

## The New School

### Graduate Program in International Affairs, and The School for Undergraduate Studies SPRING 2017

### Food, Global Trade, and Development NINT 5375/NFDS 4260/UGLB4514

## Syllabus

### **Instructors: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr (GPIA) and Fabio Parasecoli (SUS)**

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Location: 66 West 12th 618

### **Synopsis**

While there is no disagreement that ending hunger is one of the key issues of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this challenge has become a site of contestation over ideas, interests and values. The omnipresence of markets, producer value chains, new technologies and investments, and new rules that has created a global food system that has been advanced by economic interests but challenged and resisted. Is trade an instrument of neoliberal globalization that erases local food traditions and productions to the advantage of transnational corporations, or can it be used to enhance the welfare of struggling communities all over the world? Can biotechnology promote small-scale farmers' right to food? Can land grabs be controlled? Can geographical indications be a useful tool to defend cultural traditions? From a cultural and ethical perspective, is the global intrinsically bad and is the local intrinsically good? This course will explore such contemporary debates and policy choices on these issues.

### **Prerequisite:**

Although there are no formal pre-requisites, graduate students would benefit more from this course with some background in development studies, including GPIA courses: THPD and Development Economics. The course is appropriate for advanced undergraduate students with an interest in food studies and global studies.

### **Required Work:**

Attendance will be an important part of learning in this course. Students are expected to attend all classes and come prepared. **Participating in discussion will be required and graded. One absence** will be excused beyond which each absence will count against half a grade on the participation part of the grade. Absences can be made up with two paragraph write ups of each of

the required readings, one paragraph being an abstract and the second paragraph being commentary on the piece.

Assignments will include:

- Preparation for the in-class discussion of four case studies
- Three memos (chosen from among the four case studies, **minimum of 2,000 words for undergraduates, 3,500 words for graduate students**)

This course is cross-listed in GPIA and BA programs. It is a rigorous and challenging course for students in both programs. Requirements for reading, assignments and grading will be at a more demanding level for graduate students.

### **Grading**

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 25 % for Presence, Preparation, and Participation
- 75% for 3 Memos (25% each)

### **Course communications:**

The Canvas course page will contain the syllabus, readings, assignments, and discussion fora. Individual communications to students will be made through the New School email account. Please make sure to check your New School email account regularly or arrange for emails to be forwarded to another account you check regularly. Instructors will NOT use personal emails.

### **Academic honesty and plagiarism:**

Academic honesty includes accurate use of quotations, as well as appropriate and explicit citation of sources in instances of paraphrasing and describing ideas, or reporting on research findings, or any aspect of the work of others (including that of instructors and other students). The standards of academic honesty and citation of sources apply to all forms of academic work (examinations, essay theses, dissertations, computer work, art and design work, oral presentations, and other projects). The standards also include responsibility for meeting the requirements of particular courses of study. It is also the responsibility of students to learn the procedures specific to their discipline for correctly and appropriately differentiating their work from that of others.

Plagiarism is the use of another person's words or ideas in any academic work using books, journals, Internet postings, or other student papers without proper acknowledgment. For further information on proper acknowledgment and plagiarism, including proper expectations for paraphrasing source material and proper forms of citation in research and writing, students should consult the MLA Style Manual and Guide to Scholarly Publishing (second edition), chapter 6, on documentation. The New School University Writing Center also provides useful online resources to help students understand and avoid plagiarism, at [www.newschool.edu/admin/writingcenter/usefullinks.html](http://www.newschool.edu/admin/writingcenter/usefullinks.html).

### **Resources:**

Some useful websites of think tanks and policy campaigns related to food, global trade and development:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Rome – [fao.org](http://fao.org)

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food (2008-2014), Olivier de Schutter  
<http://www.srfood.org/en/un-special-rapporteur-archive>

International Food Policy and Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C. – <http://ifpri.org>

La Via Campesina, International Peasan'ts Movement <http://viacampesina.org/en/>

FIAN International for the Right to Adequate Food <http://www.fian.org>

Professor Dani Rodrik's weblog page (has many commentaries and discussions on trade, among other global economic policy issues) <http://rodrik.typepad.com/>

