tending chickens, and doing the odd jobs that always seem to come along will be shared by all—but not to worry; the afternoons will be mostly free.

Evaluation

	<u>3 cr hrs</u>
Class Participation and Reading	30%
"Mindful Meal" research and writing	15%
Biblical and Theological Thematic Study	20%
Research Paper	35%

Required Reading

- Capon, Robert Farrar. *The Supper of the Lamb: A Culinary Reflection*. New York: Smithmark, 1996. (You may skip the recipes.)
- Kass, Leon R. *The Hungry Soul: Eating and the Perfecting of Our Nature*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999.
- Pollan, Michael. *In Defence of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*. New York: Penguin Press, 2008.
- Smörgåsbord: A Reader for Eaters (3rd Edition!)*. (A collection of readings chosen for the class, available at Copiesmart by April 23.)

Payment deadline for all course tuition and fees is due by 4:30 pm on Monday, April 30, 2012. Deadline for dropping the course with refund is 4:30 pm on Monday, April 30, 2012 (100% refund). There is no refund of any tuition fees after April 30, 2012, but the course may be dropped up until 4:30 pm on May 21, 2012.