## **Course outline:**

### 1. **January 25**

#### **Introduction**

- Course objectives
- Course requirements
- The Case Study method: brief introduction about the use of this method and expectations for the two cases to be discussed
- Discussion – Global Food Security – How to address the issue? What do international trade, economic growth, and politics got to do with it?
- Preparation:
  - Watch the video clip of the discussion “Rethinking Global Food Security” at the 2014 World Economic Forum in Davos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVIA3x3xlng>
  - What are the factors that panel speakers identify as relevant to address the issue of food security as world population grows and agriculture is increasingly subject to frequent shocks due to climate change and financialization? What are the key actions the panel speakers propose as solutions? How do they perspective and approaches differ?
  - Get a head start on readings for class 2.

## **PART A – BASIC CONCEPTS - FOOD SECURITY AND GLOBALIZATION OF FOOD SYSTEMS**

### 2. **February 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **Food security - alternative discourses, competing concepts and concerns**

There is much debate about the global ‘food crisis’ and a long term food ‘problem’. But there are many ways that the problem is characterized and where the solutions lie. These controversies are driven by different perspectives or paradigms of the role of food for human well being. This class

reviews the dominant discourses: food security; human rights approach and the right to food; Sen's entitlement approach; human development; agricultural growth and development; sustainability and food sovereignty. Key learning objectives are:

- Major parameters of the 'global food problem'
- Key concepts: Sen's entitlement approach; right to food; food sovereignty; food security; food production
- Complementarities and contradiction between the concepts and how they shape policy debates

*Required readings:*

UN OHCHR Fact Sheet 34 The Right to Adequate Food (pp 1-29)

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FactSheet34en.pdf>

Sen, Amartya (1999) "Famines and other Crises", *Development as Freedom* Chapter 7 pp. 160-188

[http://books.google.com/books?id=XmfleDy\\_tayC&pg=PT201&source=gbs\\_toc\\_r&cad=4#](http://books.google.com/books?id=XmfleDy_tayC&pg=PT201&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=4#)

Patel, Rajeev (2012) Food Sovereignty: Power, Gender and the Right to Food *PLoS Medicine* 2:6

<http://rajpatel.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/journal.pmed.1001223.pdf>

*Additional Readings for graduate students:*

Fukuda-Parr, Sakiko (2015). 'Re-framing Food Security as if Gender Equality and Sustainability Mattered' in Leach, ed. *Gender Equality and Sustainable Development*. London: Earthscan

*Other resources*

Patel, Rajeev (2009) What does food sovereignty look like, *Journal of Peasant Studies* 36:3 pp 663-706. <http://rajpatel.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/jps-final-section.pdf>

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. 1999. *General Comment 12, Right to Adequate Food*. <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/gencomm/escgencom12.htm>

Sen, Amartya, *Poverty and Famines: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation*, Chapter 10

3. **February 8**  
**Case Study: Urban food insecurity in South Africa**  
**First assignment memo (Due on February 15th)**

*Required reading*

Case study packet

*Additional reading for graduate students*

Fukuda-Parr, 'Policies, Institutions, Politics and Ideas for Food Security as a Human Right'. Chapter 13, *Food Security in South Africa: Human Right and Entitlement Perspectives*

4. **February 15**

**Alternatives to top-down development: food sovereignty, Via Campesina, anti-GMO and other grass root resistance movements**

*Required readings*

Maria Elena Martinez-Torres and Peter M. Rosset. 2010. "La Via Campesina: the birth and evolution of a transnational social movement." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 37 (1): 149–175.

Karine Peschard. 2016. "Seed wars and farmers' rights: comparative perspectives from Brazil and India." *The Journal of Peasant Studies*. DOI: 10.1080/03066150.2016.1191471.

Agarwal, B. (2014). 'Food Sovereignty, food security and democratic choice: critical contradictions, difficult conciliations'. *The Journal of Peasant Studies* .

*Additional readings for graduate students*

Jack Kloppenburg. 2014. "Re-purposing the master's tools: the open source seed initiative and the struggle for seed sovereignty." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 41 (6): 1225–1246

Julia Chuang. 2014. "China's Rural Land Politics: Bureaucratic Absorption and the Muting of Rightful Resistance." *The China Quarterly* 219: 649 - 669

*Supplementary Readings*

Daniel Münster. 2015. "Farmers' Suicides as Public Death: Politics, Agency and Statistics in a Suicide-Prone District (South India)." *Modern Asian Studies* 49 (05): 1580 – 1605.

5. **February 22**

**Production, small scale family farms, poverty and development**

*Required readings:*

World Bank (2008) World Development Report, Overview  
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/0,,contentMDK:23062293~pagePK:478093~piPK:477627~theSitePK:477624,00.html>

Agarwal, Bina (2012) Food Security, Productivity and Gender Inequality. IEG Working Paper 314  
<https://www.escholar.manchester.ac.uk/api/datastream?publicationPid=uk-ac-man-scw:163107&datastreamId=FULL-TEXT.PDF>

*Additional readings for graduate students*

IIED. 2013. Agriculture and food systems for a sustainable future: an integrated approach [https://docs.google.com/a/newschool.edu/gview?url=http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/88917157IIED\\_Agriculture+and+food+systems\\_post-2015.pdf&embedded=true](https://docs.google.com/a/newschool.edu/gview?url=http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/88917157IIED_Agriculture+and+food+systems_post-2015.pdf&embedded=true)

Committee on World Food Security (CFS). 2013. Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition [http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs1213/gsf/GSF\\_Version\\_2\\_EN.pdf](http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/cfs/Docs1213/gsf/GSF_Version_2_EN.pdf)

## **PART B – GLOBALIZATION OF FOOD SYSTEMS – ACTORS, RULERS, MARKETS**

### 6. **March 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **Global food system and power structures**

The last two decades of globalization has brought major shifts in the structure of the global food system – its actors and rules - including the liberalization of national agricultural trade policies, multilateral trade agreements, decline in the role of the state in protecting and promoting domestic producers, the increasing role of agribusinesses in supply chains, the increasing role of global corporations in research and development, the emergence of and the increasing civil society concerns with sustainability and local sovereignty.

Learning objectives:

- Global shifts in actors and rules of global food systems and their uneven processes
- Perverse policies
- Consequences for food security especially of the poor in poor countries
- Need for stronger national and international policies

#### *Required readings*

Paarlberg, Robert (2010) *Food Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know*. 2010. Oxford University Press. Chapters 1, 3, 8, 14

De Schutter, Olivier (2011) “Towards more equitable value chains: alternative business models in support of the right to food”, Report presented at the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly [A/66/262] <http://www.srfood.org/en/agribusiness>

Patel, Rajeev (2010) *Stuffed and Starved: Markets, Power and the Hidden Battle for the World Food System*, London: Portobello Books. Chapter 5 (the Customer is our Enemy: A brief Introduction to Food System Business)

#### *Required readings for graduate students*

Patel, Rajeev (2010) *Stuffed and Starved: Markets, Power and the Hidden Battle for the World Food System*, London: Portobello Books. chapters 1 (Introduction); 4 (Just a Cry for Bread)

#### *Supplementary Readings*

De Schutter, Oliver (2010) Addressing Concentration in Supply Chains, Briefing Note 3 of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food [http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/otherdocuments/20101201\\_briefing-note-03\\_en.pdf](http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/otherdocuments/20101201_briefing-note-03_en.pdf)

7. **March 8**  
**Food Chain Governance: Acai case study**  
**Second assignment memo (due March 15th)**

*Required readings:*

Açai Case Study Packet

David Burch and Geoff Lawrence. (2005) “Supermarket Own Brands, Supply Chain, and the Transformation of the Agri-Food System.” *International Journal of Sociology of Agriculture and Food* 13 (1): 1-18

*Additional readings for graduate students*

Philip McMichael. “Global Development and the Corporate Food Regime.” in Frederick H. Buttel, Philip McMichael (ed.) *New Directions in the Sociology of Global Development (Research in Rural Sociology and Development, Volume 11)* Emerald Group Publishing Limited, pp.265 - 299

*Supplementary Reading*

Gary Gareffi et al. (2005) “The governance of global value chains.” *Review of International Political Economy* 12 (1): 78–104

8. **March 15**  
**Foreign investments in lands and “land grabs”**

*Required Readings*

Hannah Twomey. 2014. Displacement and dispossession through land grabbing in Mozambique The limits of international and national legal instruments. Refugee Studies Centre Oxford Department of International Development University of Oxford

Christine Heumesser and Ewin Schmid. 2012. Trends in Foreign Direct Investment in the Agricultural Sector of Developing and Transition Countries: A review. Universität für Bodenkultur Wien

*Additional readings for graduate students*

Edouard Turkisch. 2011. Sovereign Wealth Funds as Investors in Africa: Opportunities and Barriers. OECD Development Center

*Supplementary Readings*

Helen Lei Sun. 2011. Understanding China's Agricultural Investments in Africa. South African Institute of International Affairs

### **MARCH 20-24: Spring Break**

9. **March 29**  
**Intellectual Property and Other Place-Based labels**  
**Fourth assignment memo (Due April 5th)**

*Required readings*

Basmati Rice case study packet

*Additional readings for graduate students*

Daniele Giovannucci, Tim Josling, William Kerr, Bernard O'Connor, May T. Yeung (2009)  
*Geographical Indications: Linking Products and Their Origins*. International Trade Center

### **PART C - GLOBAL TRADE**

10. **April 5**  
**Trade and food security: review of trade theory and governance; policy controversies (WTO, NAFTA)**

- Background: Theory of free trade; Trade and poverty/food insecurity/developing countries
- Overview of international trade regime
- Current controversies: WTO AoA, Doha Round (subsidies, development tax), NAFTA

*Required readings*

Olivier DeSchutter (2009), International Trade in Agriculture and the Right to Food. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Occasional Papers no 46. <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/genf/06819.pdf>

Watkins, Kevin (2007) 'Agricultural Trade, Globalization and the Rural Poor' in von Braun, Joachim and Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla, *Globalization of Food and Agriculture and the Poor*, New Delhi: OUP

Wise, Timothy (2009) 'Reforming NAFTA's Agricultural Provisions', chapter 3, Gallagher, Kevin, Peters and Wise *The Future of North American Trade Policy: Lessons from NAFTA*, Boston: BU  
<http://www.ase.tufts.edu/gdae/Pubs/rp/Pardee-Report-NAFTA.pdf>

*Additional readings for graduate students*



UNDP (2003) Making Trade Work for People, chapter 5, Agriculture (pp. 109-146)  
[http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/trade\\_content/making\\_global\\_tradeworkforpeople/making\\_global\\_tradeworkforpeople.html](http://www.beta.undp.org/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/trade_content/making_global_tradeworkforpeople/making_global_tradeworkforpeople.html)

Rorden Wilkinson, Erin Hannah and James Scott. The WTO in Bali. What MC9 Means for the Doha Development Agenda and Why it Matters? Brooks World Poverty Institute  
[papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2437422](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2437422)

*Additional resources*

Goodwin, Neva, Julie Nelson and Harris (2009), Macroeconomics in Context, chapter 13, The Global Economy, Armonk and London: M. E. Sharpe

FAO, (2005) *The State of Food and Agriculture, Agriculture and Trade – can trade work for the poor?* chapter 1-5-6. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/008/a0050e/a0050e00.htm>

11. **April 12**

**New directions in bilateral and regional trade & investment agreements**

*Required readings*

Hansen-Kuh, Karen (2016), *Following Breadcrumbs: TPP Text Provides Clues to U.S. Positions in TTIP*, The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

Jurenas, Remy, How Could Mega-regional Trade Negotiations Affect Agricultural and Food Trade? ICTSD, Geneva (read executive summary, sections on investment and subsidies)

McNeill, Desmond and others (2017), “Political origins of health inequalities: trade and investment agreements”, *The Lancet*; 389: 760-62

*Required for graduate students*

McNeill, Desmond and others (2017) “Trade and Investment Agreements: Implications for Health Protection” *Journal of World Trade* 51, no.1: 159-182

Henson, Spencer and Rupert Loader, Barriers to Agricultural Exports from Developing Countries: The Role of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Requirements (2001), *World Development* 29:1 (85-102)

12. **April 19**

**Genetically Modified (GM) Crops: Understanding the controversies**  
**Third assignment memo (due April 26th)**

Agricultural biotechnology is a powerful technology and the introduction of genetically modified crops has spread rapidly since the mid 1990s. Since then, it has been mired in controversy. The learning objective is to understand the political economy of the controversy - the interests of the diverse stakeholders including farmers, consumers, governments, scientists, seed companies – none of which are a homogenous group. This session will use the case study method to explore the subject.

*Required readings:*  
Course packet

*Additional readings for graduate students:*

FAO (2004) *The State of Agriculture*, chapters 2-3-5

Ronald Herring (2007) "Stealth Seeds: Bioproperty, Biosafety, Biopolitics." *Journal of Development Studies*, Vol. 43, No. 1, 130–157

Vandana Shiva (2006) *Manifesto on the Future of Seeds*  
Fukuda-Parr (2007) *The Gene Revolution*, Chapters 11,12

### 13. April 26

#### **The global food market in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – market volatility, financialization, biofuels, and trade rules and the pressure on small scale farmers**

*Required readings*

von Braun, J. (2014). Aiming for food and nutrition security in a changed global context: strategy to end hunger. In J. A. Alonso, G. Cornia, & R. Vos, *Alternative Development Strategies in the Post 2015 Era* (pp. 163-180). New York and London: Bloomsbury Press and UN.

De Schutter, Oliver (2011). The World Trade Organization and the Post-Global Food Crisis: Putting Food Security First in the International Trade System. Briefing Note 4 of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

Jennifer Clapp (2014). "Financialization, distance and global food politics." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 14 (5): 797-814

Recall Fukuda-Parr 2015 from earlier class – section on emerging challenges

*Additional readings for graduate students*

HLPE (High Level Panel of Experts of World Food Council). (2011). *Price volatility and food security, a report by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition*. Rome: Committee on World Food Security.

Miguel Robles, Maximo Torero, and Joachim von Braun (2009) “*When Speculation Matters*” *International Food Policy Research Institute, Brief 57*

*Additional resources*

Peter Rosset (2009) “*Agrofuels, Food Sovereignty, and the Contemporary Food Crisis*” *Bulletin of Science Technology Society 29 (3): 189-193*

IFPRI. (2009). *Climate Change: Impact on agriculture and costs of adaptation*. Washington DC: IFPRI.

Ghosh, J. (2010). The Unnatural coupling: Food and Global Finance. *Journal of Agrarian Change* , 10 (1), 72-86.

Deininger, K., Byerlee, D., Lindsay, J., Norton, A., Selod, H., & Stickler, M. (2011). *Rising global interest in farmland: can it yield sustainable and equitable benefits*. Washington D.C.: World Bank.

Anuradha Mittal (2009) *The 2008 Food Price Crisis: Rethinking Food Security Policies*. UNCTAD, G-24 Discussion Paper Series # 56

Amela Ajanovic (2011) “*Biofuels versus food production: Does biofuels production increase food prices?*” *Energy 36 (4): 2070-2076*

14. **May 3rd**

**Food and Climate Change**

**Guest Speaker: Sonali McDermid**

*Required Readings*

Jonathan Foley et al. 2011. “Solutions for a Cultivated Planet.” *Nature 478: 337-342*.

Charles J. Godfray and Tara Garnett. 2014. “Food security and sustainable intensification.” *Philosophical Transaction of the Royal Society Biological Sciences 369*

Ray et al. 2013. “Yield Trends Are Insufficient to Double Global Crop Production by 2050.” *PLOS One 8(6): 1-8*.

Sonja Vermeulen et al. 2012. “Climate Change and Food Systems.” *Annual Review Environmental Resources 37:195–222*

Tim Wheeler and Joachim von Brawn. 2013. “Climate Change Impacts on Global Food Security.” *Science 341: 508-513*.

*Additional Readings for Graduate Students*

Emily S Cassidy, Paul C West, James S Gerber and Jonathan A Foley. 2013. "Redefining agricultural yields: from tonnes to people nourished per hectare." Environmental Research Letters 8:1-9

Jonathan Foley et al. 2005. Global Consequences of Land Use. Science 309: 570-574.

Charles Godfray et al. 2010. "Food Security: The Challenge of Feeding 9 Billion People." Science 327: 812-818

David Lobell and Claudia Tebaldi. 2014. "Getting caught with our plants down: the risks of a global crop yield slowdown from climate trends in the next two decades." Environmental Research Letters 9:1-8

15. **May 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wrap up class for undergraduates**